

From: [Katie Davis](#)
To: [Kim Dominguez](#)
Subject: RE: Goleta Energy Storage, LLC, 6864 & 6868 Cortona Drive - October 25, 2021 Planning Commission meeting - Support
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 6:32:21 PM

Goleta Planning Commission
130 Cremona Drive, Suite B
Goleta, California 93117

RE: Goleta Energy Storage, LLC, 6864 & 6868 Cortona Drive - October 25, 2021 Planning Commission meeting - Support

Dear Planning Commissioners,

Sierra Club fought the proposed Puente Power Plant, which would have been the fourth polluting gas fired power plant on the Oxnard beach. The eventual rejection of this gas plant in favor of distributed resources was an important turning point in California. SCE eventually selected a number of battery projects in place of the gas plant -- including this one -- and successful implementation of these projects is important in proving that we can stop building out fossil fuel infrastructure in favor of renewable energy.

There are additional benefits for Goleta in locating battery storage here at the end of SCE's grid. It increases local resilience and reliability of power in our area. It reduces the need for the Ellwood peaker plant, which is an old and polluting facility. It reduces reliance on far flung power lines. It helps us achieve our local climate and energy goals.

We need more local electricity generation and storage to navigate a transition to electrification of buildings and transportation, which will improve air quality and safety. Gasoline and natural gas are highly flammable, polluting and dangerous. The production of oil and gas is risky, as we know from offshore oil spills. And the storage of natural gas is also risky, as we know from the Aliso Canyon disaster. (Gas is stored underneath Goleta Beach and UCSB.)

In contrast, battery storage facilities are relatively safe. Tesla has deployed over two gigawatt hours of stationary energy storage systems globally without a recorded fire event. A building full of batteries is less impactful than most other uses for that location. The Storke/Hollister area has a serious traffic problem and so a use that does not increase traffic in the area is particularly appropriate.

We encourage enforcement of the mitigation measures, such as planting more trees. Trees help reduce pollution from the freeway, provide screening, cooling and habitat.

We support approval of this project.

Regards,
Katie Davis, Chair
Sierra Club Los Padres Chapter
1144 N. Fairview Ave, Goleta, CA 93117
805-451-4574