

JoAnne Dyer

To the Department of Ecology, Clean Energy Coordination:

My name is Joanne Dyer, and I live at 34602 Cottonwood Dr SE in Snoqualmie, Washington. I am writing to submit a scoping comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for stand-alone, utility-scale, lithium-ion battery energy storage system facilities in Washington (Publication 26-06-017).

Jupiter Energy has proposed a BESS facility on Snoqualmie Ridge, a short walk from my home.

My comment addresses the harms the study is required to consider.

The state must consider what a battery fire's smoke does to the people living nearby. The scoping document acknowledges toxic gas from damaged batteries can hurt firefighters' skin and lungs, but it does not mention neighbors who have no protective gear or training, and who may not be able to safely leave in time.

I ask that the PEIS analyze, for stand-alone facilities such as the one proposed by my home: thermal-runaway fires and hazardous-gas emissions (including hydrogen fluoride) with dispersion modeling for inversion-prone valleys such as my neighborhood; contaminated fire-suppression water and its path to groundwater, private wells, and fish-bearing streams; multi-day incident demands on local fire, HazMat, hospital, and evacuation capacity; and seismic performance of container-based installations in mapped fault zones.

In an emergency such as a BESS fire, my husband, pets, and I would evacuate via Snoqualmie Parkway and I-90 west, along with everyone else who depends on those roads.

Because Ecology itself says stand-alone facilities "could be sited in a variety of locations," including near cities, the PEIS should not assume these facilities will be far enough away from people to ensure the safety of communities. I ask that Ecology treat proximity to residents as a defining condition of the analysis, and that the Draft PEIS state plainly which impacts cannot be mitigated below significance, so that lead agencies and the public are not left to guess.

Thank you for considering this comment. Please include it in the scoping record.

Sincerely,

JoAnne Dyer

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