Toni McWain

I am writing to submit scoping comment on the Programmable Environment Impact Statement for stand alone utility scale lithium ion BESS facility's in Washington State.

I am Toni McWain and live in Tenino, WA. The Ecology study should define "suitable areas". Rochester, Bucoda,Tenino, and other small towns on our large Pairire only rely on Aquafers for our everyday life, which includes humans, farm animals, pets, and wildlife. Our Aquafers, rivers, and creeks, are at risks for serious contaminations, if and when those BESS containers catch on fire, and they will. We have hotter heat than the bigger Counties up north of me. Have you done studies on flooding that happens on the Pairire? It happens every winter. We are a Pairire, FLAT LANDS. In the summer, we are also hotter than the bigger Counties north of me. That means our Pairire grasslands are brown and extremely dry! When a fire will start, that fire will spread so freaking fast! No time for firetruck to get there! Being that our towns are spread out, it will be too late. Do you have a fire truck in that facility to watch and control the fire? I've heard you can't put water on those lithium batteries. Let it burn! In Bucoda where you want to put in a BESS, it's near a creek, trees, and is home to a large Elk herd. What about the aquitic animals in the water, the animals living in the trees??? What about earthquakes? Since we just had one and living in Tenino, I felt it. Have you done a study on the glacier grounds that the Pairire is on top??? What about the constant noise emitting from those containers? It has to have severe health risks to humans, animals, pets, and wildlife. I bet the company personnel and the people installing these BESS containers will not be living anywhere near them! We know what happens to Tesla cars and cellphones of which uses lithium batteries. It seems the company's installing these containers really don't care about humans or animal or their waters or wildlife. The thing is, where these are being placed, this so called energy, being built by substations, will go to the bigger Counties north of me. It will not benefit anyone near them, but increase their electric bills. These need to not be placed in areas with any life around. Have you thought of eastern Washington in the desert? No trees, no water, no homes. Just sage brush and snakes.