



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:26:19

I would say. Our priority continues to be the health and safety of the community, the responders who have served throughout the duration of this event and the environment.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:26:22

We remain compassionate and responsive to the concern for all of those who have been impacted.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:26:29

And we would like to take a moment to thank our on-scene responders who have been out in the community tirelessly since Thursday, but I also want to take a moment to draw our attention to the disaster service workers within the County of Monterey who have been serving. They are ultimately the hidden responders and without them we really have

[BOS ZOOM] 10:26:53

No logistics. We have no public information. We have no additional support other than that immediate life safety. So I do want to thank them, especially their service over the weekend and on the MLK holiday.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:27:09

Their worth is truly incalculable. So in getting into my presentation.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:27:15

I did want to acknowledge that this event is still ongoing. It began Thursday, January 16th.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:27:22

Essentially, the high-level overview is a battery fire at the 300 megawatt phase one energy storage facility at Moss Landing power plant began on Thursday. This site is an alternative energy storage facility operated by Vistra Energy Corporation. It should be noted that PG&E also has a battery facility site on premise but was not a part of this incident.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:27:47

The facility contains lithium ion batteries and is one of the world's largest battery energy storage system sites.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:27:56

Here in Monterey County. So in a board report that I provided in I believe February 2022, we provided a high-level overview of some of the threats and hazards generally presented by lithium ion batteries.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:28:16

This technology is really exciting for the state. It provides a lot of added value for sustainable and renewable energy.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:28:26

But with any new technology, there is new and emerging threats.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:28:30

That we learn about and work with our partners to assess and strategize on our response and training capabilities.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:28:39

Generally, lithium ion batteries can overheat, creating thermal runaway. Which can result in either cell ignition or cell breach.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:28:51

Typically, the layman's terms are battery fires or explosions. Additionally, as a result, secondary or tertiary hazard could be toxic gas, smoke, or plumes.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:29:05

And as a result of fire suppression efforts, toxic runoff. The presentation or this slide really goes into the depths about the science behind it.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:29:15

I won't delve into it too much. What I wanted to present with this slide is going into this incident, it was very apparent to the first responders as well as to our office as well as environmental health, what the potential threats could be. And as such, all of the protective actions that were taken over the last six days

[BOS ZOOM] 10:29:37

Where a direct attempt to reduce the public health or the threats to public health safety that these could possibly pose.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:29:46

And the efforts that we put into place were to confirm that they were not actually a threat.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:29:52

And that the community could remain safe at their homes. And so I did want to highlight, I think there's been a lot of confusion about what the actual threat or hazardous to public health and safety and why we made some decisions that we did. And so I think there's a fundamental need to explain why what was threatening and how we mitigated that impact.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:30:14

So the incident was first reported at approximately 3 p.m. North County Fire was first on scene at 3.06 p.m. And in between that time, multiple agencies began responding at the request of North County Fire Fire Protection District and I'll allow them the opportunity to explain their response. At approximately 329, the Department of Emergency Management was notified of a potential fire at the facility.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:30:43

By 4.59 p.m, a hazard advisory alert was issued to the public.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:30:49

An initial air monitoring was conducted at approximately 4 p.m. At approximately 5.35 p.m, flames were reported on the roof, at which point the fire conditions resulted in the deterioration of the building.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:31:03

At approximately 6 p.m, road closures were requested. At 6.10 p.m, the county had our first media interview.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:31:12

And at 6.15 p.m, the Emergency Operations Center was activated to a level two.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:31:20

About almost 10 minutes later, the Emergency Operations Center submitted a state mission task for the US EPA.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:31:29

To provide air monitoring support on scene. At 6.32 p.m, evacuation orders were issued by the sheriff.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:31:38

At 7.10 p.m, a temporary evacuation point was established. And at 8.15, a shelter was opened. Notice of school closures were issued at 8.30 p.m. And approximately 11 p.m, a health advisory was issued.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:31:57

It is extremely important to highlight how efficient and effective the response was from start to finish.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:32:08

This timeline demonstrates a very aggressive and conservative approach to protecting health and safety. Our number one priority from The start of the incident and ongoing Through the recovery efforts has and always will be public health and safety. And so I have to commend North County Fire Protection District

[BOS ZOOM] 10:32:34

The Monterey County Sheriff's Office, and all of the first responder agencies that supported for their extremely timely response.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:32:44

And extremely proactive communication. Up and down the chain of command and with the public.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:32:54

On day two, the US EPA arrived at approximately 2 a.m. To assist in the monitoring.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:33:01

Of the air on the facility and around the facility. By 8.30 a.m, this body had convened an emergency meeting And throughout the day had been actively communicating with the community as well as the media through various channels.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:33:19

Around 12 p.m. That day, I believe the remaining batteries within the facility began combusting.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:33:29

Which is where we saw that flare up again on day two and additional smoke and plume columns.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:33:37

The Department of Emergency Management and the Emergency Operations Center through Environmental Health and the North County Fire Protection District received initial hydrogen fluoride gas monitoring readings From the US EPA, as well as the independent contractor that Vistra had hired.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:33:58

Confirming that the hydrogen fluoride levels were below the threshold that is considered potentially harmful.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:34:05

Later on today, you'll hear from Environmental Health regarding those readings.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:34:11

This was... extremely helpful in providing us the opportunity to reevaluate the evacuation orders. And at that juncture, I believe the sheriff lifted the evacuation orders and I'll let her explain a little bit about the decision-making process.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:34:30

At that juncture, the shelter closed at 10 p.m. Throughout day one and day two and ongoing after that, there were approximately 100 mobile air monitoring locations provided by CTEH, the independent contractor hired by Vistra throughout the community to detect seven different air constituents. Those results were confirmed by the US EPA utilizing nine stationary monitoring units.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:35:06

On day three. The CTEH.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:35:11

Initial air monitoring report was released to the county at 3.37 p.m.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:35:16

And approximately 4 p.m. Those same results were released to the public.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:35:25

On day four, the EOC downgraded to a level three as the incident began de-escalating.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:35:31

The county did request a state mission task for a health assessment team.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:35:37

To help us interpret the mass quantity of data provided by the air monitoring reports.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:35:45

At that juncture, the road closures were open. The evacuation orders had already been lifted, and the incident command post moved on premise to the Moss Landing facility.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:35:58

On day five, just yesterday, we established a joint information center with a various number of agencies from across the county and our partners in Santa Cruz County.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:36:09

The schools were notified of return to classes. A structural engineer arrived on site to conduct an assessment of the stability of MOS 300 so that remediation planning could begin.





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[BOS ZOOM] 10:36:21

The U.S. Epa demobilized and the state health assessment team mobilized.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:36:28

As of today, approximately seven emergency alerts were disseminated in total to the community. One temporary evacuation point was established and transitioned to a shelter for road closures were held for approximately 24 to 48 hours.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:36:45

1,200 people were evacuated, 37 of which sought shelter at the Castroville Rec Center, operated by American Red Cross and the Department of Social Services.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:36:55

And the evacuation was in place for approximately 24 hours. The public information officer conducted three press conferences.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:37:04

Seven media advisories, 200 media contacts. Five public information officers working to support 31 interviews and 57 social media posts.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:37:16

This is a quick slide for additional resources. The county established an incident webpage to connect people with reports and up-to-date information, including evacuation orders, road closures, et cetera.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:37:28

There is also a response page on the VISTRA website that has some very useful information.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:37:35

You can also evaluate the Monterey Bay Air Resources District current air quality and forecast resources online.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:37:44

Air quality FAQs can be found on the Monterey County website under news and information. And of course, you can always review the press conferences on the Monterey County YouTube channel.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:37:59

I do want to take a moment to acknowledge the significant number of partners that were extremely cooperative and collaborative. This was a new and novel event in terms of this scale. And whenever you tackle new challenges, it's best to have a lot of yes people in the room. And that's what this list represents. And so it takes a village and this is our village. And they did a tremendous job.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:38:27

Mobilizing resources, evaluating challenges, creating unique solutions for unique challenges and problems.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:38:35

And I really want to acknowledge there are nonprofits on here. There are independent agencies on here. There are small businesses on here who truly without them, we could not have responded so effectively. And so thank you to all of our partners.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:38:54

And with that, I will hand it back to you, Chair.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:39:01

Supervisor Church. Kelsey, I just have one question. Could you show the picture with the CTH?

[BOS ZOOM] 10:39:08

Are they monitored, please?

[BOS ZOOM] 10:39:13

Is there any... My understanding is well when the... And I can see visually when the flame started, it was blowing directly east and then there was discussion that night of going north towards Watsonville.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:39:27

Any reason that we know why CTH did not immediately put out these monitors out more into the Purindale area and to the east.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:39:35

I do not know the answer and will defer to Vistra.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:39:38

Okay, thank you. All right, at this point, we're going to go to Sheriff Nieto as well as Chief Mendoza. I'm going to invite them forward.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:40:10

Good morning. Good morning, members of the board. I want to express my sincere gratitude to the incredible network of partners we're supporting.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:40:20

Long fire through this incident. From our dedicated volunteers to local, state, and federal agencies, including Monterey County.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:40:27

Your unwavering support has been instrumental in mitigating this challenging event.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:40:31

We are deeply grateful to your professionalism, dedication. And commitment to protecting our community.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:40:38

I have a list that I was thinking about going over. However, since we do have a printout of that and it's probably a better list.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:40:46

I'm going to hold off on mine, but I would like to just say that... You know, we can't do it alone. And the effort that has been put forth by everyone is just immeasurable. And from the bottom of my heart, thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:05

I'd like to go over a quick summary. I know Kelsey just went over one.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:10

But I'd like to give you a quick summary from my perspective.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:13

And it'll shed a little more light on the actions that went on that night.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:18

So on Thursday, January 16th, North County Fire was dispatched to a fire at the Moss Landing Power Plant.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:24

The first engine arrived on scene in about five to six minutes.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:28

And finally, there was smoke coming from the roof of the 800-foot-long, 75 foot tall building housing lithium ion battery energy storage system.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:39

This building is known as Moss 300. By the time the first engine arrived, multiple batteries had burned and fire was actively propagating from battery rack to battery rack.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:52

So we could observe through closed circuit television that batteries were on fire.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:41:59

And it was a number of different batteries. But they would catch the adjoining batteries on fire As time progressed.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:42:12

So this process results in a large-scale commercial fire that destroyed the majority of the building and its contents.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:42:23

The incident, I'm sorry, the incident prompted responders to order evacuations and close local and state.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:42:31

Roadways in order to protect lives. So current conditions.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:42:39

A small fire was observed on Saturday, and we have not seen any fires since.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:42:44

Only small pockets of heat are observed and we observe those using drones and infrared.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:42:50

Thermal imaging. The unburn portion of the building appears to be stable as of this morning.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:42:56

And we will continue to monitor it. So future actions for the fire department We will continue to work with our County, state, and federal cooperators to fully stabilize the incident and provide technical expertise in preparation for mitigation by the plant operator.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:43:20

Good morning, supervisors. The reason fire is at the Moss Landing battery storage facility are of concern.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:43:30

To both public safety and the community. And we are continuing to seek answers almost a week later, and that's why we're all here.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:43:39

As a member of the Unified Command, I've obviously spent the last six days Working with my public safety partners to include Chief Mendoza to my right, your left.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:43:50

As a team to render the Vista plant safe for both the community, public safety, and VISTA employees.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:43:56

In order to begin the recovery phase of this incident. The day after the fire began, many of our elected community leaders came out to the incident command.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:44:08

With many questions. The elected officials that came out included Representatives Jimmy Panetta, Zoe Lofgren, Senator John Lairdair.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:44:17

Speaker Robert Rivas. Assemblywoman Dawn Addis and all of the Board of Supervisors sitting in front of me.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:44:25

In addition, Energy Commission Chair David Hochschild and many other government officials responded to receive briefings on the fire timeline, air quality, and environmental concerns and potential impacts on local residents.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:44:41

All of the officials and electeds that I met with, I had the same request.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:44:46

If you build a facility. You need to equip that facility and the first responders with the ability to detect any toxins that a disaster may cause to be released during the incident.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:44:58

That can cause harm to our communities. We've identified that this is one of the reasons we had to without an evacuation because we weren't sure what the levels were in the air. We weren't sure what We knew it was being released because it was a lithium battery fire. We knew





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[BOS ZOOM] 10:45:16

What kind of batteries it were. We were working with our cooperators and with Vista throughout the event.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:45:23

But we couldn't make decisions based on maybes. Equipping these type of facilities with this kind of equipment for either our first responders or so our first responders can get access to this type of equipment.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:45:40

Would help those in charge make better decisions. Obviously, the hydrofluoride was a concern to a concern to Both myself and Chief Mendoza. And our evacuation decisions were based on the possibility that these could be released to our public.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:46:01

Our road closure decisions were based on both bringing in first responders and the safety of our community.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:46:09

All these type of decisions during these type of incidents have impact on both our residents and our businesses.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:46:15

And as first responders, we understand that. But equipping our first responders with Stuff like this helps us make quicker decisions.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:46:26

In order to lift evacuation orders, to open roads, to stop the disruption that we cause to our communities.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:46:34

In disasters like this. I personally want to thank Chief Mendoza because I know how tirelessly he worked during this whole incident.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:46:43

In fact, as I was sitting in the audience, I asked him, did you finally get some sleep?

[BOS ZOOM] 10:46:48

He said, yes, he got a few hours. For Chief Mendoza and for firemen, that's probably a half hour.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:46:55

But thank you, Chief Mendoza. I also want to thank all the first responder teams, the cooperators that worked around the clock to protect and inform our community as best we could.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:47:07

I look forward to working with the Board of Supervisors and addressing the challenges, improving our systems.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:47:13

That our public has found inadequate. And demand answers for.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:47:17

I want to thank the people behind me. For being here today to voice their concerns so we can do better.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:47:24

Thank you. Sheriff in Chief, with that, we're going to proceed. Next up, we have Rich Stedman from Embark.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:47:35

Here's the Monterey Bay Air Resources District.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:47:45

Good morning, Board of Directors. First of all, I'd like to start with thanking both Supervisors Root Askew and Lopez for getting MBARD plugged into this response when you did.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:47:56

Our district has a lot of capabilities that can be used to help in these types of situations.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:48:03

And the public expects that we're we're monitoring the air and that we can talk with good authority about what the air quality is.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:48:12

To that end, MBARD received hundreds of phone calls from concerned citizens about the air quality in the region.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:48:20

And we've been answering and addressing those as we come. We are not a first aid responding agency.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:48:26

And to that end, too, I'd like to thank all of the first responders being involved with that group was very uplifting and There was a lot of amazing work done.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:48:36

So to that end, we did have some setbacks, however, particularly with the news media.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:48:42

Who were using some of our data and some of EPA's regular smoke data And improperly and erroneously reporting that air quality throughout the Monterey Bay region was hazardous or unhealthful.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:48:56

We did talk to the news media about this and they said they would retract, but they continued attributing moderate air quality conditions around the Monterey Bay to the Vistra fire, which was not appropriate.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:49:11

We feel fairly confident based on the plume characteristics of the fire along with our monitoring data, and we have sensors, over 30 monitors, sensor data.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:49:23

Throughout our three-county jurisdiction, in addition to eight regulatory monitors, which are very expensive and sophisticated pieces of equipment.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:49:33

That the air quality, while it did go into moderate, was not associated with the fire. It was more associated with wood smoke throughout our region.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:49:42

And if you go on to our now with a fire plume down and almost completely out.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:49:48

You can also look on our website and see that air quality has dipped into moderate with the cold temperatures and stable air conditions throughout the region, indeed throughout the state.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:49:59

We've been seeing moderate air quality from Sacramento down to Santa Barbara, especially in the San Joaquin Valley.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:50:05

So we felt fairly confident that at least where our monitors are situated and our sensors are situated, that there was no adverse impact associated with emissions from the plant fire.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:50:17

We did not do speciation of chemicals found because that would be pretty exhaustive.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:50:25

And expensive. Process to do. We did not test for hydrofluoric acid.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:50:32

That also is very expensive and EPA seemed to have a handle on that.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:50:37

With their monitors or sensors surrounding the fire. I should also add that hydrofluoric acid is a gas. It's lighter than air. It would not typically follow plume characteristics associated with particulate matter.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:50:52

So we would not expect to find HF gas another. It's also very reactive.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:50:57

We wouldn't expect to find that in any of the plumes if we had tested at our monitoring locations.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:51:04

So along those lines, I should also say that We're willing to work with Vistra and perhaps establishing a more secure or better tighter net monitoring system around the facility for particulate matter and we could look into H F sensors as well. So that's a possibility going forward. But it's important also to recognize that we don't directly regulate Vistra.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:51:28

And that's because they have no emissions. This plant does not emit on a routine basis emissions to the environment. Of course, during an emergency episode such as this.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:51:40

Battery plant or any other facility will have emissions associated with their fire.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:51:45

And our monitors are pretty good at picking up emissions. I can tell you that we've been seeing pretty amazing connectivity among our monitors with respect to wood smoke and drainage throughout our region.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:51:59

And so we feel very confident that there have not been any adverse impacts associated with exposure to PM2.5 is what we're measuring at our monitors and sensors.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:52:11

So with that, I'd be happy to answer any questions. We will continue to monitor the air as we do 24 7 365 days a year and that data is available near real time on our website at mbard Thank you, Mr. Stedman.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:52:29

We're going to keep going. Elsa Jimenez, the director of our health department, is next, along with her team, including Rick Encarnacion.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:52:37

Lead on environmental health, as Dr. Marino, our public health officer.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:52:44

Good morning, members of the board, members of the public. I am Elsa Jimenez and currently serve as the county's Director of Health Services.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:52:52

As a North County resident, I empathize with the concerns my fellow North County neighbors And residents of surrounding areas had with respect to the Vistra power plant fire.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:53:03

Thank you for prioritizing your health. And safety by heating to road closures, the evacuation order, and health advisories issued by our public health officials.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:53:14

During an activation of the Emergency Operations Center, the Health Department staffs the medical and health branch Under the operations section and supports the Joint Information Center unit.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:53:26

Today, you will hear from Rick Encarnacion, the county's environmental health director, who will speak to actions taken to monitoring and reporting air quality results and next steps in the process.





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[BOS ZOOM] 10:53:38

You will also hear from Dr. Edward Moreno, our county public health director and health officer who will speak to public health recommendations made in response to the event.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:53:47

Thank you. Good morning, Chair, members of the board, Rick and Kernachon.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:53:52

Director of Environmental Health. I too would like to thank our partners, especially the first responders who responded to this incident.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:54:00

I'd also like to give a special thank you to the USPA who with a phone call was able to come to our incident and provide the services that we needed.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:54:11

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or the EPA, and the Monterey Bay Air Resources District, Embard, and Vistra monitored air quality, and Vistra continues to monitor air quality in and around the fire perimeter and across Monterey County.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:54:26

The County of Monterey has received raw air quality data from the US EPA.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:54:29

Which is being analyzed with the assistance from the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment also known as OIHA.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:54:38

Air monitoring results indicate that no levels of hydrogen fluoride exceeded OEHAS acute reference exposure level, also known as the REL, of 300 parts per billion in the community.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:54:50

At Vistress fence line or at the site of the fire.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:54:53

The acute REL is the highest concentration of a chemical that a person can safely be exposed to for one hour.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:00

Without an increased risk of serious non-cancer health impacts. Including for children and sensitive individuals.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:08

No PM2.5 levels exceeded the national ambient air quality standards. Or the NAAQS of 35 micrograms per cubic meter HM is particulate matter.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:21

The county is committed to transparency and will continue to post raw data and additional information as it becomes available.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:29

The raw data collected by US EPA, will be made available and is accessible.



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[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:34

Through our webpage in a downloadable spreadsheet format for public review.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:40

I'd also like to say that the Environmental Health Bureau, we're the health inspectors for the county.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:45

Or the same people that do your restaurant inspections, pool inspections.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:49

Gas station inspections. And for this case, we're the ones who also have oversight over hazardous materials.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:55:58

Next steps moving forward. We're involved just like in every disaster.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:56:02

We're involved with the cleanup efforts. We already are in contact with our state partners.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:56:08

Have been in contact with our state partners. Calipa, DTSC.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:56:14

The California Department of Public Health. For assistance. But overall, it'll be our bureau that will be overseeing the cleanup process.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:56:23

And with that, I'm going to turn it over to Dr. Marino.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:56:28

Thank you, Rick. Good morning, board members. My name is Edmoreno. I'm the Director of Public Health in the Monterey County Health Officer.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:56:35

So I would first like to acknowledge that county residents are concerned about the smoke that was created by the fire at the Vistra facility.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:56:44

And in particular, there's been concern about the potential health impacts from the particulate matter and chemicals.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:56:51

That released in the smoke and the potential health impacts. As part of the medical health branch in the Emergency Operations Center public health.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:57:01

Was asked by the Joint Information Center to provide public health recommendations that the GIC, or Joint Information Center.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:57:07

Could share with the general public. Information provided to public health early in the response included potential chemicals in the smoke.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:57:17

Such as particulate matter and hydrogen fluoride gas. At that time, public health recommended that the JIC release guidance to the Monterey County community, which included urging residents in areas affected by smoke to take steps to protect their health And that residents who live closest to the fire or smell smoke should limit outdoor activities, remain indoors.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:57:37

Keep windows and doors closed and adjust central air systems to recirculate indoor air or close outdoor air intakes to avoid drawing in smoky outdoor air.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:57:48

We also advise that the EOC remind county residents that smoke can cause eye and throat irritation.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:57:55

Coughing and difficulty breathing. That people who may be the most sensitive to smoke from fire include young children, older adults.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:58:05

Pregnant people, people with respiratory conditions such as asthma or heart conditions, and that sensitive populations and people who live in areas affected by smoke.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:58:15

Should avoid outdoor activities and seek medical guidance if respiratory symptoms develop or worsen.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:58:21

Finally, we recommend that people who are outdoors where smoke is present consider wearing well-fitting N95 mask.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:58:29

Since then, public health has reviewed data, which the previous speakers have just shared with you, including situational briefings by the EOC.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:58:38

And air monitoring data by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Monterey Bay Area Resources District.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:58:46

Vista and the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. And public health has updated the public health guidance as needed.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:58:54

Finally. County Public Health, Environmental Health, and representatives from the county EOC Joint Information Center have met daily with our colleagues.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:59:02

From the counties of San Benito and Santa Cruz counties to coordinate public health guidance across the region.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:59:09

Moving forward, public health will continue to support the County Joint Information Center and will once again work with Environmental Health.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:59:15

As this disaster response effort transitions to assessment And cleanup. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:59:23

Thank you. So at this time, as promised, I know we have a lot of folks from the public who want to share their thoughts and comments with us. This is your opportunity. We're going to allow two minutes per speaker.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:59:31

I do want to quickly turn before we have folks come up and see if we have any. I know I had a few elected folks who had mentioned they wanted to speak.

[BOS ZOOM] 10:59:39

Do we have any on Zoom at this point if they would do me the favor to raise their hand?

[BOS ZOOM] 10:59:46

Okay. Not seen anybody raising their hand. We'll go ahead and start. Please form a queue.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 10:59:51

I see folks doing so on the left side of the room. We'll start here with Mr. Mitchell.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:00:02

Mr. Mitchell. I want to use two minutes per person.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:00:06

I only do that ahead of time. We're not going to do that at the lectern today, so we're going to allow two minutes per speaker today. Speaker, this is a... event. We'd like to have your flexibility. We have a number of people who have never done this. I'm going to speak for them.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:00:22

And so we're going to put it together. And we'd like you to approve that.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:00:26

So it should have been brought to my attention ahead of time. I mean, that's the way we do that here at the board.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:00:31

How many folks are you trying to put together, Mr. Mitchell?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:00:34

Just four. For a total of eight minutes? Yes, sir. I'll take four minutes. I'll give you four minutes. Thank you, Mr.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:00:43

At the Granger last, I'm Ed Mitchell, North County, overseer of the Grange and a supporter of... The Moss Landing Fire Community Recovery Group. A standing room only body of over 160 people met yesterday. And what the community group was trying to do is elicit from there what their needs were, information needs, concerns.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:01:07

And recommendations they can bring to the board. We want to work with you. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:01:12

In a cooperative manner. To go forward. There are some things that the community may be slow to pick up on or things that they are concerned that they wanted to share with you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:01:33

So what came up last night was when there was a feeling of a lack of information. Thank you for this meeting. Thank you for this handout.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:01:41

But we believe that you as supervisors are also lacking some information.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:01:46

The concerns are that a number of situations. What we did, we looked at nine areas like cleanup.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:01:53

Air impacts, etc. They're concerned that the analysis of the air was inadequate. We don't know the specifications in there. There was lithium in the air there was particulates from other things that were burnt.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:02:11

And telling us that wood smoke is what was monitored doesn't truly make us confident. We're skeptical of that. We just need more information. There are people that don't have, they have concerns that they didn't know where to get an answer because they have breathing problems and this might affect them. They wanted a place to call. We recommend to you

[BOS ZOOM] 11:02:33

That you establish a website that lists the information you have that we can go and look at. Plus, we can sign up for you to push us information to us. For example, if an updated report comes out on air quality.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:02:48

Please send it to it or send it to us and then we can read it.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:02:52

Additionally, we're concerned about the cleanup. We believe there should be an assessment of the quantity and size and the tonnage of what is going to be handled and where it is going.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:03:07

Personally, I am very skeptical that there's zero contaminants in the material in the building or what may have settled on the ground and on the crops. We have people that are organic farmers that are concerned, can I Can I sell this leafy plant now? What do I have to do?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:03:24

We have people that are concerned about their water wells. I didn't hear anything about, I missed the amount of water well monitoring that made done.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:03:33

We don't know what falls on the ground. Will it be a threat to me or not?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:03:42

Do you know? So those are some of the things we're concerned about. So the cleanup Is it going to be hauled away? Do they think they're going to park it in Marina or the... Crazy Horse Landfill? No way.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:03:59

Do they have the people and capability to haul it away? Where would it go? Or is it going to be stored on property? Is it going to be taken out back and parked on a cement?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:04:09

Place where it might soak into the ground. We've seen places that this has happened to us before.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:04:17

So those are the types of major things that we're concerned about.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:04:23

Um... Thrilling technology. I appreciate and we appreciate many of the responders know that North County and Grange really appreciate what they do. And we appreciate hearing how people work to try to handle a technology.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:04:40

But it's a technology that when it goes wrong. It's not thrilling. It's terrifying.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:04:46

Thank you, Mr. Mitchell.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:04:55

Board of Supervisors, Joe Cubbage Big View AI. I was contacted last night by a member of the press.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:05:04

A gentleman that I respect and who often speaks about principles And he reminded me that I had made a comment on Supervisor Alejo's Facebook page some years back about my concerns with implementing this battery facility.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:05:19

I talked about the thermal runways, the threat. That this technology posed, that it was early on and that we're on a national marine sanctuary. We got Elkhorn Slough.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:05:32

I'm concerned about the health, welfare, and long-term stability of this community.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:05:35

And so I really, you know, I didn't come here with a speech, but I want to highlight some notes that I took and just listening to the people before me speaking.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:05:42

The gentleman spoke before me. Thank you very much. Very well said, everything that you did say.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:05:51

Glenn Church. I always say great men speak of principles, and I really appreciate you standing up During this very delicate time in our community.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:01

I heard one of the young ladies say that quote unquote, we have a lot of yes people in the room.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:07

So I want you to think about that. When I look at the photos that are there of the concrete.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:12

I remember years back talking about the threat The temperature burn, the burn rate, it's very similar. As a defense contractor working in war zones.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:21

You know, I was at the battle for Kyiv. I'm still dealing with The side effects of chemical exposure. So I'm asking all those that were on scene.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:28

To continue to monitor your health. There was a lag time of hours.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:34

Prior to adequate monitoring systems being put in place. Vestra batteries, those who did the early monitoring were contracted by them. There's a special interest.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:46

You know.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:52

Did any of you guys take any money from this company? Any of you?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:06:55

Did any of you take money from this company? I want to know. Thank you, Joe.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:07:03

Bill? Bill Leip, resident of Monterey County.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:07:10

You know, I'd like to begin by offering a prayer. Lord, we ask for your protection and strength for the brave first responders who have faced this fire and for our neighbors impacted by the disaster.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:07:22

Through Jesus Christ, we pray for wisdom and safety for all. Amen.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:07:28

I now ask a question that demands an answer. Who are the powerful people in our state and country that allowed this toxic brew to be built next to our neighbors and our beloved Elkhorn Slough.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:07:41

This fire at the Moss Landing Energy Storage Facility is not just an accident. It is a result of short-sighted decisions that prioritize profits over public safety.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:07:51

What kind of common sense allowed the construction of a facility where water, our most basic firefighting tool, is useless against a blaze?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:07:58

This disaster has exposed glaring gaps in safety protocols and emergency preparedness. Our community has endured evacuations, hazardous air, and significant disruptions.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:08:09

Yet we still lack clear answers about the chemicals released and their long-term health impact.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:08:15

Was air monitoring sufficient? Were residents adequately warned?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:08:20

While renewable energy is vital, it must not come at the expense of human safety or the protection of our treasured elkhorn slough.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:08:29

I urge this board to demand accountability require an independent investigation and establish stricter safety standards moving forward.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:08:40

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Light. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:08:45

Good morning. My name is Freya Reid. I'm a member of the Elkhorn Slew Foundation and an artist who paints at Elkhorn Slough.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:08:53

I am also the manager of Last Chance Mercantile, and I've dedicated my life to making the planet a better place for all of us.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:09:01

I attended the first meeting of the Moss Landing Community Response Group last night.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:09:07

And a common theme across all groups was data collection. Everyone's collecting their own data. People are scraping samples together to try to get data because no one trusts the data that's out there right now.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:09:20

The most compelling story I heard last night was a pregnant woman who lives on her boat?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:09:26

In Moss Landing. She's a fisherman, and with her partner, they had to evacuate. When they came back, their boat was covered with debris.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:09:37

Her partner, they went down below and her partner cleaned off that debris into the Elkhorn Slough.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:09:44

And said that he would lose his fishing license in a normal scenario. That toxic brew that he just threw into the bay would cause him to lose his fishing license.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:09:58

By other regulatory agencies. This technology is clearly not ready for prime time.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:10:06

A lot of us do not want to be guinea pigs for Vistra or Tesla or PG&E.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:10:12

We want to work with you. And I'd like these facilities all to be taken offline, all of them, to be taken offline.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:10:21

Until the risks of technology can align with the communities and the environment's needs for safety. Our children and our sea otters deserve that. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:10:32

Thank you. Next. Good morning. My name is Lamar Dillegas. I live in Las Lomas at the end of Air Cornyn Slough.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:10:42

I want to know why are we seeking answers now? Why are we just getting to the point where we're trying to seek data right now? We should have sucked... seeked all this stuff before we allow these companies into this area.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:10:56

I, uh... I never got any evacuation notice.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:11:03

I didn't know that there was an evacuation notice. I suffer from asthma. I had asthma. I had chemical taste in my mouth for two days.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:11:13

I ended up in the hospital, got treated for asthma. Every time I get treated for asthma, for me, any contact with any kind of chemicals.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:11:24

Could be deadly. Every single time I'm exposed to So I got treated.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:11:32

Ended up going back to the hospital because he wasn't enough.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:11:38

I want answers. I also want to know... You know, how safe is it? We don't even know how safe it is to be out there right now.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:11:48

We need answers. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:11:52

Thank you. Next. Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board of Supervisors. My name is Peter Ziegler. I am the Vice President of Operations for Vistra Corporation and I, under my purview is the Moss Landing Power Plant.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:12:09

Firstly, we'd like to sincerely thank our first responders, specifically Chief Mendoza.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:12:14

Battalion Chief Sudama. Sheriff Nieto and their teams.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:12:19

Along with the state, county, and federal agencies that supported the efforts at Moss Landing.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:12:24

We're grateful for the many years of planning and training in unison with the fire department and other county officials which supported an outcome where we had no reported injuries from either the incident or ongoing As Chief Mendoza said, we are continuing to monitor the site and can confirm that there is no active flame and a limited amount of smoldering

[BOS ZOOM] 11:12:50

Is continuing. Air monitoring conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency, an independent third-party quality experts, continues to demonstrate that the site and surrounding area is safe and does not pose a risk to the public.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:13:05

Air quality monitoring is ongoing and will continue throughout this response.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:13:10

Now, the decisions for the locations of the monitoring equipment was made in concert with the EPA.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:13:16

And county based on wind direction. We amended sampling locations each day based on wind direction.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:13:24

Initially, the Marina Coast Water District did communicate with residents that the water supply remains safe.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:13:31

While much progress has been made in the last five days.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:13:34

There is more work that remains to be done. Our top priority remains ensuring the safety of the community. The first responders and our employees.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:13:44

Our crews continue to monitor the site. In coordination with Chief Mendoza and his team and investigatory work will begin as soon as possible.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:13:54

The other three plants on the site, one gas plant and two other battery facilities, were taken offline in response to evacuation order and remain offline. Thank you, sir. Thank you. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:14:08

Hi, my name is Annaluz Acevedo Cabrera. I am a resident of Royal Oaks, also grew up in the area.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:14:16

And I spent many years, actually my entire career was in Silicon Valley.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:14:20

So I want to offer the tech perspective on this. Also having been exposed to what happened.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:14:26

This is what I wrote last night, and I share this in LinkedIn.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:14:30

Having experienced firsthand the Moss Landing fire in my very own backyard, along with some of the side effects of breathing in that toxic smoke despite the sheltering in place.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:14:41

Because we were just outside the evacuation line. I can tell you that my outlook on lithium batteries has certainly changed.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:14:48

Don't get me wrong. I am all for renewable energy and we do need batteries for storage.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:14:55

But lithium batteries were just supposed to be Part of the transition phase While more stable and energy efficient batteries came along.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:15:06

Well, guess what? That transition time is over. And what happened in Moss Landing is certainly a testament to that.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:15:13

Now, I understand that pulling the plug at once is extremely difficult because a lot of infrastructure is already in place And there's a significant dependency on it to run our electric grid.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:15:24

But you can certainly scale down that dependency and eventually replace all of it with better tech.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:15:30

Which brings me to my last point. Ai and its energy consumption.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:15:35

I've said this before. I'm very skeptical of how much we truly need it in our everyday lives.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:15:41

Like, seriously, those Google searchers were working just fine before Ai came along and met us products just as well.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:15:48

I can give you a whole list. And I don't mean to disrespect any of the talented people that have worked on this.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:15:57

It's just you have to understand that behind every one of those unnecessary queries is a lithium battery getting built somewhere.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:05

And stored in my own backyard. To meet that extra demand on our energy grid. And you have to ask yourself, is it worth putting more people's health at risk in another one of these frequent meltdowns?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:16

Thank you. We're at time.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:22

Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board of Supervisors. Better?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:28

My name is Brad Watson. I'm the Senior Director of Community Affairs at Vistra.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:34

Like many of our neighbors and friends, Moss Landing is our home. We have employees who live in the area who are involved in their communities and have been for many, many years.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:42

We're deeply sorry to our fellow local residents and businesses that have been disrupted by this event.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:48

We've committed to work closely with our community partners and local officials to determine how best we can help.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:55

And we'll have more information to share on this in the coming days.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:16:59

Obviously, we know there is a lot of public concern about this vent.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:17:03

This event. And I want you to know that we as a company are truly committed to addressing these concerns in an open and transparent way.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:17:14

As Pete just outlined, there is a lot of work ahead. We know that. And we will do that in close coordination with local, state, county, and federal agencies.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:17:24

To help improve communication and better inform all stakeholders, we have established a new website to share operational updates and to make additional information available.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:17:34

The address is [Mosslandingresponse.com](http://Mosslandingresponse.com). That's [www, mosslandingresponse.com](http://www.mosslandingresponse.com).



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:17:41

We encourage people to visit the site regularly. It just went live on Sunday. We'll continue to update it with new information as it becomes available.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:17:50

Thank you very much for your time today. Thank you. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:17:57

Good morning, board and board chair. My name is Mauricio. I'm here on behalf of State Assemblymember Don Addis.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:02

Who unfortunately couldn't make it here today as she's on her way to Sacramento.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:06

I just wanted to take a few moments to share a message on her behalf.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:10

It reads, while we urgently need climate solutions, they must be safe for our communities and environment.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:17

For the past four days, my full attention has been on the battery energy storage system fire At the most standing power plant.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:23

I'm calling for an independent investigation asking Vistra and its vendors to share critical data and information with our community.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:32

And for the facility to remain closed until they can guarantee this will never happen again.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:38

We all deserve solutions that prioritize safety and sustainability. Thank you again, Board Chair, and for calling this special session to our first responders. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:47

Thank you, Mr. Arias. Next, please. My name is Nina Beattie. This is a political project pushed through without an environmental impact report.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:18:57

The county wrote mitigated negative declarations with false statements ignoring known hazards saying no significant environmental impacts.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:19:06

Supervisor Daniels and County Planning Commissioners voted for PG&E Tesla and Vista projects and didn't raise known health environmental problems.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:19:15

Lithium-ion batteries are explosively flammable to water, heat, and air and vulnerable to thermal runaway. Manufacturing defects in the batteries cannot be detected, say industry experts.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:19:28

Hydrogen fluoride gas is a product. It's highly toxic. It can kill, and it travels very fast. By inhalation, lowest lethal concentrations are about 50 to 250 parts per million for a five minute exposure. But neither the county nor MBard have hydrogen fluorage monitors.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:19:45

It costs less than \$600, despite this is the largest best in the world, and four incidents and first responders risk.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:19:52

The wrong plume dispersion modeling was used for project approval based on Monterey Airport data, not Moss Landing. They didn't have weather station equipment at Moss Landing until after the third incident. Epa claims they couldn't detect hydrogen fluoride outside and that HF was burned up in the fire despite that HF is produced by fires and it's non-combustible.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:20:13

Officials also said it went up and then they said it went down. It's confusing.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:20:19

Epa has said no reason to test the water, but we know the substance is the result from these fires. They have a long history of fraud, revolving door with industries, persecution of scientists, and failure to protect the public. And we're involved in the East Palestine monitoring in Pennsylvania. This is a California issue. Where's CaliPA?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:20:38

Whereas the health department in their active work? And Vistra hired CTA, a very controversial company, not independent, with a long history of giving all clear and highly contaminated situations like East Palestine.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:20:52

The wind has blown the toxic smoke to San Benito County, Santa Cruz County, and Monterey Peninsula. And Don Addis and John Laird are best proponents. Toxicity as from the spire, we don't know when the next one will happen.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:21:05

Next speaker, please.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:21:14

Next speaker, please.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:21:20

My name is Mary Larkin. I'm a resident of Moss Landing, Peary Court. I am part of the Monterey Our Moss Landing Community Response Group, we met last night at the Prunedale Grange.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:21:34

I am on the water group. And so there are several questions.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:21:40

Who will be paying for the testing of our water? We need answers on that immediately.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:21:46

I don't think it should be the burden of the private residents to have to get this testing paid for.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:21:53

As far as the review of the testing, will the Public Utilities Commission be reviewing everything. I think this is next level beyond our county.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:22:05

Is the permit for Vistra being put on hold until further notice?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:22:11

I believe that this permit was put through with very limited information to our community. I remember when there was a one-page thing, I think, in the weekly.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:22:24

That who reads the public announcements in the weekly? A few of us do.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:22:30

And I think that is inadequate notification of such a severe and dangerous project that's being put in our backyard.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:22:41

And one of the final questions I have for Vistra Corp, was there an experimental cooling test being conducted prior to the fire. I've been informed by anonymous people that this was being conducted And then the fire broke out and there was an explosion.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:22:58

So I think we need answers on that. Also, I just gathered some data from the air quality on Saturday and Sunday from the marine lab. They have an air sensor there. On Saturday, it was 38 parts per million for the 2.5 particulate matter.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:23:19

Reading. And then on Sunday, it was 58. That's not smoke.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:23:24

Thank you. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:23:29

Good morning. Thank you for having this meeting. I'm Rick. North County Lifer and elected Trustee for the North Monterey County Unified School District speaking as an individual.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:23:42

I took a tour early last year of the Vista facilities with others, including Supervisor excuse chief of Staff Yuri Anderson and was explain all the operations and procedures, FISHRA by Brad Watson.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:23:55

Thank you, residents and Granger members who put together the town hall last night. Thank you, Supervisor Church, for Coming, Superintendent of the district, Matt Turkey, Trustee Martha trevidia, and NCOE Trustee Heather Owen for coming.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:24:14

It's not often, as other topics where such a majority of our residents, your constituents agree so passionately about the same subject.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:24:22

What we've witnessed and experienced together after this horrible disaster is unifying, bringing everyone together.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:24:29

Working together with the same goal to find out what happened.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:24:33

Get accountability and find out. What your constituents want going forward.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:24:39

This isn't just a North County problem. This is a situation that sets precedence for Many millions. You have to get all the information that you can to decide what to do for our children and yours.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:24:50

And prevent anything like this ever happening again. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Diaz. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:25:00

Hello, I'm Christina Davis. I'm a resident of Pruendale I am here because I thought that the disaster response was very well handled.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:25:09

Like that timeline was really impressive. And that said, I didn't get an alert about staying indoors until 11 o'clock at night.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:25:18

So my baby and I were hanging out outside for a couple hours during the period where the wind off the ocean would be bringing Moss Landing wind directly to our house.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:25:28

I hope that you guys can work something out to do better next time because we do have these plants. They aren't going away anytime soon as much as we would love them to.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:25:37

And thank you very much. Thank you. Mr. Smollett?



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:25:44

Lopez, sorry. Got you in the mail.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:25:48

And the rest of you, thanks for having this meeting. My first question is... VISTA is supposed to have another... big mega sale going out there.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:25:59

Is that going to be shut down? No one seems to know the answer. I asked that question last night at your dog and pony show.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:26:09

No answers really came out of that meeting. I actually got up and walked out because I saw that as being a dog and pony show. So I'm going to ask you Is Vishtra going to put another plant out there.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:26:20

Because it's already coming. You're the ones who have to stop it.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:26:25

My next question is... Chief Mendoza, Tina.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:26:30

Sheriff, they need a raise. They covered your ass.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:26:35

They need a raise. But my biggest question is.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:26:41

All these EPA and everything else. We don't need them. I always bleed in apprenticeship program.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:26:49

Still do, even though I'm retired. So let's get all these schools.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:26:53

A monitor all around that little area And let them do the monitoring because they're the ones who've got to live with it for the next 75 years.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:27:02

Not you, not me, and not most of these people in this room.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:27:05

We're going to be gone. Fertilizer So let's get the younger ones in there so they know what's going on.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:27:11

You can implement this with the schools that we have.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:27:16

Put apprenticeship program in it. That's going to give Mendoza.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:27:21

And Tina and your sales people that are going to want your jobs.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:27:24

Think about that. We need those people. Thank you for your time. Thank you, Mr. Smalley. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:27:36

Good morning, Board of Supervisors. My name is Bhavik Patel and my company operates the in-app moss landing point That's right there in Moss Landing.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:27:45

One of the things that I wanted to talk about was just the economic devastation that this has caused. There's Moss Landing is home to our fisheries, our fishermen, our tourist industry that really helps drive the growth in that area.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:28:00

But the fire at the Moss Landing Battery Facility has highlighted some serious gaps in our ability to communicate effectively with the community and coordinate amongst agencies during emergencies.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:28:12

I, for one, had guests traveling from all over the country I didn't have something clear to be able to give these guests to say, hey, it's safe to come or it's not.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:28:21

Even after evacuation orders were lifted, roadblocks were, some roadblocks were eliminated.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:28:26

My guests were still being turned around and told that the air was unsafe to breathe by Caltrans workers, a CHP officer to the point where I had to get The sheriff's office involved to even let employees come to work.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:28:39

I think we need a comprehensive plan for emergency communication that differentiates between types of incidents.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:28:45

So wildfires, chemical fires, or industrial fires. Each requiring unique protocols for evacuation health precautions.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:28:54

And response times. Right now, there is a confusion about what to do and who to listen to, a standardized protocol Similar to our wildfire evacuation process.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:29:04

Needs to be developed for scenarios such as the battery fire that just happened.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:29:09

Second, we must establish a single lead organization responsible for coordinating emergency communication across all agencies. You've heard from others today that said they didn't even get an evacuation notice or knew.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:29:21

Of evacuations happening. Whether it's the Office of Emergency Services or a newly appointed body, this organization must ensure consistent messaging to all stakeholders and to all stakeholders to all stakeholders from first responders to residents.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:29:37

Thank you, Mr. Patel. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:29:43

Hi, good morning, everyone. I'm Megan McKenzie. I'm a community member that lives in the local area impacted by this unprecedented and terrible event and I share many of the questions and concerns our community has shared with you today, including the acute and long-term impacts to our health, our community and businesses.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:30:04

At our local fragile ecosystems. And I'm not going to reiterate those now, but one question that I have not heard asked, answered, or addressed in any way by this member by this member coney the businesses are in any way by our community is what are you guys doing to protect the public from earthquake impacts that may impact these plants?



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:30:25

We reside near a major fault line, the San Andreas Fault.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:30:29

So I'm curious as to what safety and mitigation measures are in place. Is this at all a concern?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:30:34

And while I'm not a geophysicist or a somologist, I do believe this is an issue that is worth consideration.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:30:40

And providing information to the public on this topic. Thank you. Thank you, Ms. McKinsey. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:30:54

Buenos dias. My name is Kelen Figueroa. I'm with Milpa and also just a Monterey County community member.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:31:00

So thank you so much for the information that was shared today. I think it was really important for our community to be able to hear what's going on, right, what happens, because I know it came for a surprise for us, right, as it might have for y'all as well.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:31:11

But some of the biggest things like we're obviously still concerned, right? We were getting calls left and right of like, hey, do you guys know what's happening? What's going on? Are we okay?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:31:20

But I know there's still answers coming. We understand there's still some things coming out. So we do appreciate too that there's raw data out there, right? Because we can look at it and things like that.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:31:27

But just as community residents, right, we want to know exactly, okay, what happened? What's our next steps? What's going to be the environmental impacts that are happening for our community members, right, for the tri-county area as a whole.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:31:38

But what assessments need to be made, right? We're not experts in this field, but at the same time, it's like, hey, we're here to support and just being able to make sure our community feels safe, right? That they can still be where they're at.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:31:47

So we do look forward to working with you all to make this right for our tri-county community members, but at the same time trying to see like, all right, cool, just being transparent with everything happening, right? So just appreciation. Thank you so much for all the information. Yeah, have a good one.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:01

Thank you. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:07

Hi, my name is Tamara. I was at the Grange.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:12

Last night. And I want to say thank you, Glenn. You're very upfront with us about everything.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:19

I'm emotional and undisturbed. Yes, I'm hurt, I'm angry, I'm confused. I'm not getting the answers.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:26

You say that we didn't have these chemicals. And that it's wood, smoke, and whatnot.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:32

But on Friday, when I was out. The chemicals that I smelt.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:37

Left a metallic taste in my mouth. And this is part of why I'm so upset.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:43

And confused. The last time I had that metallic taste in my mouth.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:46

Was when I was having toxins pumped into my body for chemotherapy.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:51

The difference between my chemotherapy that I received And the toxins that were out there in the air.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:32:56

That chemotherapy, years of research. It was regulated for my body specifically.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:03

We have no regulations here. Where I was at in my house, we kept the doors closed.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:10

Everything was closed. I have two huskies. I couldn't let them outside. We're blocking things off.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:17

We have no answers as to when we should or shouldn't.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:20

I was looking at motel rooms to stay away. \$1,000, \$2,000 for a month.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:27

A lot of us don't have that kind of money. And yet we're being told even now But it was smoke in the air.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:34

Well, what I'm feeling right now, with the exception of Mr. Church, is you're all giving us smoke in the air.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:40

And I, for one. Am hurt, bothered, angry, and confused. I have every emotion.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:46

And on top of that. What nobody has said here today is what about our mental health?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:33:53

Based on what has happened? What about my mental health? I've been through so much, and this is just one more thing that has landed on my plate. I suggest that you all think about that when you're thinking about everything else.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:34:07

And what restrictions will be moved forward. Thank you. Thank you. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:34:17

Good morning. My name is Rebecca Little and I live on Avery Lane in prunedale.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:34:21

And I went and got my daughter, my granddaughter. I have a five-year-old granddaughter that I'm raising.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:34:27

They went to Alcorn school and I did see the smoke plume as I was going to get her.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:34:32

And picked her up and then didn't see it again and thought, well, not much going on.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:34:37

But I did look it up and I went on social media and found out that there had been a fire there.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:34:43

So anyway, as everything goes on, I never was informed too about any evacuation or anything. I never was alerted or anything like that.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:34:52

But also what happened was is that So the next day, of course, the school was closed and I had to keep my granddaughter in. And so around 3 o'clock in the afternoon, Riley says, I, you know.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:35:04

I'm itching, oh my, just, you know, and she couldn't stop itching. And she has a... Rash on her leg. And so I called the doctor and pediatrician called me back and she said, well.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:35:15

You know, there's nothing we can do about that. We don't know, you know, what that could be. And she never looked at it, nothing.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:35:22

And my question really is more than anything is that this is the fourth time that this has happened.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:35:28

And we're still here trying to, we're still, now we're here. This is like a really awful thing that's happened.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:35:34

People don't know what to do. And the same thing is, I don't have any money to go and get away from it.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:35:41

I don't have \$1,000. To just sit there and go, oh yeah, let's just go somewhere else.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:35:46

There's nowhere else to go. And I know it's not, I'm not blaming any of you people. I'm not at all. But I just, I think that this... Everybody's got to be a little bit more responsible, a little bit, take a little bit more responsibility.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:35:59

About the fact that what are we doing here? And it's true what the gentleman said.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:36:04

You know, it's not going to be us. I'm 70 years old. I don't know how long I'm going to be here, but my granddaughter's going to be here.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:36:12

And your grandkids are going to be here? And so we got to deal with this after four times.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:36:20

Thank you. Thank you. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:36:25

Hello, my name is Heather Griffin. I'm with the Monterey I'm sorry, Moss Landing Fire Community Response Group that met last night.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:36:34

Thank you, Glenn Church, for coming. We invited you. We are a grassroots group of residents that kind of came together and decided to try to do something to help answer questions and figure out what is the next step moving forward how do we

[BOS ZOOM] 11:36:50

Move on from this disaster that's happened in our own backyard.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:36:55

One question that hasn't been brought up that has been brought up a lot online is what financial assistance is available right now, not six months from now.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:37:05

Right now, for those people who have had health issues businesses who have had to close people have not been able to go to work.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:37:15

Is there a fund available right now? Does VISTRA have a fund? People need it.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:37:20

That's the first thing. Second thing is there's a lot of contradicting information about this smoke.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:37:27

I live in prunedale and I have never had a metallic taste in my mouth before. And yes, there are people that burn fires in their fireplaces. We do too I've never had metallic taste and I live five miles from Moss Landing.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:37:41

So to say that that it's that. I'm sorry, that's a joke.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:37:45

I can't even believe that he said something like that. It doesn't even make sense, especially to when we were told to close our doors and windows And to turn our HVAC systems off.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:37:58

If that's the case, then why is it just smoke from our fires?



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:38:04

That just doesn't even make sense. It's so contradictory. So I want to bring that up too.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:38:11

Also, there were a lot of people who live in the local community who have cell phones that are outside of the 831 area code who were not notified.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:38:18

I know someone who lives in Lost Landing. She was walking on the beach.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:38:22

When it happened. And she did not know anything about it. Her phone never notified her. She was never told to evacuate.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:38:29

Thank you. Thank you. Next speaker.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:38:38

Morning Board. My name is Belinda Talubin. I'm a resident of North Monterey County. Sorry about my throat.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:38:44

Haven't been well. I'd like to ask the board, actually I'd like to ask Vistra to go offline on all of their equipment.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:38:53

Until they find regulations or review and determine that they're meeting all the regulations under the NFPA.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:39:00

For this new development and this new technology that has come out.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:39:04

Nfpa themselves agree that they still need more testing to determine the regulations necessary for this new technology.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:39:13

However, I really cannot believe that people are standing here saying that this is an unforeseen incident.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:39:21

It has happened before. It's happened in 2019 in Arizona that created the issue for NFPA to step forward And say, yes, we need to conduct studies on this.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:39:33

And they do now have studies for these ESS systems. So that they can provide some kind of regulation for this technology.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:39:44

However, Monterey County moved forward in 2019 and allowed the vestra to move in in 2020. Prior to the regulations being in place.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:39:52

So at this point, I would hope that Vistra would be a responsible party to step up and say, you know what, we do have a legacy system here that is not meeting our even the regulations at NFPA now has put into place.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:40:06

And why don't they step up and say, we'll take that legacy system offline I'm not necessarily saying the newer systems that they have out there, but I'm not really sure what they have there.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:40:18

Additionally, I'd like Monterey to step forward on their current application, PLN 190253, Amendment Number 1.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:40:26

And this one has now already been through the process of review, and I think this one should be halted until they can determine and prove to the government and public that they can provide a safe systems without these kind of conflags and runaways. Thank you. Have a great day.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:40:43

Thank you. Next speaker.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:40:51

My name is Kathleen Yuschinski. I live in Moss Landing. I am Two doors down from the snack shack on the slough.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:01

I have a business in town. I work for myself. It's been a huge disruption.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:10

I, on January 4th at 1153 at night. Before this happened, there was a big pressure let off.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:21

That I couldn't even hear my TV. I ran outside and recorded it.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:29

Um... I posted on Nextdoor.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:34

I don't know about you neighbors, but I don't trust neighbors in my backyard And then this happened.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:43

I don't want to see... the power plant go online.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:47

I want them to move it to Texas or wherever the hell they're from.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:51

And it's all about the money and they're just like coming into our small communities with right under our nose without us knowing.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:41:59

And putting us at risk. We're not really that important, I guess.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:42:03

But anyway, I just want to say I'm angry. I just want them out.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:42:11

Thank you. Next.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:42:19

Hello, my name is Jordan Caballero, and I'm the acting president of the North County Rec and Park District board, which served as an evacuation site for this disaster on Thursday and Friday I want to thank the county leadership. I think that you've done the best that you can considering the circumstances.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:42:36

Obviously, you have a lot on your plate with the new New board with the changes at the federal level and the state level and the fires in LA.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:42:46

But this obviously, as everyone is saying, is an emergency here locally. And even though It is in primarily Supervisor Church's district. It will affect all of you.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:42:56

I'm sure you've gotten plenty of communication from your constituents. I want to thank Supervisor Church for his hard work on this issue. I know a lot of the decisions were made before he was elected that led to this.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:43:08

And him and his team are doing the best they can, I believe, to make this happen. The response yesterday was a community organized group.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:43:16

Over 200 people packed into the Prunedale Grange. We were all there last night and just shows you how passionate people are about this.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:43:23

And a couple things have been highlighted about through this event. One is the lack of organization communication and coordination between the local agencies with the federal and state agencies.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:43:35

I think just like two years ago with the floods in Pajaro, this on a smaller scale has caught a lot of us off guard and kind of exposed The lack of communication amongst some of those important agencies.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:43:46

I can tell you people were concerned. And so the disconnect between what was being said on television from officials and what was being said on social media from the real people experiencing it.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:43:57

Is a large disconnect. And so I'm hoping that through this process that we can bridge that gap with the community is upset, angry.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:44:07

Confused, misunderstood, and yet these official agencies are saying, no, air's fine, go back to work, go back home. And so you can understand why people are very upset and very frustrated.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:44:17

I hope the meeting last night was great, but we also know that over half of our community is Spanish speaking, and I hope that we can do a better job of bringing them to the table as well. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:44:27

Next speaker, please.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:44:34

My name is Kim Rites Solano. My family has lived in I've been in business in Moss Landing for 50 years.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:44:41

This will be our 50th year. I love, we love our community and we respect all of you for all the hard work that you've put into this. And I know that this was an unprecedented event.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:44:56

It's really hard for me to imagine right now how to Bring back the confidence that moss landing is a healthy place to come to right now for business. We've been closed since Thursday. Fortunately, we were almost done with our day Thursday when we started hearing the alarms at 3 o'clock.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:45:19

I just don't think... We know enough right now to continue with these companies to be online right now in Moss Landing.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:45:31

So Evistra is offline. The other plants aren't the other battery storage units aren't offline.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:45:38

I don't know what the difference is in the risk with them continuing to be online.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:45:46

As well. And I concur with what Kathleen just said. We all heard that explosion the other night.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:45:53

And nobody, nobody could tell us. Where it came from.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:45:58

You know, we're a little bit suspicious. And there are too many unknowns out here for us to feel comfortable. For me to open my doors.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:46:06

I'm paying my employees right now out of our pocket to not come to work.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:46:12

They're not applying for unemployment right now because We're so, we just don't know where we're at or where we're going. So we continue to pay them and I don't feel comfortable opening. I have parties planned.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:46:26

Throughout the end of this month and February and March. And I've been canceling them. We have five Airbnbs. We told all of our guests not to come.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:46:36

So thank you and just help us please just keep in mind how we really feel and what the safety is for all of us.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:46:44

Next speaker, please.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:46:50

Good morning. Good morning. My name is Diana Mark and I'm a Prondale resident.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:46:56

I've been there all my life. I saw Mr. Church and some of the Poondale people here and was sanding people last night at the Grange.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:05

Can you bring the microphone just a little closer for us? Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:10

I'm very upset about what's going on. Because I do feel like we are not been told the whole truth.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:18

And I have grandkids. But stay with me. Got a newborn.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:24

This is very upsetting. I don't trust our media.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:28

I don't even trust our representatives. Our governor, I do not even trust him.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:34

Where's he at? To even come down, walked.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:41

Nothing has spoken to us.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:47

I do suffer from asthma. And I know there's other people here too.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:52

And the gentleman that got sick Who's going to pay his medical bill for going?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:47:59

We need to do our own testing. By our own people that we can trust.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:07

This is our county. We need to protect our Tony, our people.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:14

Our children, our grandchildren. That's all I got to say. Thank you. Have a nice day.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:20

Thank you. Anybody else in room?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:26

All right. Not seeing anybody else in the room. We're going to go to Zoom, invite folks to use the raise hand function, star 9 via landline.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:32

In order to be recognized, again, one more time, raise hand function, which is at the bottom of your screen in the reactions tab if you're on mobile.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:38

Look for that race and function in order to be recognized, star 9 via landline will raise your hand as well.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:44

So at this time, I'll turn to the clerk to announce who our first speaker is.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:47

Phone number ending in 628.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:48:57

Phone number ending in 628.

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:49:00

Yes, can you hear me? Hello?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:49:05

I hear you. You can... He muted himself. Peggy Stamp.

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:49:08

Hello.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:49:17

Peggy?



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:49:20

Hello? Can you hear me?

[BOS ZOOM] 11:49:24

628, we can hear you. Can you hear us? Okay, go ahead.

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:49:28

Yes. Yes. Recently, after the Moss County fire, I... watched a video in... It was about lithium ion batteries. It was put on by the New York City Fire Department, this... officer in the fire department pulled out a little motor school, a child's toy, really.

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:49:54

And he pointed out that this type of scooter was put in an apartment building it was And it was charged inside the And it started on fire. Apparently, it was a very large apartment building and burned down the whole

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:50:13

Farms building. The point is that I'm all for alternative energy, that kind of thing.

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:50:21

But perhaps we could find something a little safer than safer lithium ion batteries. They're everywhere and they're everywhere According to this New York Fire Department official.

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:50:33

They're guaranteed to start on fire. Not all of them, of course, but a small percentage of them. But when you have millions or perhaps billions of them.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[1831\*\*\*\*628] 11:50:43

You're bound to get a disastrous fire. So my suggestion is perhaps we could find another means of storing electricity than lithium ion batteries. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:50:55

Thank you. Peggy Stapp.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:51:02

Peggy? You'll need to unmute yourself.

[Peggy Stap] 11:51:09

Can you hear me now? Okay, thank you. My name is Peggy Stapp with Marine Life Studies located on Moss Landing Road, and I really appreciate you, Mr. Church.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:51:10

You're on. We can.

[Peggy Stap] 11:51:19

And all the first responders during the event. Just wondering, why hasn't there been any information published or why doesn't Vistra have a list of particulates, gases, and materials emitted from those batteries in the event of a fire from tests before ever building this type of facility?

[Peggy Stap] 11:51:34

It seems logical that there would be a predefined list of substances to test for in such an incident.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Peggy Stap] 11:51:41

Also, has there been tests conducted or do they plan any independent agency to test for the residue and ashes that have settled on the boats in Moss Landing Harbor.

[Peggy Stap] 11:51:52

And the surrounding businesses. One of the people manning the road closures onto Moss Landing Road during the weekend advised me to clean my shoes when I leave due to potential unknown particulates on the ground.

[Peggy Stap] 11:52:04

Also, there was a truck outside our business who was monitoring the error but said he could not give us any information.

[Peggy Stap] 11:52:09

Asked him a few more questions. And again, no more, couldn't give me info.

[Peggy Stap] 11:52:14

But then he did tell us not to stay, but to get in and out of our business quickly.

[Peggy Stap] 11:52:17

Just like the gail said in an earlier comment today that fishermen cleaning off the boat put toxins in the harbor and slew.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Peggy Stap] 11:52:27

That, you know, any other time that the guy could have lost his license But that can affect the sensitive area in the wildlife, including the sea otters. There are hundreds of boats in the harbor. Is Vistra going to send hazmat people to clean off our vessels so the debris doesn't go into the waterway?

[Peggy Stap] 11:52:45

We should not have to be exposed to the debris on our boats caused by this fire.

[Peggy Stap] 11:52:49

Additionally, is there any funding for businesses that were forced to close during this period?

[Peggy Stap] 11:52:55

Thank you for this opportunity to speak. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:52:58

Thank you. Thank you, Peggy. We'll go to our next speaker. Stephanie Marcos.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:53:09

Stephanie Marcos.

[Stephanie Marcos] 11:53:15

Yeah, can you hear me okay? Hello? Yeah, I'm a Monterey County resident and I just had a few things. So why didn't Vistra have monitors placed to measure the particulates and materials in the building where the batteries were stored instead of waiting for the EPA to assess the situation after the fire has already begun. So I was wondering if



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:53:16

Monica? Oh. We can. We can.

[Stephanie Marcos] 11:53:39

That is going to be kind of a regulation or, you know, a prerequisite to put these things back online. And also, according to the raw data on the county's website.

[Stephanie Marcos] 11:53:51

It appears that many tests did not include the hydrogen fluoride and there were numerous instances where telemetry was down during the reporting period.

[Stephanie Marcos] 11:54:02

And do you have a list of the particulates that were tested for? So while HF is a known concern, what about the other potential harmful chemicals we should be aware of?

[Stephanie Marcos] 11:54:14

And that's all I have. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:54:16

Thank you. Next speaker. Monica.

[Monica] 11:54:24

Hi, can you hear me? Hi, good morning. So I just, first thing I want to point out there's a lot of confusion in the community for the residents on Dolan road There is a road closure still in place, but it was not like





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 11:54:27

Yeah.

[Monica] 11:54:41

Evidently clear. I had to call public works about it. It's closed at via Tonkas Road by pick and pull. And then people are able to leave onto Highway 1 or that is just the general consensus because that's what people are doing but you can't

[Monica] 11:54:57

Exit Highway 1 to Dolan Road. So we need some clear guidance there. I mean, I call public works to say it was a soft closure at one point and then another part of it's a hard closure.

[Monica] 11:55:08

But people are going through there anyways because there's no clear direction being given to the community.

[Monica] 11:55:13

We're getting a lot of our information from fellow community members and on social media. So that needs to change immediately.

[Monica] 11:55:22

And yeah, why have us go all the way around when we don't need to? And why is it closed in the first place? If everything's safe and fine and dandy at the plant. And another thing, yeah, you know, stuff's going around saying that they're not testing the water or the soil. I think that needs to be done.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Monica] 11:55:39

We need more answers like most of the community has already voiced. And in the future, before anything more plants or anything goes up.

[Monica] 11:55:47

We need clear communication to the community. Someone mentioned it was in a local circuit or something.

[Monica] 11:55:53

We need like social media alerts going out. Hey, do you guys want this plant in your area?

[Monica] 11:55:59

And yeah, we just need more answers. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:56:03

Thank you, Monica. Next. Jason Sakihara.

[Jason Sakihara] 11:56:11

Hi, good morning. My name is Jason Sakihara. I'm a community member here in the area and my daughter attends the local elementary school down the street.

[Jason Sakihara] 11:56:20

I think the biggest concern that I have here is conflict of interest in the testing procedures that are being done by the company that has made such a significant investment in that project.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Jason Sakihara] 11:56:31

I mean, my understanding is that's a billion dollar facility And yet we're asking the company that made that substantial interest in that area to perform the testing to find out whether or not it could reopen. It's the timing of it too. I mean, we heard from our supervisor that morning or

[Jason Sakihara] 11:56:49

The morning that the order was lifted the They were going to push to make sure that these don't reopen, to make sure that if they do reopen.

[Jason Sakihara] 11:56:57

They reopen with certain caveats in place to prevent this kind of action from happening. And then suddenly that evening, these things were, we were told that everything is okay.

[Jason Sakihara] 11:57:06

To go back, we're going to allow our children to go back down to school there down the street from there.

[Jason Sakihara] 11:57:12

And I know that everybody in here has done a good job of highlighting this. I just want to point out that finding another testing company or finding another way to get the data out, I think would be better suited for

[Jason Sakihara] 11:57:25

As a community than trusting the corporation to do that. And I do want to say that I know that some folks didn't get the warnings, but I do feel like this was a great response on behalf of the county.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Jason Sakihara] 11:57:37

I know that the first speaker who went up and presented, she laid out that timeline. I just want to say thank you to everybody.

[Jason Sakihara] 11:57:43

For doing due diligence and getting that work

[BOS ZOOM] 11:57:46

Thank you, Mr. Sakihar. Our next speaker, please. Yes, phone number ending in 915.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:57:56

Can you hear me? Thank you. My name is Becky Steinbrunner. I live in Santa Cruz County and I received two notifications from the Santa Cruz County Cruise Aware Notification System both warning me to stay inside with doors closed.

[BOS ZOOM] 11:57:58

You can.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:58:15

We have livestock. What should we do with that? What did your county of Monterey advise people with livestock?

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:58:23

I've not heard any mention of SB 38 that was signed into law. It was put forth by Senator Laird.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:58:33

This bill would require each battery energy storage facility to have an emergency response and emergency action plan that covers the premises of the battery energy storage facility. The bill would require the owner or operator of the facility in developing the plan.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:58:52

To coordinate with local emergency management agencies, Unified Program Agencies, and local first response agencies.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:59:00

To the extent the bill would impose new duties on local government agencies, the bill would create a state-mandated local program. The bill will require the owner or operator of the facility to submit the plan.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:59:14

To the county and if applicable, the city where the facility is located.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:59:18

Is there such a plan in place for Vistra, PG&E, or Tesla?

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:59:25

This has not been discussed this morning by the sheriff. By the emergency responders, the health agency, is that in place? If not, it must be. It is a state-mandated requirement.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:59:37

Requirement. I want to thank Ms. Beattie for her excellent information and ask that the county select a third-party independent reviewer for all of VISTRA's data.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 11:59:49

And I also want to let you know that I was at the meeting last night And a contractor there who teaches at Cabrillo College informed people that staying inside with doors and windows closed is not a safe practice.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 12:00:04

Because of the recirculation problem. Thank you. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:00:04

Thank you, Ms. Steinburner. Thank you, Ms. Steinbrenner. We're out of time. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:00:08

Next speaker. Beverly.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:00:17

Beverly?

[Beverly] 12:00:20

Hi. Can you hear me? I'm sorry, I'm in a meeting.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:00:23

We can, Beverly, yes.

[Beverly] 12:00:25

So I just want to acknowledge all of the first responders, all of the officials who came out, you've done a great job and I understand that the public is very concerned and confused and angry and all of that as i was i live in Santa Cruz County.

[Beverly] 12:00:42

And I have all of my mementos and photos and everything by the door because I'm also traumatized by seeing all of what happened in Los Angeles and not knowing if embers could fly and we'd have fires that would reach us

[Beverly] 12:00:59

Over in Santa Cruz County. I'm with the community and appreciate everybody's concern and the questions that have been raised. I was at the meeting, excuse me, last night.

[Beverly] 12:01:11

And unfortunately, I would really like to caution people to not go with... information that isn't true.

[Beverly] 12:01:20

Rich Stedman. Is a someone who is trustworthy and he gave information and And the media was not cooperating with him and kept circulating false rumors that are just stoking people to be more upset So I appreciate the whole process and you making this meeting available and the meeting last night.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Beverly] 12:01:42

And that it's being worked on. And that Vistar came, that the US EPA came Great, amazing reaction response.

[Beverly] 12:01:52

And so thanks to all of you. My heart goes out to everyone in the community who has been directly affected. So thank you all.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:02:00

Thank you, Beverly. Next. David Preena.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:02:07

David? Yeah.

[David Prina] 12:02:08

Hi, can you hear me? All right, perfect. Yeah, so I wanted to echo everyone's concerns. Oh, sorry. David Perina, I live in prunedale.

[David Prina] 12:02:18

I could see the flames of Mordor from the back of my house. So that was very interesting couple nights and days.

[David Prina] 12:02:25

But I want to echo everyone's concerns about the need for an investigation.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[David Prina] 12:02:30

There are other battery energy storage facilities across California and the US.

[David Prina] 12:02:36

As far as I know, they don't seem to have these kinds of recurring problems. And I think it's very important to know why.

[David Prina] 12:02:42

I also fully agree with the need to have some sort of local testing of air, soil, and water. I think as some people have said, there may be some trust gap between local and federal or state officials. So having local control would be great.

[David Prina] 12:02:58

Also, as a resident, I would very much like to know if there's any follow-up studies about For those of us who raise livestock or fruit trees or grow their own food, I would like to know if there's any risks involved, some follow-up from the county would be great on that.

[David Prina] 12:03:15

For the residents, as well as the growers. And then with respect to the first responders, who I think did a great job. I will say, even if it is technically right approach to let things burn.

[David Prina] 12:03:28

It's still frightening and pretty confusing experience to see Tower of Flamin spoke. So I think it might be time to reassess that letting it burn, whether or not letting it burn is the most appropriate response for any current and future battery developments in Mach Landing?



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[David Prina] 12:03:44

I'd also encourage Vistra, PGE&E, and others to investigate if there's other safer battery chemistry such as lithium ion phosphate, iron air, or others that would accomplish the same. We've accomplished the same energy requirements.

[David Prina] 12:04:07

And even look into things like thermal storage. I'd also hope that the county would invest Oh, sorry.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:04:12

Thank you, Mr. Prina. Thank you, Mr. Prina. We're at time. Thank you. Next speaker.

[David Prina] 12:04:16

My

[BOS ZOOM] 12:04:18

Michelle Clary.

[Beverly] 12:04:24

Okay.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:04:28

Michelle Clary.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:04:35

Michelle? All right, let's go to the next one. We'll come back. Phone number ending in 705.

[Michelle Clary] 12:04:43

Oh, sorry. I was able to finally unmute. Can you hear me now? Okay, great. Thank you, guys. We have livestock. We were behind the evac zone and olives.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:04:46

Go ahead, Michelle. Yeah.

[Michelle Clary] 12:04:57

We weren't able to get any resources available because there was no Monterey County initiative of where to take animals.

[Michelle Clary] 12:05:03

It was an afterthought. Nobody knew if the acts were just based on maybe an explosion As we know, air quality, I chose to get my animals out Other people didn't know what to do.

[Michelle Clary] 12:05:15

All the people that were helping me evacuate my livestock, we all had metallic taste.

[Michelle Clary] 12:05:21

Burning eyes, burning throats. Problems. Residue, we have yellow residue all over our things. So to say that a chemical fire is the same as a fire wasn't really addressed. And I'd like to continue to work with the board and independently with others



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Michelle Clary] 12:05:39

On how we can make this a better process. We are a very heavy livestock community.

[Michelle Clary] 12:05:46

And again, chemical fires are different. We don't have time because it already had, we left on Friday.

[Michelle Clary] 12:05:52

We already had issues just from from that amount of smoke coming in in the morning So we'd like to work better on that. Second, with these Tesla cars.

[Michelle Clary] 12:06:05

And Cybertrucks burning and these batteries, if you can't put it out that technology needs to stop. There are other ways. There are other clean energy You got to be able to put it out hydroponics, double dam systems. Check out South Carolina. You're able with a double dam hydroponic to have 24 hours of energy

[Michelle Clary] 12:06:26

There are cleaner solutions. We can't have this in our community.

[Michelle Clary] 12:06:30

And we are going to do everything we can to make sure that it doesn't continue to happen until there's better suppression.

[Michelle Clary] 12:06:37

They know they can't put it out. And now that we're all aware, we're not going to go away.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Michelle Clary] 12:06:42

Also, the board should not be making any kind of permits when you don't have a majority of communities, even surrounding communities that are also voting on the initiative.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:06:54

Thank you, Michelle. Thank you, Michelle. We're out of time. Next speaker, please. Phone number ending in 705.

[Michelle Clary] 12:06:54

You are a board. You are not a god. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:07:03

705.

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:07:06

Can you hear me? Yes, Supervisor Lorna Moffett.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:07:08

You can.

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:07:13

I'm still smelling a chemical smell here in Monterey and I'm at the library and I've been smelling it all night.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:07:20

Nina beat and several concerned citizens spoke to this board on a few occasions about the fire hazards at the battery storage facility at Moss Landing.

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:07:30

If only one of you at the time had said, I make a motion, we look into this further.

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:07:37

And that motion carried, we probably wouldn't have had this fire.

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:07:41

So your public has the ability to research situations of concern that you may not be aware of Because you are filled to the brim with paperwork and concerns of this board.

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:07:52

So I urge you to listen to those who come before you and act I'd like to also say that you most powerful tool is to say.

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:08:04

I make a motion. And the Palestine victims of the vinyl chloride train wreck had to hire their own environmental assessor because EPA told the citizens There is no environmental health hazards and they should go home. And when they did, they became sick.

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:08:22

So they hired their own environmental chemical analysis personnel, and that personnel discovered that there was some multiple hazards in the soil.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[1831\*\*\*\*705] 12:08:33

So please, let's be true to one another. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:08:38

Thank you, Ms. Moffitt. Next speaker. Yes, iPhone.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:08:51

Gail E. Moss.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:08:58

All right. Can you hear me now? All right, great. Got to ask Just make sure. Yeah, I was doing some research and um I found a little information that I thought folks would be find interesting about this the somewhat shady past of Tesla and bistro

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:09:20

In 2024, eight Bay counties and 17 other California counties sued Tesla for illegally dumping hazardous waste.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:09:30

Tesla was convicted and fined \$275,000. In 2021, Tesla is buying another \$750,000 for air quality violations, and they dated back to 2015.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:09:48

Again, 2021, Tesla was fined for illegal waste disposal of hazardous waste.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:09:56

And they were fined \$40,000. So, and as we speak, Tesla batteries cause extremely hazardous conditions to firefighters because they explode and release toxic and toxic hydrogen fluoride.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:10:13

Okay, I don't have a lot of time, so I'm going to go over this quickly. I got my information.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:10:19

From uh violations from Violation tracker online.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:10:24

Denergy, also known as Vistra. Has been fined a total of eight.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:10:32

\$182 million. Consisting of 88 records of violations for power utility violations, operations, and systems.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:10:42

Of those, 14 were environmental regulations violations.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:10:50

\$525 million for air pollution And another 23 million dollars for consumer protection violations.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:11:02

This is like... And that's not even counting what they did to us here.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:11:07

Thank you. We're at time. Thank you very much.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 12:11:09

Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:11:10

Next speaker, please. Yes, Matthew Sabon.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:11:18

Matthew.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:11:27

Matthew Sablon.

[matthewsablan] 12:11:34

Hello? Hi. Matthew Sablon, resident in Broomdale.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:11:34

We can hear you.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[matthewsablan] 12:11:40

Um. I believe this fire started around Thursday at 3 p.m. Or so.

[matthewsablan] 12:11:46

And it took how long for Vistra to make a comment or provide a response on this.

[matthewsablan] 12:11:53

Granted, our first responders and supervisor church Your guys' response was excellent.

[matthewsablan] 12:11:59

You know, we feel confident in this community with you guys here.

[matthewsablan] 12:12:04

But with Vistra. There's absolutely no confidence with a company like that in their response.

[matthewsablan] 12:12:11

Secondly, though. If a liquor store doesn't have a license to sell alcohol.

[matthewsablan] 12:12:18

Is it allowed to continuously to sell alcohol? If this storage facility didn't have or they weren't complying with SB 38, Why were they allowed to still operate?

[matthewsablan] 12:12:31

We see the evidence of the evidence what their negligence is in not complying with SB 38.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[matthewsablan] 12:12:39

So now I think we need to work together for a response and how to address it.

[matthewsablan] 12:12:46

I don't think these facilities should be in the area. There's a lot of other issues going on that Many of the residents are dealing with.

[matthewsablan] 12:12:57

I believe most of us were here for the 2018 fires in Santa Cruz and I'm asthmatic and was working outside during that time.

[matthewsablan] 12:13:07

And what I experienced during those fires is nothing compared to what I'm experiencing now probably what other residents are experiencing as well.

[matthewsablan] 12:13:18

This wasn't just an inconvenience, Brad. This is a serious issue.

[matthewsablan] 12:13:24

That I hope this year will take seriously and work with our county and supervisors to address and make sure this doesn't happen again.

[matthewsablan] 12:13:33

These plants should be nowhere near elkhorn slew or any residential facilities.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:13:40

Thank you, Matthew. Next speaker. Caller in user four.

[matthewsablan] 12:13:40

Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:13:53

User 4.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:13:56

Hi. Can you hear me? Okay, my name is Marilyn Garrett, and I think of a quote from Judy Berry of Earth First years ago where she said.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:13:58

We can.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:14:10

Capitalism cannot exist. Without destroying the earth.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:14:16

And the corporations and their poisons Like from Vistra, PG&E, Verizon, you can make a long list.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:14:27

We are being polluted to death. And I am thinking Back to when I was in high school.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Call-In User\_4] 12:14:36

And my school was closed and we all had to go home. Why?

[Call-In User\_4] 12:14:43

1957 or 1958. The above ground nuclear bomb tests in Nevada, the wind shifted.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:14:53

And came over LA County, where I was living. And millions of people over the years have died because of the nuclear industry, nuclear bomb test.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:15:10

Nuclear power plants, Fukushima, Three Mile Island, and it was an appropriate statement by Supervisor Glenn Church.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:15:20

That this is like the Three Mile Island disaster With the nuclear industry, this AI lithium battery industry is deadly. The charter should be revoked.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:15:36

This dress should be playing on cost. There should be criminal charges against him.

[Call-In User\_4] 12:15:43

And revoke corporate charters. These are ticking time bombs And we need the well-being of the people and the environment protected, not corporate profiteering. Thank you.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:16:02

Iphone.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:16:08

Iphone? Iphone 15.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:16:18

Those are the last. Got you. Go ahead.

[iphone15] 12:16:20

Yes. Hello, can you hear me?

[iPhone] 12:16:23

Well, I, in this and a half years, likely. And I have never printed a business card by being treated.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:16:30

We've got dueling iPhones, so give me one second here. I'm sorry. I've got dual knife.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:16:37

Well... All right, I'm going to go with regular iPhone first, then we'll go to iPhone 15. So, Sarah, if you could start over.

[iphone15] 12:16:53

Okay, I guess I'll go first then. My name is Philip Carranco.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:16:55

Back to you. Go ahead.

[iphone15] 12:16:59

I deal in regulations as my profession. These batteries and these corporations have the obligation to ensure that their products are compliant to the local regulations that they have in place.

[iphone15] 12:17:15

What we need to do as a community is to understand that we are also able to make these regulations even more stricter than the standard that is out there from, as an example, UL, which is one of the leading standards committee for safety.

[iphone15] 12:17:32

To allow them to have these facilities built in our local area.

[iphone15] 12:17:36

The manufacturers, of course, are not going to tell you that. They're going to just state that they're compliant to the standard regulations that is provided to them for a single battery, but not in the capacity that they are dealing with that we've seen happening in Moss Landing.

[iphone15] 12:17:51

That is up to our... local government to take these regulations to see how they are interpreted and actually make them more stricter to ensure that something like this doesn't happen.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[iphone15] 12:18:05

They should be providing us a risk analysis of what can can happen if you have a large amount of these batteries placed in the same area at a given time with temperature variations and all other aspects that are out there.

[iphone15] 12:18:19

The regulations for anybody to read them are very vague. They do allow a lot of outs for corporations to to meet the obligations of the regulations.

[iphone15] 12:18:30

I'm very willing to help out as much as possible to ensure that our regulations that we set in place for our community are for the benefit of the community, not for the benefit of the corporation.

[iphone15] 12:18:41

And that will allow us to ensure that we are holding them to a higher standard.

[iphone15] 12:18:46

And that's what's happening in all other countries such as Europe and Canada. The regulations that they're putting on these corporations for batteries has astronomically increased. It is for the fact that they are concerned about their citizens rather than the bottom line for a corporation.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:19:01

Thank you. We're at time. Thank you. Next speaker, please. Iphone.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[iPhone] 12:19:06

So in that video hi can you hear me? I just think most of my questions were answered except I heard that there are other existing batter plants that were grandfathered into this situation. And I'm wondering if those permits could be pulled until they meet today's standards.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:19:10

Yes.

[iPhone] 12:19:28

Today's safety standards for the public. And that's my question.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:19:32

Thank you very much. No more. Okay.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:19:37

I'm not seeing any other hands up on Zoom.

[iPhone] 12:19:40

You're okay.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:19:43

All right, I'm going to go ahead and close public comment and bring it back to the board. I'm going to start with Supervisor Church to my left.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:19:52

Thank you. Sure.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:19:58

I have quite a few comments here to make and I know we have a proclamation of a local emergency to address. And once we're done with that, I'll have a couple of A couple of motions I would like to make.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:20:12

But I'll make a few comments here first. First up is, you know, I understand Battery storage is essential for the future and that's the direction we're going.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:20:25

But as I said last night and have tried to emphasize, we just can't put that above safety. That's got to be the priority at this point.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:20:37

Unfortunately, it has become really clear for us here, and I think at other sites where there have been accidents.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:20:44

This technology is ahead of government's ability to regulate it and industry's ability to control it.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:20:54

And this process that we are now in, which is learn as we go.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:21:00

It just doesn't work. It jeopardizes communities like ours here.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:21:06

It jeopardizes other communities elsewhere where there have been multiple fires At this point, I am in the position to believe that we got to step back.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:21:19

Look at this skeptically. This technology, text skeptically. Impose some new safety regulations on there and just really pause the advancement for a bit of time While we try to understand where we're going. We just can't proceed with the way we are going.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:21:40

A lot of concerns have been raised about the air quality and what happened with the smoke.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:21:47

And I think what a lot of people have a concern with also is not so much the quality right now.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:21:55

Because there really isn't any smoke coming out of there. But... what has already landed, what has fallen. I know last... I think it was early on Friday or Saturday.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:22:08

I had an email from somebody who... had a question and they saw they had an oily film on a horse trough, a water trough and I brought it up with Vistra.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:22:23

I didn't really quite have an answer and that's understandable. We haven't haven't had a fire to this extent, I understand.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:22:30

I had somebody last night email me that they had had some sweaters outside for a few days and they brought them in and there's definitely an odor to it.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:22:38

I noticed as As many of you know, I have a small farm that I turned on yesterday, a pickup that I have for that. I hadn't probably been running in a week i had to clean the windshield and it seemed like there was a little bit of an oily substance there. So I think this is something that

[BOS ZOOM] 12:22:57

People want to have us take a look at. And I don't think is probably being addressed at this point.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:23:08

As I understand it right now. Both the facilities with Vistra And the one run by PG&E with Tesla are offline. That's my understanding. They're hooked to a grid, but they're offline.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:23:22

Both of them. But as I understand it. They both can turn themselves on at any time depending upon that company's choice and there is no approval needed from any regulatory agency in the state to do that.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:23:43

I'm glad the caller earlier brought up SB 38 because that's extremely important. It was a bill put forth by Senator Laird and Assemblymember Don Addis.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:23:58

I think Bill was fairly accurately described in the comments that were given.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:24:07

What has disturbed me as I've looked into this is From what I understand.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:24:15

Since SB 38 was implemented last year. There has not been an emergency response plan presented since that time. I understand Vistra did have an emergency response plan that they had already prepared prior And felt that plant was adequate.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:24:34

We do not have any emergency response plan. From the PG&E facility.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:24:41

None whatsoever.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:24:47

And these... The emergency response plans really need to look at what is really a worst case scenario. The VISTRA plan initially looked at just one battery module on fire. We obviously had I don't know if it's hundreds or how many burned.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:25:10

The gentleman made a comment earlier about Vistra having a permit out He did yell that out at the meeting last night, which isn't usually the way you get an answer. I could not find him because he had said he had already left.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:25:23

So I couldn't have a chance to talk to him. But there is a VISTRA permit that's out there. It has not scheduled for hearing. It hasn't gone to CEQA yet.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:25:33

I understand. So it's some time away from anything happening on that.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:25:38

I do want to point out, as I understand it, there is still one other building with these batteries that are stacked on site.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:25:56

And I think at that point, I don't have any other comments. I'll wait till we go through the resolution and come back.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:26:03

Supervisor Daniels. Thank you. And do want to reiterate all of the comments that have been made thanking our first responders.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:26:14

I really appreciate all the work that everyone's done. And in particular, Chief Mendoza, who's been at the heart of this.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:26:22

And I also want to just express to Supervisor Church that I've been in the experience as a staffer of having a crisis of this magnitude in your district and it is I'm here to support you in any way I can and help get all of the answers answered that the community has brought forward today.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:26:42

I honestly think we have the exact same questions. And I do want to say to the comment that was specifically made about me, this project was approved in May 2019. I was appointed to the Board of Supervisors, to the Planning Commission in January of 2020.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:26:59

But the genesis of SB 38, which has also been brought up.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:27:05

Was Senator Laird responding to your supervisor's big concerns about fire in these plants and what to do to address those concerns.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:27:15

And my experience on the planning commission and stating that this sort of potential was never brought up.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:27:22

I have no recollection of the potential for lithium batteries to explode. It wasn't common knowledge at the time.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:27:29

Coming up in any of the best hearings that happened after the one that is disapproval.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:27:36

And at the time, these projects were supported, the one that I was there for by the Sierra Club.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:27:43

By the building trades, there was a lot of support. Yet I do remember supporting very strongly from the dais friends and artists of the Elkhorn Sloughs concerns.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:27:54

About the inconsistency of this project with the local coastal program because it wasn't coastal dependent.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:28:01

So with that said, I just wanted to say, and I'm not quite clear what the timeline events is going to be for our board comments.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:28:11

But I share concerns about the methodology being used to track HF levels.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:28:17

I have questions about who is going to be responsible for monitoring those levels here on out. I think it's really important that there's some independence in that monitoring.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:28:27

I have questions and I share with all of you your concerns about future soil testing, water testing.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:28:33

The impacts during a disaster like this and after a disaster like this to our local water systems, to people, to livestock.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:28:41

To agriculture, to our oceans. Those are questions I... I will do everything I can to get answers to. I have questions about the emergency safety plans that were not submitted and want to know why and how we can get them and how we can ensure that

[BOS ZOOM] 12:29:02

That this does not happen again. I have questions about the smell that people are reporting about the chemical taste. I have not had that experience, but I would like to know What we can learn about that.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:29:18

I have questions about the financial assistance to the small businesses, to the fishermen.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:29:25

To everybody who's come forward and spoken today. I have questions about the obsolescence, it sounds like, of the technology that was in this particular facility. I'm very eager to learn.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:29:38

About alternatives to lithium ion for future.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:29:43

Other cleaner solutions. I do have a specific question I'll bring up later that's really regarding something we heard today.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:29:52

Which has to do with if this is a gas. And it's being measured by a particulate matter measurement, which we heard PM 2.5, Wood gas, because we've got gases and we've got particulates.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:30:09

Would a gas like HF show in a particulate reading? That is a big question that I have.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:30:16

And then in Senator Laird's statement that went out this morning, he talks about providing Monterey Bay Air Resources District with sufficient SPM flex gas detectors to effectively track hydrogen fluoride levels, I mean, we're flex gas detectors what we used. This is the first time I've ever even heard of a flex gas



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:30:36

Detector. So lots of questions, but I mostly want to say to everyone who's come forward and made public comment today We share your anger. And I don't share all your distrust of the people sitting here because I really believe in my colleague right here to the right of me and all the folks that have been on the response

[BOS ZOOM] 12:31:01

Responding end to this disaster. And I just know you can always do better. Let's get the answers to these questions. Let's answer your concerns as we move forward.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:31:12

And make sure we follow the letter of the law with SB 38.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:31:18

Did I get the, is it 38? I might have that wrong.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:31:22

So this never happens in the future. Thank you. Supervisor Alejo. Thank you very much. First of all, I want to thank All our first responders, including our Department of Emergency Management, our sheriff's office.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:31:36

Our chief and all our firefighters And all the partner agencies I already mentioned.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:31:41

Today, we intentionally, our chair intentionally said our public was going to speak first.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:31:46

Before we even spoke, to listen to what you had to say. I know a lot of folks had to leave. They're probably having to go to work.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:31:52

Go attend to family. But it was important for them to get opportunity to have all five supervisors and our CAO and our county council and all our staff hear their concerns because it is... very important to us.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:32:05

I did have questions prepared for our two representatives of VISTRA, but our chair said that's not the format today but Hopefully, maybe we could get a quick response, because I had as a formal request in I'll just express them as concerns, and then maybe you could give a response.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:32:23

First of all, though, I think our public here in Monterey County and everywhere else in California that's dealing with this, I think they deserve to have an open, honest.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:32:35

Conversation and answers as well. And how did we get here? People have been asking. And obviously.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:32:43

If you look at the history of dinergy. And it's natural gas powered facility history.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:32:51

An oil-powered steam energy producing capacity Eventually, with the change in state laws, it phased out this power plant so that it was no longer economically feasible.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:33:05

At the same time, the state laws started changing with the support of many environmental organizations.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:33:12

To have California reduce its carbon emissions and be less reliant on fossil fuels.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:33:18

So the state has enacted numerous laws that are now enforced by CARB, by the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Energy Commission.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:33:25

And many other agencies. To now have the state move towards more green technology.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:33:33

But in order to be able to store the excess so California is primarily solar And wind. I think wind predominates in renewable energy today.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:33:46

But the contradiction is you need these other types of technologies to be able to make that shift to green energy possible in California. And I'm studying this up as all of you, and you look at the benefits, they say the benefits to this technology, it helps keep energy costs down.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:34:04

Which is on everybody's mind. It helps with grid reliability. You know, when we're having the blackouts in the state of California, this helps avoid And also, when you look at what made this site ideal, to repurpose it from a natural gas power plant

[BOS ZOOM] 12:34:19

To what is being used as today, obviously the transmission lines were there. They had water systems and other types of infrastructure that are needed for this type of battery storage facility.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:34:32

And the reality is today also we use lithium ion batteries on our phone, our power tools, our vehicles.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:34:41

Of e-bikes, e-skateboards, e-scooters, many things. And you look at what's happening in other communities, San Diego and Ote Mesa in May of this last year.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:34:52

Had one of these fires that lasted 11 days. But the fire departments there say these types of fires, not necessarily with battery storage plants, but just with these other types of equipment that we use.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:35:02

Each and every day is becoming more frequent. They get at two, three fire calls in their local communities with these other types of of... items that people use in their everyday lives. But the question I had for Vistra, which hasn't been raised.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:35:21

Is the design of what burned Last Friday through Sunday.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:35:26

Obviously, if anybody looked at the layout of either the PG&E facility or the Vistra facility.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:35:32

You will see many of these trailer-like mobile battery containers or cells.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:35:39

Throughout most of the property. But this particular building that burned Which I toured with my staff, Javier in 2023. I wasn't allowed to be able to take photos of it because they said it was trade secrets. They didn't want photos to be taken of it.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:35:54

But what was surprising to me was a very large building. This is the one where our chief said it's 800 feet by 75 foot tall. The Moss 300 building that burned.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:36:03

If walking through there. If I'm correct, and this will correct me if I'm wrong.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:36:08

This was a repurposed old building. But it was... filled with these different battery units, not necessarily the containers you see on the outside.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:36:18

But many of these battery units were much closer from my recollection to each other than what we see outside.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:36:26

And from my recollection, they were also stacked on top of each other.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:36:32

The best analogy to say is like Home Depot. I think there was one, two, three, if I remember correctly. So if one of these units began burning at the bottom.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:36:41

There's some other battery units on top that would then start to burn And then you have three. And then, obviously, the proximity to the other rows of these battery units on the sides would exacerbate a fire. And I think that's why we saw

[BOS ZOOM] 12:36:56

This fire much worse than when we saw the previous fires, the previous fire at PG&E, which was only one of those container units.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:37:03

I think Vistra's previous ones were much smaller. I don't remember if they caught fire or not, but they were smoldering smoke.





## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:37:13

But I want to re-look at that design as a cause for this type of fire and an increased danger because there were so many battery units under one roof.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:37:25

If the fire sprinkler system was enacted when thermal runaway already is occurring, it exacerbates, it worsens a fire in that type of situation if H<sub>2</sub>O is falling on the flame.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:37:40

So that's one area where I think Monterey County has to relook whether allowing this design of so many battery units under one roof if that should be phased out from use here in the future, because it does create a greater danger once thermal runaway takes place.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:37:55

The other things I wanted to just raise

[BOS ZOOM] 12:38:01

Was the issue, does technology exist? People have brought up, the technology exists once... The water, the cooling systems in these units are intent to keep the battery cool when it starts warming up.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:38:11

But once a fire starts and the thermal runaway occurs. Does technology exist to put that fire out? And I think the answer is what we heard from our local experts and the fires that we see happen in other parts of the state is the technology does not exist to be able to shut it in. That's why everybody keeps saying it's best to let that fire burn itself out.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:38:34

The other item I wanted to bring up with Vistra was obviously there's there's the the footprint of what has burned on the site itself. And it did bring up concerns from the community about is there toxic materials there on site.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:38:52

How quickly will Vistra come and clean it up? Because if there's another rainstorm.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:38:57

And there's runoff, does that also send those toxins to toxins to The slew to nearby properties.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:39:07

And if anybody Googles the PG&E fire a few years ago.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:39:13

Pg&e in its report to the public and the media said any water that was used for fire suppression was collected. Soil samples were done.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:39:23

Soil that was contaminated by the site was removed. And somebody asked, where does that go?

[BOS ZOOM] 12:39:28

Toxic soils would go to Kettleman City or Buttonwillow in Kern County. Kettleman City and Kings County, because those are the landfills that deal with toxic materials in our state.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:39:39

So that would be the other question. How soon will it clean up to not exacerbate a situation there where surrounding areas could be at risk.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:39:48

The issue of water testing, I think we need to be clear with the public. The water should be tested. It should continue to be tested. That gives reassurance to the public that we're doing everything possible to test what is of concern on their minds.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:40:02

And obviously, air quality, I think in the future, I think our fire departments, our sheriff's departments, our air resources board.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:40:10

Should have the equipment provided by Vistra to be able to test for these types of toxic gases in the future. And it could be instantaneously, whereas this time we had to wait for US EPA. If our first responders that are based here in Monterey County had that equipment. We perhaps could have got answers to the public much sooner.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:40:33

Last thing I wanted to mention. Was the plume modeling because they talked about, referred to, I think, a presentation here in December 2022 PG&E and Vistra were here.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:40:44

Each had, I think it was Vistra that presented their plume modeling And I want to go look back at the presentation, the slides, because they're available online.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:40:52

And if you look at Vistress. To modeling, and it was the worst case scenario modeling It seemed to tell the public it would only be contained within the property itself.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:41:07

And obviously, from the plume modeling that we got from the National Weather Service showed something dramatically different.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:41:15

So I just want us to, that needs to be reassessed.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:41:19

Whether that plume modeling needs to be we looked at it because it gave assurances to the public then that it doesn't seem to have panned out And... Let's see here. Last but not least, I would say I think San Diego County just went through something similar a few months ago to make their policies on this more strict.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:41:42

Require more transparency, more studies to be filed on this. I think we need to re-look at our ordinance.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:41:48

In Monterey County. But at this time, I wanted to just ask Mr. Ziegler or Mr. Watson, if they have any response to any of those issues raised.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:41:58

And if not today, can we get answers from you at a future hearing?

[BOS ZOOM] 12:42:03

Not too far from now. Yes, please.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:42:12

What I'm hoping we can do today is commit to answering these questions publicly as well and meaning online written so that the community can have these responses critical the nature of what we're trying to get from this overall, which is clarity around some of these ongoing issues.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:42:27

Yeah, and yes, sir. And we'll answer them briefly and then we'll follow up with more detail. But I believe you asked three questions. One of them was around the building that housed the event and it is a repurposed As you saw a repurposed building that was used

[BOS ZOOM] 12:42:44

From back before 2000 with Pacific Gas and Electric when they own the facilities.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:42:50

That was previously, we call it our one through five building. Those housed turbines of the old oil and gas units.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:43:01

The design for that, it is a warehouse style. And as you saw, there are different, you know, the building itself was at the time attractive because of its seismic nature.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:43:12

And its cooling capabilities. So we'll give you more information as it goes on, but I just want to answer your question. You are correct.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:43:20

The building that was involved in the event. Mr. Ziegler, just so people can know, because if they haven't walked through there, they wouldn't recall what was the layout like.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:43:33

How the design work within this building, but Was it true that there was multiple of these units? Am I correct in that description, multiple units stacked on and rows on top of each other.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:43:46

Yes, sir. On the top level, there was a couple of double stacked. Again, we'll give you a layout to show you, but just specifically.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:43:57

There were three levels in the building, and it was really based on the old design. So we had to work in and around girders and old pedestals and the like. So I... I would like to be more complete in my response, so that's why I'm kind of saying I will provide that information to you specifically.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:44:16

When we get that to you. But there in the upper level, there was, I believe there was double stacked batteries, but I have to verify that, sir. How many of those battery units were in total in the repurposed building.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:44:31

There were 100,000 batteries. Modules, excuse me. A hundred?

[BOS ZOOM] 12:44:38

100,000, yeah. 100,000 modules on one roof. In the building. Yes. Okay.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:44:44

The second question was around the cleanup. So we're in day five here. And so we're obviously still not actually permitted in the building. We're just starting to get engineers close to it so that they can judge what we have.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:45:03

And then there's going to be a process by which, and we've done this before as the community knows, we've recently decommissioned Our old units six and seven.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:45:13

And there's a process for that which which the Monterey County will be apprised of that process, just like the old Just like the demolition that we just performed. So that will be presented at a later date. We're obviously not even close to that process yet. So as soon as we get to that



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:45:33

Stage, then we will certainly be discussing that demolition process. But any time frame residents are concerned. I understand. There's a storm. And I don't know how long it took PG&E to get in there.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:45:48

Remove debris, but also do the soil sampling and any soil removal.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:45:53

So at this point, you can't give us a time frame. I cannot at this point. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:45:58

And then the last... No, that's not how this works. Sorry.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:46:03

Thank you. Those are your questions. Thank you, sir. All right. Supervisor Askew.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:46:10

Thank you. I'll just... start by thanking All of those who are here today and those who are online and those who participated.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:46:20

Both in public comment. Those who've communicated directly to our offices those who've communicated directly to District 2 office and staff.





## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:46:31

Those who communicated online last night, we had the opportunity to watch the live stream of that and take notes.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:46:39

Your communication is what allows us to take your questions and then feed those questions back into the system so that we can have that information communicated back so that we can be more transparent and continue to get the answers to the questions.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:46:55

That we all, I think, have at this point moving forward. So I also wanted to thank Kelsey Scanlon, the presentation that was presented today was clear. It was concise.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:47:07

And if I could ask for the slides that were presented to make sure we get those up on legislar and posted to the incident webpage as soon as possible.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:47:16

So that those are available to anyone from the public who didn't get a chance to screenshot them. That would be fantastic.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:47:24

Chief Mendoza, Sheriff Nieto, your teams, the mutual aid partners, many of whom were listed on the thank you page. I know there were many more who I saw on site and who were participating.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:47:38

I cannot thank everyone enough for the fast response, the precise response.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:47:46

And the coordinated response. I'm in a very, very high intensity situation. I want to just personally say we appreciate every single one of you and your families for coming together the way that you did. We're so lucky to have such a strong team here in Monterey County. We really, really value and appreciate you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:48:08

My comments, generally speaking, I'm not an expert in battery technology.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:48:15

But I have spent the past four days reading everything that I can get my hands on and leveraging every contact that I have available to me to speak to anyone who I have access to, who works in the field of renewable energy, renewable energy technology, battery innovation.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:48:35

As well as utilizing our air quality expertise and waste management expertise, some of the questions around disposal, Department of Toxic Substance Control, who I know we now have on site, who will be advising on some of these.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:48:49

There were questions asked today where I think we do have answers to those questions.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:48:55

There were many more questions that I have have as well that I share.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:49:00

With every conversation and every article and every document and every case study that I read.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:49:07

I have a long list of additional questions generally organized into what appear to be three sort of buckets for me, a whole handful of technical questions that we will continue to look for technical answers to.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:49:23

I have a whole set of regulatory questions. I think former Chair Church the technical or the regulatory questions that have come up for me are significant.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:49:37

And really, we need answers on that regulatory set of questions.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:49:46

They're significant. And then additionally, there's questions around transparency and communication And how the how the industry is moving forward, I think Supervisor Alejo, you touched briefly on some of the context around the larger picture, but this This really isn't an issue specific to Monterey County. This is a much larger issue and how we collectively address it. I think we have the opportunity right now to raise these issues that maybe others weren't paying attention to or



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:50:24

But really need to be addressed. So within that, I've learned about things like the NFPA standard 855, the UL Underwriters Laboratory, OEMs, the Pacific Northwest National Labs, the SB, was it 83, which was the most recent legislation. There was also SB 1383 from 2022.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:50:49

Where is that in implementation? The questions are significant. So the requests that I think will be coming to us after our, I'm not sure what the timing of things are, but for a full investigation. I mean, this is a sentinel event that demands nothing less than a full investigation.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:51:10

With full transparency and every question that's been asked today by members of our public, as well as the list that I'll be presenting to our staff.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:51:19

We need answers to every single one of those questions. So I, so I hope that that's, I'm going to look to my colleague to lead that request. The only other comment I wanted to make to members of the public, I too am asthmatic and that's a really scary scenario to navigate through the world. And the one thing I do, I trust our air quality experts and I appreciate that U.S. Epa was here so quickly

[BOS ZOOM] 12:51:49

I work with Rich Studmin closely. I do believe Rich when he tells me that the air quality that he's measuring is clean.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:51:58

However, I also know that if someone's experiencing health issues, I believe someone when they tell me that. So if for anyone who is experiencing any type of health issue, I urge you to please consult a doctor. Please get your symptoms documented. And please do report that to the health department so that we can have that data available to us and that we can have those reports

[BOS ZOOM] 12:52:21

Summarized in a single location. So I just will reiterate that. I've said that in a couple different forums, but I do want to just go on record again right here. Please get that documented so that the county has that summarized information as part of our record of this incident for our documentation as well.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:52:40

But with that, I'll pass the floor back to the chair. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:52:43

Thank you, Supervisor Askew. In terms of my comments, I just want to share, I have the unfortunate benefit of having experienced a lot of fires, wildfires.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:52:53

Building fires and now a chemical fire And knowing what those processes look like in terms of cleanup is unfortunately something I'm very familiar with. My family had a building in King City that used to be a car dealership that burned to the ground and you can imagine



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:53:08

All the substances that are in a vehicle being burned in front of in the center of a community and questions arising. So I've been through cleanup and I know that the timeframe that that takes But I also know what happens in an instance like this where there's a lot of questions.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:53:23

We need to get to the bottom of the questions that this community has raised. And we're only, really, this event's not over, but we're day five after initiation of the event.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:53:32

And looking at a horizon which we need to shorten as much as we can. But it starts by This being our second meeting since the beginning of this particular incident, getting engaged.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:53:43

Being involved and making sure that we bring all the resources that we need to bring to bear.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:53:49

And so I'm appreciative of all of our partners, especially our first responders, for showing up and doing everything they could to mitigate the disaster to protect life and property and recognizing that moving forward, the other partners that were also on scene with us from state elected leadership, local elected leadership.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:54:08

Appointed leadership to make sure that we could get access to the equipment we needed to get our questions answered because if they were not on site within hours, we would not have the data to go back and mine through.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:54:20

We're trying to make that as available as possible through the transparent means that the community deserves.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:54:25

And so as we go through this, we know it's going to be a learning process.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:54:28

But at the same time, what we come out with has to be something the community can trust.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:54:33

I think the one challenge that I see possibly to be the biggest before us is rebuilding that trust given some of the comments I heard today.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:54:41

I trust our county staff. I've been through the trenches with them. I trust Rich Stedman from the Air Board, right? I have no reason to distrust the EPA.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:54:50

I've heard questions about other folks that have been used in this particular response, but I can tell you that having been as part of the county team for 15 years Here is a supervisor for six.



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:55:03

There are some really good people who are part of our team and we need to trust them when they bring forward I know it's not easy and there's going to be more questions that arise and challenge us with those.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:55:13

Let us go find the answers for you. And when we find the answers, we have to work through them together.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:55:18

It's not going to be easy, but together we can get to the bottom of the questions that the community has.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:55:24

And you deserve that. And I know that some of the recommendations that will come after the adoption of the resolution that we have on our agenda next are going to help us develop a pathway for that communication and access to be created for community.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:55:37

And so with that, I'm going to wrap my comments there on this particular item and go ahead and say that the item one is concluded with the briefing having been received. And we're going to move towards the adoption of a resolution to ratify the proclamation of local emergency issued by the CAO. And for that, I'm going to turn to our County Council Susan Blich, as well as Kelly Donlan for a brief presentation.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:55:59

I can probably make it very brief. I don't see Kelsey, but on this past Friday, the CAO declared issued an emergency proclamation And that was signed by CAO Sonia De La Rosa.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:56:18

Within seven days for that proclamation to have be effective or continue to be effective, this board needs to pass a motion ratifying that proclamation.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:56:31

All right. So at this point, is there a motion to approve?

[BOS ZOOM] 12:56:35

So moved. We've got a motion from church, a second from Alejo.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:56:39

I'm going to open this up, see if there's any public input on this proclamation.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:56:44

See no one in room. No hands over the Zoom, a close public comment, and I will ask all those in favor to signify by saying aye. Aye. Aye. Anybody opposed?

[BOS ZOOM] 12:56:54

The motion carries. And with that, I'll turn to Supervisor Church for any additional motions.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:57:00

Thank you. And I know today's meeting we were basically taking public comment request was not to really engage with Vistra and I do hope there's going to be, you know, I believe there'll be a time down the line when we have a little more information that district may be able to offer when we have

[BOS ZOOM] 12:57:18

Clearer questions that we'll be able to have that discussion. I withheld my questions.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:57:25

Respect for that decision today. My first piece of information I need is a question for county council And that is just to... try to understand what emergency powers the county possesses to pause or to halt.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:57:47

The battery facility and Moss Landing are Specifically.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:57:53

Is there anything we can do not to have these go back online?

[BOS ZOOM] 12:57:58

So right now the county can look at its various environmental building and land use regulations for compliance, as we heard from the environmental health they will be actively participating in cleanup issues to make sure that's done in a safe way.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:58:20

Going forward. We can explore further regulations.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:58:26

However, I would point out that the state has a significant role in the approval of the facility And we cannot pass regulations in areas that are preempted by state law.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:58:44

Okay, so... we can impose some regulations as we try to sort this out.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:58:53

What about the... As I mentioned earlier, my understanding is both facilities are offline and they can turn on as they choose. Is there anything the county any role the county has in that.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:59:08

They can look at things like the cleanup and the fire potentially fire regulations that would be probably north fire um instead of the county But to my knowledge, once it is adequately been cleaned up and they're meeting fire regulations and they're meeting county permits.

[BOS ZOOM] 12:59:34

Know that that would be under state jurisdiction. Thank you. And just to clarify, so the building that exists similar to the one that caught on fire There's nothing we can understate.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 12:59:46

We can't really do anything about that outside of perhaps potential fire up looking at issues, looking at it. With the caveat that we've had minimal time to research this, I know that they were approved by the California PUC and approved by the

[BOS ZOOM] 13:00:05

California Department of Energy. And that, I believe, is operating that governs operations.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:00:16

Thank you for that. But you were able to research in this limited amount of time.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:00:22

With that, I want to have two motions here. My first would be... for the county to send a letter to Vistra and PG&E requesting that their battery facilities not turn back online to the power grid.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:00:38

Until the causes of this fire has been determined and addressed.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:00:42

And also that both companies stay offline until they have become compliant with SB 38 in a worst case scenario.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:00:53

And that would be my motion to send a letter. I understand we have no power behind that. It's a request.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 13:01:01

That's a motion. Second that motion. Second on the motion.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:01:07

Sure. Church. That the county send a letter to both VISTRA and PG&E.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:01:14

Requesting that their battery facilities not be turned back online to the power grid.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:01:21

Until the causes of the fire have been determined and addressed. And I mean, preventive measures addressed.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:01:27

And also that they stay offline until both companies have complied with SB 38 and presented emergency response plans for a worst case scenario. I mean a worst case, that's just what we've just experienced.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:01:44

I think I could support that. Obviously, they should be in compliance with SB 38.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:01:54

Why PG&E hasn't filed theirs. That's great. And whether Vistress report that was done before, four months before the law went into effect.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 13:02:02

It shouldn't take... shouldn't be too hard to make sure it is in compliance with all the requirements of that statute.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:02:10

So yes, I could support. I had one more other concern.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:02:14

But I'll get back to it. So on that one, I think my only concern is the definition of worst case scenario, right, could be subjective. So given, I know you said what we just experienced, but I think.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:02:25

Perhaps the use of the word catastrophic. I mean, imagine all the batteries going up at once. Well, we've been told it's not possible. We need to know and want to be clear on that.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:02:34

Yeah, well, yeah, and I'm happy for that clarification. I'm hoping there's not a worst case scenario than what we've experienced already.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:02:41

Yeah. Oh, I know what that other issue was. It was just on the cause of what caused this fire. Obviously, Vistra has a lot of video of their whole facility.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 13:02:51

So the public should be able to find very quickly where it started, how it started, and how the fire spread throughout the entire building. Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:03:01

Got a motion, a second. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Aye.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:03:05

Anybody opposed? Motion carries. Back to you supervisor Church. Okay, my second motion is really in regard to as listening to County Council here and understanding, I mean, there needs to be more research. I understand that.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:03:20

Your preliminary research is basically leaving us with with few options. So I would like to explore that some more and And my recommendation at this point would be to form an ad hoc committee on the board between myself and with Supervisor Daniels.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:03:39

To collaborate with other county, state officials, any experts in the field that we confined so that we can determine the best course of action moving forward at this point.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:03:52

But I would like this to also include the broadest possible list of of options for this county that includes from What happens if we do nothing?



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 13:04:03

To the point as if we can do anything on terms of shutting down a facility. I want to see a list of options that we can do What the potential ramifications are.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:04:14

And... I know this is kind of detailed and difficult. I would love it back. We could get it back as quick as possible. I'm going to say a month from now because I don't know if we can put together all this technical

[BOS ZOOM] 13:04:25

Information quicker than that and I'm hoping the companies that have facilities out there will stay offline until we can look at this broader picture.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:04:36

So you're looking for final report in a month or do you want to do monthly status report until we're completed?

[BOS ZOOM] 13:04:42

I'm aware some of this will take some longer time than a month, but at least get a preliminary back so we have some direction we can go on. Give us some list of options so we know where we're going with this.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:04:56

There's a motion. Supervisor Daniels, are you comfortable? I'll second that motion. Thank you. I have a motion and a second.





**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 13:05:04

All those in favor signify by saying aye. Aye. Anybody opposed? Motion carries. Final thoughts, Supervisor Church? Aye.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:05:13

I don't know what else to do besides what we just proposed. So I'm going to leave at that unless we can come up with something else.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:05:19

All right. I'm not seeing any... Anybody else reaching for a mic on the die? So at this point, we've concluded.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:05:25

The public portion of this agenda, we are going to close session. I'm going to go to council and I'm expecting that we're going to recess out of closed session without reportable action, but anything else we need to cover. You took the words out of my mouth. Yes, we will be recessing to closed session. There will be no reportable action from closed session.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:05:43

And we will adjourn from closed session. All right, is there any public comment on us going to closed session?

[BOS ZOOM] 13:05:55

Bye.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 13:06:01

So when you look at the... The analysis for the worst case scenario and all those scenarios.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:06:08

I would love to see a probabilistic hazard. Years ago, I used to be an earthquake engineer and worked on nuclear projects.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:06:18

For the seismic hazard and we It took a whole year just to do the calculations and to cross-check each other. So I want to see the hazard at all probabilistic levels and what's going to be the result of all those scenarios in terms of like the disaster, how is it going to be mitigated and all those things because

[BOS ZOOM] 13:06:38

Letting things up into the air and just and that's just that's not even a safety mechanism. So I want us to I want you guys to put that together. Happy to contribute to those teams if the public is allowed to be involved in that.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:06:54

But I also think it needs to be shared with the public because we need to be aware of those hazards. Thank you again this is on us going to closed session. It's not just another bite of public comment. So I want to just make sure folks know that. Thank you. Anybody else on the closed session?



## **Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 13:07:11

My comprehension level is a little low today. I apologize, coffee. I just want to stress this to the team. I was here at the last meeting and I said that You know, I want to extend my support to each and every one of you. And I remember expressing the challenges that I know that you're all dealing with, unprecedented times.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:07:30

So my concern are the burn rate of the battery in particular. As somebody who knows about thermite, nanothermite, and thinking about the worst case scenario, Glenn.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:07:42

When I heard the number of 100,000 batteries, I think about war zones, a seven-pound brick of thermite. I can burn a hole through an Abrams tank. I need you to think about The World Trade Center, okay? And I need you to think about it. That burn rate, the layer that those batteries are stored on, if they drop down, it could burn through into our water supply. I want to stay on topic here. I know folks are wandering outside of that. Mitchell.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:08:05

I would never wander. Yeah. Let's check the public record. In your meeting.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:08:14

I believe that it would be helpful that you consider not just regulatory considerations. But other civil or criminal.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:08:28

Violations that might have occurred and to seek a list of what may be applicable non-regulatory.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[BOS ZOOM] 13:08:37

Law that you should look at. Thank you. Do I have anybody via Zoom?

[BOS ZOOM] 13:08:42

Yes, phone number ending in 915. Again, on closed session.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 13:08:51

This is Beckett Steinbrunner. Can you hear me? Hello?

[BOS ZOOM] 13:08:56

Yes, we can, Ms. Steinbrenner.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 13:08:59

Thank you. I commend you all. Especially supervisor Church.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 13:09:05

I want during your meeting that you consider requesting the health department to collect all data.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 13:09:14

Submitted from local emergency medical facilities regarding respiratory problems. Skin irritations, other things that could be related.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 13:09:23

To these fires. I want to know that I request that you also do some data collection for the farm workers contact dermal safety of crops that they will be working in I encourage you to follow Mr. Carranco's advice that you make more restrictive

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 13:09:45

Policy, which you are entitled to do. That would be more restrictive than the state's requirements. You are entitled and able to do that. And finally, I want to ask that You require VISTRA to contain all stormwater runoff immediately.

[1831\*\*\*\*915] 13:10:06

Thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:10:07

Thank you, Ms. Steinbrenner. Gail E. L E.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:10:13

Again, this is for a closed session, Gail.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 13:10:17

Okay, yeah, real quick. I just wanted you to consider if you are thinking about trying to slow things down a bit.



**Transcript from BOS Special Meeting 1/21/25**

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 13:10:26

To go back and check the original legal protocol of the public Notice of this plant.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 13:10:34

Over here in Moss Landing, there's a lot of things that were not disclosed a lot of meanings that we didn't know about.

[Gayle E (Moss Landing, CA)] 13:10:42

Because just poor for publicity. So anyway, thank you.

[BOS ZOOM] 13:10:48

Thank you. All right. With that, we're going to close public comment and recess to closed session. Again, we will close out from closed session without an expectation of anything to report publicly. Thank you.