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Subject: In favor of battery storage

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Hello,

On a recent trip to Vergennes, I noticed signs up about BESS. Luckily, there was also a recent [article in Seven Days](#) explaining some of what was going on.

I'm a resident of Vermont, but not of Vergennes. I like the town. I stop by regularly; and it's where I had my wedding reception many years ago. I'm sorry to see the opposition to battery storage.

Battery storage saves locals money by decreasing peak energy costs. It's a vital component of transitioning to a greener energy mixture, but the monetary benefits extend even independent of the climate benefits. The opposition to them led by Ms. Hathaway is an exercise in externalizing costs for her own preferences. Refusing the battery storage system will result in higher electricity prices for everyone. It feels like, consciously or not, she's drumming up opposition on trumped-up safety concerns for a blatant case of nimbyism. Battery storage delivers more benefit when transmission losses are minimized. Deploying them safely in residential areas is appropriate and proper. They should be part and parcel of living in an urban area, like creemee stands such as Olsen's Ice Cream. And by reducing energy costs, battery storage make it easier for places like Olsen's to stay in business, and easier for visitors like myself to enjoy stopping in on a hopefully not too hot summer day.

I encourage you to support the battery energy storage project, and hope that Vergennes reaps their myriad benefits.

Take care,
Luke Donforth