

SOMIS MAC / March 26, 2026

It's always great seeing the community here...

For the purpose of time, I am going to read my comment

This a follow up to the July 2025 Somis MAC meeting. BES (Battery Energy Storage) that was presented as an alternative income resource for Farmers. There were potential sites presented for Somis.

Questions and concerns were raised about BES at that meeting. However, those questions and concerns were not recorded in the Minutes. So, I am raising them here today.

We have not received an update on that presentation. It is important to know there is another BES Development planned for the backyard of Somis in **Moorpark**. VC Pending Projects PL 25-0085 on Los Angeles Ave. **And**, it states it would be monitored "remotely."

The community needs to be made aware of the hazards of BES FIRE. Look up communities that have stopped BES. The Moorpark City Council *even* voted against it.

Inform yourselves on the Moss Landing BES fire and its' effect on that community.

Reference The California Insider interview with physicist Dr. Michael Hogan. He talks about BES and its' threat to the environment and agricultural soils.

Strong winds usually blow east to west here. A BES fire explosion due east of Somis could be catastrophic to our community.

I am highlighting this concern because BES is part of the Ventura County's "Energy Roadmap," per the planning director.

Review the Planning Director 's "Use Equivalency Determination" letter, explaining that BES land use was equivalent to energy production from renewable sources" and therefore would be an allowed use in land zoned Open Space, Agriculture Exclusive – Rural Agriculture. Did the Board of Supervisors approve this? It isn't really about helping farmers, it's about helping "state mandates' and *money*.

At some point, there will be hearings before the Planning Commission and Supervisors on the "Energy Roadmap," update so it is important to stay informed on these matters.

The county leadership needs to know unincorporated communities like Somis are paying attention to their actions and how they affect us. Why? Because this is OUR home and we need to protect it.

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