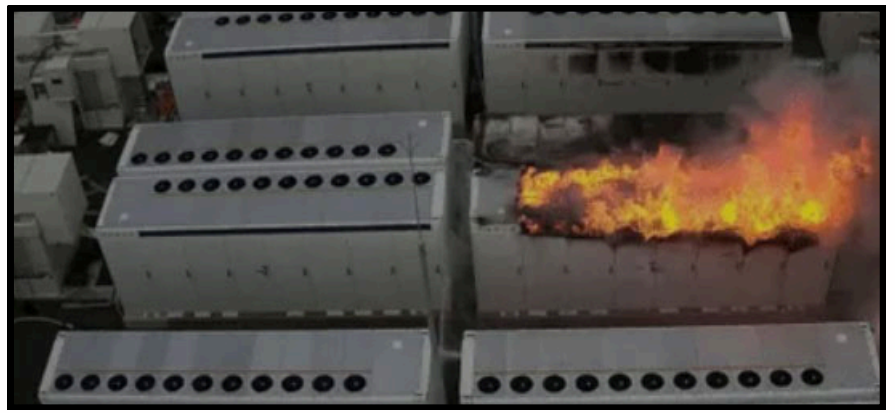




NO BATTERIES IN OUR BACKYARDS

OSHTMO BESS

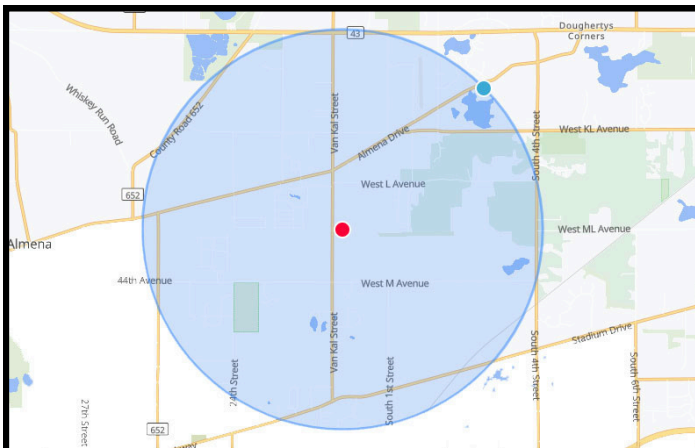


Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are large containers filled with lithium-ion batteries that store excess energy for utility companies. These projects receive millions in taxpayer-funded incentives and tax credits, yet real savings for consumers have not been demonstrated.

Over 150 Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) fires have been reported worldwide, some forcing multi-day evacuations and releasing toxic smoke and residues for miles. Communities near these sites face growing concerns about long-term health risks and declining property values.



If you live within two miles of the South VanKal / 22nd St ITC Substation, you are within a potential impact area. In past BESS fires, toxic gases were released within minutes and burned for hours or even days as firefighters worked to keep nearby units cool.



Time is running out — join your neighbors in saying NO to this high-risk project. Visit our website now to see how you can take action before it's too late.

MI-SAFETY.ORG

Petition to Oppose Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Developments near Homes For Submission to the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)

We, the undersigned residents and concerned members of Michigan communities, respectfully voice our **strong opposition** to the proposed **Van Kal Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)** in Oshtemo Township, or to any BESS facility sited **within two (2) miles of homes, schools, or occupied businesses**.

While we support Michigan's clean and renewable energy goals, we believe this type of project — as currently proposed — poses **serious and unmitigated risks** to the health, safety, and welfare of our communities.

- **Safety Risks:** Potential for thermal runaway, fire, chemical leakage, or explosions associated with lithium-ion battery storage systems. Documented incidents in Escondido, CA (2024) and McMicken, AZ (2019) show these events can cause long-term environmental contamination and endanger public safety.
- **Environmental Impact:** Risk of contamination to soil, water, and air; disruption of local ecosystems and wildlife.
- **Proximity to Homes/Schools/Businesses:** Allowing industrial-scale BESS projects near residential neighborhoods places families directly in potential evacuation zones
- **Lack of Transparency:** Inadequate public engagement, limited environmental impact assessments, and insufficient disclosure of emergency response plans.
- **Property Value Decline:** BESS facilities in other states have led to declines in property values, increased insurance costs, and heightened resident anxiety due to safety and health concerns.

We urge the MPSC To:

- **Carefully review** the impact BESS has had on communities around the country. The MPSC has the mission and responsibility to protect Michigan residents.
- **Pause or slow approvals** of new BESS projects until proper safety and accountability measures are enacted.
- **Restrict siting** to industrial zones or require at least a **2-mile setback** from any occupied structure.
- **Require developers and landowners** to post **full decommissioning and cleanup bonds** prior to construction.
- **Mandate transparent public hearings** for every proposed BESS project to ensure affected residents can participate meaningfully.

Petition to Oppose Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Developments near Homes For Submission to the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)

We call for:

- A formal **moratorium** on BESS projects in Michigan.
- A comprehensive **third-party risk and environmental assessment** for existing and proposed projects.
- Restrict BESS siting to **industrial zones or require a minimum of 2-mile residential buffer** for all future BESS sites.
- Transparent **public hearings and accessible documentation** to ensure community voices are heard.

We believe the health and safety of our families and future generations must come before industrial development in our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Residents of Michigan

**Petition to Oppose Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Developments near Homes
For Submission to the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)**

Name	Address	Signature

Petition to the Michigan Senate Government Operations Committee

Restore Local Control Over Renewable Energy and Storage Projects – Support Hearings for House Bills 4027 and 4028

To: Members of the Michigan Senate Government Operations Committee

We, the undersigned residents of Michigan, respectfully urge you to schedule prompt and fair hearings for **House Bills 4027 and 4028**, legislation that would **restore local control over the siting of large-scale renewable energy and energy storage projects**.

These bills are vital to ensuring that **townships, cities, and counties** across Michigan have a meaningful role in decisions that directly affect the **health, safety, environment, and property values** of local communities.

While we support clean energy and responsible development, we believe that **local governments must have a voice in how and where renewable energy infrastructure is sited**. Stripping local control disenfranchises the people most impacted by these developments and undermines the democratic process.

The passage of these bills would not stop renewable energy development—it would simply ensure that **local input, local expertise, and local conditions** are respected in the planning process.

We urge the Government Operations Committee to **schedule hearings** on House Bills 4027 and 4028 without further delay. Michigan citizens deserve the opportunity to speak on this critical issue that affects our homes, our land, and our communities.

Please give these bills a fair hearing and let the voices of Michigan residents be heard.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Residents of Michigan

Petition to the Michigan Senate Government Operations Committee

Restore Local Control Over Renewable Energy and Storage Projects – Support Hearings for House Bills 4027 and 4028

Name	Address	Signature