



ELK CREEK BATTERY STORAGE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

HOW DO BATTERIES WORK? HOW DO THEY SUPPORT THE PROJECT, THE COMMUNITY, AND THE GRID?

A: Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) store energy for use at a future time. For the Elk Creek Solar Project, a battery system would assist in providing power to the grid during high demand and could be utilized as backup power in the case of an outage. Battery systems support the grid by providing it with a reliable source of generated electricity to be used as demand from the grid is needed.

WHAT WILL THE CONTAINERS SIT ON? WILL THEY REST DIRECTLY ON THE GROUND, OR WILL A CONCRETE PAD BE POURED?

A: Battery system enclosures are properly engineered and installed. Typically they sit on a concrete pad, although sometimes driven piles or concrete piers are used.

WHAT TYPE OF CONTAINERS ARE USED TO PROTECT THE BATTERIES FROM THE ELEMENTS AND FOR ADDITIONAL FIRE PROTECTION?

A: All manufactured Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) have approved enclosures that are rated for this use. This both protects the battery systems from the elements and helps contain them in the unlikely event of a fire.

WHAT TYPE OF SUPPRESSANTS ARE USED IN BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEMS?

A: Battery Energy Storage Systems will incorporate a fire suppression system with the following safety precautions incorporated - fire alarm, gas, smoke and heat detectors, heat activated sprinkler system, fire related insulation, strobe light, and a horn. HVAC systems are also incorporated in the battery systems to keep the batteries from experiencing thermal abuse - overheating. The HVAC system will keep the batteries cool during the summer and at an appropriate temperature during the winter, to optimize the use of the project's battery energy storage system.

ARE PFAS USED IN BATTERY RELATED FIRE SUPPRESSION?

A: Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are not used as a suppressing agent for potential fires within a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). Although the manufacturer has yet to be determined for the Elk Creek Solar Project, the fire safety precautions the Project will take are as follows: addressable fire panel (meaning all alarms work in a system that can communicate and has a central monitoring location, allowing personnel to identify the location of the problem), gas, smoke and heat detectors, heat activated sprinkler system, fire rated insulation, strobe lights, and a horn.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A FIRE OCCURS IN A BATTERY SYSTEM?

A: This may vary depending on the additional safety systems of each manufacturer. By design, the system can automatically disconnect batteries from the electrical system and activate the fire suppression system to contain the fire. Additionally, local first responders will be notified in the event of a fire.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RESPONDING IF A FIRE WERE TO OCCUR?

A: Before the Project begins operating, the local fire department will be trained by Elk Creek Solar's experts on how to respond to a fire at the BESS. In the event of a fire, after it is extinguished, the owner/operator of the system will be responsible for cleanup and repairs.

FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ON ELK CREEK SOLAR PROJECT:

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