

From: [connie Krier](#)
To: [Korol, Yuriy \(ATG\)](#); [EFSEC mi Comments](#); [Beckett, Kurt \(EFSEC\)](#); [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
Cc: [Walsh, Jim \(LEG\)](#)
Subject: Goldeneye BESS
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 11:34:33 AM

External Email

Yuri and EFSEC council members-

As the council for the environment, and as members of the siting council; please be aware that the BESS fire in Otay Mesa California, known as the gateway fire, has been declared a superfund cleanup site by the EPA.

the EPA recently issued statements regarding the long term environmental and health impacts that BESS fires can create. (All BESS facilities have the potential for fire)

In addition the EPA has not yet even began to investigate the much larger fire at Moss Landing that took place in January of this year. And has caused a large citizens law suit in the area due to private testing showing contamination.

You and EFSEC have a responsibility to the people and the environment of WA state, to research and fully understand the potential impacts of the BESS facilities BEFORE they are sited. If they can cause environmental disasters they should not be sited. Reminder that the Goldeneye project is located on the shores of protected Hanson Creek, a major salmon spawning stream in Skagit County that leads directly into the wild and scenic protected Skagit River.

The 2024 BESS fire at Otay Mesa (near San Diego) that burned for almost 3 weeks.

The EPA stated:

"“Calling a technology ‘green energy’ does not mean there are no environmental impacts. This is an issue of growing concern,” said EPA Pacific Southwest Region Administrator Josh F.W. Cook. “I am alarmed by the incidents and impacts of utility grade battery fires on first responders, specifically the professional firefighters who are exposed to horrible toxic conditions when batteries catch fire. This settlement action is a step in the right direction, but the broader battery storage fire issue requires additional attention and EPA enforcement.” "

The EPA ordered it to be cleaned up:

EPA Orders Cleanup Following Battery Fire at Gateway Energy Storage Facility in San Diego

July 7, 2025

Contact Information

Julia Giarmoleo (giarmoleo.julia@epa.gov)

213-326-2033

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (July 7, 2025) – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has entered into a settlement agreement with Gateway Energy Storage, LLC to direct cleanup in the wake of a lithium-ion battery fire that occurred at the company’s energy storage facility in San Diego.

“Calling a technology ‘green energy’ does not mean there are no environmental impacts. This is an issue of growing concern,” said EPA Pacific Southwest Region Administrator Josh F.W. Cook. “I am alarmed by the incidents and impacts of utility grade battery fires on first responders, specifically the professional firefighters who are exposed to horrible toxic conditions when batteries catch fire. This settlement action is a step in the right direction, but the broader battery storage fire issue requires additional attention and EPA enforcement.” On May 15, 2024 a fire broke out at the Gateway Energy Storage facility, with periodic flare-ups until May 28. The facility contained approximately 14,796 nickel-manganese-cobalt lithium-ion batteries. EPA is working in coordination with local fire authorities and the County of San Diego to oversee the cleanup effort undertaken by the responsible party. Fire damaged batteries pose ongoing risks of fire, explosion, and chemical releases. In the agreement being announced today, EPA is requiring comprehensive safety measures and monitoring to protect nearby residents and workers during the cleanup process. Under the settlement agreement, Gateway Energy Storage must conduct environmental monitoring during all battery handling operations; safely remove, package, and dispose of all impacted battery packs; and submit detailed work plans and progress reports to EPA.

Background

Gateway Energy Storage, LLC operates the facility as a Delaware-incorporated limited liability company. The company is considered a responsible party under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and must bear the costs of the cleanup.

The root cause of the fire remains under investigation. EPA and local agencies will continue to oversee cleanup activities until all work is completed and the site no longer poses a threat to public health or the environment.

* * *

Learn about EPA’s Pacific Southwest Region. Connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, and X.

Related Links

Region 09

Read other EPA News Releases about Compliance and Enforcement

Contact Us about News Releases

Last updated on July 7, 2025

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-orders-cleanup-following-battery-fire-gateway-energy-storage-facility-san-diego>

Please be aware is this were to happen in the smallest way near the Salmon spawning stream at Hanson Creek AT the Goldeneye site this could decimate our salmon runs and effect the salmon on a global scale also effecting whales and other species that feed on those salmon.

A BESS facility at the Goldeneye site in sedro woolley has the potential to be a catastrophic environmental event.

Connie Krier

Stewards of Skagit- president

206-391-8383