

PEREGRINE PROJECT

POSITION: The Chamber’s Sustainability & Industry Committee voted to SUPPORT the project on September 3, 2020. The Chamber’s Public Policy Committee voted to SUPPORT the project on September 8, 2020. The Board of Directors voted to SUPPORT the project on September 24, 2020.

RATIONALE: This is an important project for the region, as it will convert a vacant lot into one of the largest battery storage facilities in North America. Upon completion, the Peregrine Project safely strengthens existing electrical infrastructure while improving electric grid resiliency and reliability; capable of powering up to 200,000 homes for four hours.

STATUS: Tenaska is in the process of gathering support from community stakeholders. This project is currently awaiting feedback on their permit applications from the City of San Diego.

SUMMARY

Tenaska is proposing a battery storage facility in the downtown San Diego area. The firm has been conducting initial outreach to elected officials, community groups and other area stakeholders and is open to incorporating community input into its project design.

When power produced from solar and wind facilities exceeds energy needs or what the grid can safely and reliably handle, production from these facilities is often shut down or curtailed, resulting in these resources being “wasted” and going unused. Batteries can store this unused energy, and then discharge it back to the grid, often in the evening or at other peak times, providing grid resiliency and reliability. Battery storage devices, like cellphone batteries, do not generate radiation and involve little to no fire risk when properly designed, installed, tested and operated.



INDUSTRY/IES IMPACTED

The proposal will impact the Barrio Logan and Downtown San Diego communities, the construction and building industry, San Diego residents and ratepayers, and the region's workforce.

SUPPORTERS

- None known

OPPONENTS

- None known

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR

- Helps San Diego meet its Climate Action Plan goals
- Invests \$200 to \$250 million in local economy
- Provides new capacity for growing businesses and residential communities

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

- This property is better suited toward a residential or active use given its location

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Energy storage is a necessary component of grid optimization, including providing grid reliability and helps to defer costly transmission and distribution upgrades. According to leaders of the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) grid, reaching California's goal of a carbon-free grid by 2045 could require as much as 15,000 MW of battery storage.