

The Municipality of the
VILLAGE OF BURK'S FALLS

Moved By: Ashley Brandt Date: July 15, 2025

Seconded By: Ryan Baptiste Resolution # 2025- 244

Be it resolved;

WHEREAS the Council of the Village of Burk's Falls, together with residents from surrounding municipalities, has expressed strong and united opposition to the proposed installation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility, citing significant concerns regarding public safety, environmental risk, land use compatibility, and insufficient local economic benefit; and

WHEREAS the perceived risk associated with BESS installations significantly outweighs any demonstrated local advantage, and further, the lack of established, province-wide planning policies has led to avoidable conflict and uncertainty for municipalities and residents alike;

Now therefore be it resolved that:

1. The Council of the Village of Burk's Falls respectfully requests that the Province of Ontario immediately suspend the approval and development of all new BESS installations until a comprehensive, science-based study is completed. Such a study should result in the development of robust, province-wide policies and regulations governing the operation, and risk mitigation of BESS facilities.
2. The Province of Ontario be urged to provide clear policy guidance to municipalities and industry stakeholders recommending that BESS installations be permitted only on lands currently zoned for industrial use, recognizing that:
 - a) such lands have been previously evaluated and approved for industrial development; and
 - b) the limited economic return provided by BESS projects does not justify rezoning lands designated for other uses.

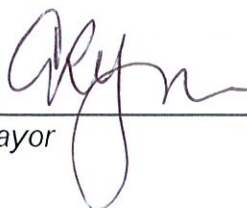
3. The Province of Ontario be further requested to disseminate the results of this study and any associated policy or regulatory recommendations to all Ontario municipalities, thereby preventing unnecessary and costly legal challenges, public opposition, and community division related to the siting of future BESS projects.
4. The Council of the Village of Burk's Falls calls upon Solar Bank Corporation to immediately withdraw its application for the proposed BESS facility at Pegg's Mountain, in the interest of fostering constructive community relations and acknowledging that this situation closely parallels the circumstances in Gravenhurst, where similar concerns led to widespread opposition and rejection of a comparable project.
5. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to members of parliament (MPP's) and all municipalities in the province of Ontario.

Recorded Vote requested by: _____

<i>Ryan Baptiste</i>	<i>for / opposed</i>
<i>Ashley Brandt</i>	<i>for / opposed</i>
<i>Sean Cotton</i>	<i>for / opposed</i>
<i>Chris Hope</i>	<i>for / opposed</i>
<i>Nancy Kyte</i>	<i>for / opposed</i>

<u>y</u>	_____	_____
<i>Carried</i>	<i>Defeated</i>	<i>Deferred</i>

Pecuniary Interest declared by:



Mayor