

86 Main Street  
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**JERRY LARSEN**, Mayor



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## VILLAGE OF EAST HAMPTON

Office of  
**MAYOR**

August 6, 2026

East Hampton Town Board  
159 Pantigo Road  
East Hampton, New York 11937

Re: East Hampton Energy Storage Center, LLC  
3 Cove Hollow Road

Dear Supervisor Burke-Gonzalez and Town Council Members,

On behalf of the residents of the Village of East Hampton, and with concerns most certainly shared by those outside the Village bounds as well, I am writing to reiterate my strongly held belief that the operation of the battery energy storage facility at 3 Cove Hollow Road should and must be immediately suspended. Each day that the facility remains open exposes residents, on an ongoing basis, to an unreasonable risk of harm. A pause in operations to allow environmental analysis that could have and should have been performed a decade ago is the only prudent and responsible course of action at this time. By contrast, failing to take such a reasonable precaution, and to place all of the relevant facts in full daylight, is reckless.

In hindsight, the issuance of a negative declaration for this unlisted action was regrettable. The Suffolk County Department of Health Services has now concluded that the East Hampton Energy Storage Center is the source of the PFAS contamination detected in the surrounding groundwater. Coupled with the May 31, 2023 fire at the facility and the response that followed, these facts make it impossible to reconcile the Town of East Hamptons Planning Boards original conclusion that the project posed no potential for significant adverse environmental impacts. Had the project been classified as a Type I action under SEQRA, it would not necessarily have resulted in disapproval. Rather, it would have required the comprehensive environmental review that a project of this magnitude and nature warranted, particularly given its location over one of Long Islands' most environmentally sensitive aquifers.

While that opportunity was missed back in 2017, we are not bound to repeat the mistakes of the past, and the opportunity once again exists to subject the site and the operations to appropriate environmental review. The residents of East Hampton deserve as much.

The East Hampton Town Planning Board has the authority to suspend operations at the facility for this purpose (they were asked to do so at their 6:30 p.m. meeting on August 5, 2026). A material change of circumstances since the time of the initial approval or new evidence which would warrant modification of the prior approval can serve as basis and justification for vacating a prior approval. See *Matter of 1066 Land Corp. v Planning Bd. of Town of Austerlitz*, 218 AD2d 887, 887, 630 NYS2d 389 (1995); *Matter of Lynn v Planning Bd. of the Town of E. Hampton*, 89 AD3d 1028, 1028 (2d Dept 2011).

I respectfully urge the Town Board to take all lawful steps necessary to require the operations of the East Hampton Energy Storage Center to immediately cease.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Larsen", written in a cursive style.

**Jerry Larsen**

Mayor

Village of East Hampton