

Executive Briefing

Beach Haven Taxpayers Association Request for Congressional Intervention

Atlantic City Electric Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Summary of June 9, 2026 Letter

Purpose

The Beach Haven Taxpayers Association (BHTA) requests Congressman Jeff Van Drew's assistance to delay activation of Atlantic City Electric's Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in Beach Haven until independent safety and regulatory reviews are completed.

Key Concerns

- First deployment of this technology within Atlantic City Electric's (ACE) service territory, with limited operating experience.
- Facility is located in the center of a densely populated seasonal tourist community.
- Potential risks cited include thermal runaway fires, toxic gas releases, environmental contamination, and challenges to emergency evacuation.
- Project is located near major public attractions and along Long Beach Island's primary evacuation corridor.

Legal and Regulatory Issues

- BHTA argues ACE's 2022 Land Use Board application understated or omitted known lithium-ion battery hazards.
- Association contends the application did not adequately disclose the technology or its potential risks.
- Letter requests additional federal and state review before activation.

Requested Actions

- Request an EPA and FEMA Region 2 safety assessment.
- Initiate a Congressional inquiry into ACE's representations during project approval.
- Ask the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities to suspend activation pending an independent thermal safety audit.

Bottom Line

BHTA urges federal intervention, stating that Beach Haven officials and many residents oppose activation of the project until independent experts determine it can operate safely in a densely populated coastal community.

BHTA has taken a position against the presence of this facility and has collected close to 900 signatures on a petition to close it. The petition is available on [change.org](https://www.change.org/p/request-removal-of-the-beach-haven-lithium-ion-battery-storage-system) by clicking on the following link: www.change.org/p/request-removal-of-the-beach-haven-lithium-ion-battery-storage-system