



**RESOLUTION OPPOSING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS) IN
GILLESPIE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Gillespie County (“Commissioners Court”) is responsible for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of the citizens and visitors of Gillespie County; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court is mindful of the need for dependable and sustainable energy at reasonable cost to all residents and businesses, particularly at times of high demand; and

WHEREAS, there has been an increasing number of proposed Battery Energy Storage System (“BESS”) projects in Gillespie County, utilizing technology that is new, rapidly evolving and for which there is not a well-documented history of impacts of these projects on local communities; and

WHEREAS, the operational model for BESS projects is remote management and low onsite staffing, and therefore placement of these projects in and around the County’s jurisdiction fails to achieve the critical long-range goals of increasing economic and employment opportunities for County residents; optimizing available properties to their highest and best land use; increasing land values; and developing land uses that attract families and business investment; and

WHEREAS, the BESS projects do not bring genuine long-term economic benefits to the County, including jobs and property development to its highest and best use;, and instead may burden the County with health and safety risks and costs; long-term static land use; negative impact on existing land values; disincentivizing employers and businesses from locating into the area; and creating lower-than-optimum local sales and ad valorem tax opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the County is located in a geographic area that is subject to drought and severe and destructive wildfires and as such, County residents have been required to undertake extensive fire safety efforts at their homes and businesses and have experienced issues such as ever-increasing home insurance premiums or non-renewals of existing policies due to the potential of fires; and

WHEREAS, one significant health and safety concern reasonably related to BESS projects is the potential for the ignition of fires, explosions and “thermal runaway” events which, once initiated, are extremely difficult to extinguish and can cause explosions, toxic gas release, physical damage, and loss of life, posing significant risks to property, the environment, and human safety; and

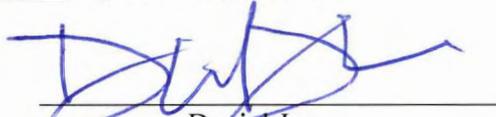
WHEREAS, the construction and operation of BESS projects in close proximity to businesses, schools, childcare centers, medical facilities, residences, other structures, major thoroughfares, and waterways poses significant risks to property, the environment, and human safety; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court concurs in the need for the development of region-wide and/or state-wide BESS legislation, design guidelines, development regulations, and location placement restrictions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the COMMISSIONERS COURT OF GILLESPIE COUNTY, as follows:

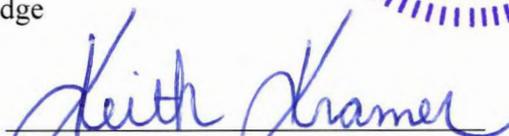
1. The above recitations are true and are incorporated herein as though fully set forth.
2. That the Commissioners Court of Gillespie County finds that Battery Energy Storage System (“BESS”) projects, as currently designed and constructed, are contrary to the fundamental economic development and health and safety goals of the County.
3. That the Commissioners Court of Gillespie County hereby opposes the development and operation of all Battery Energy Storage System (“BESS”) projects in Gillespie County.
4. That the Commissioners Court of Gillespie County supports the efforts of State Representative Ellen Troxclair in proposing legislation that would reasonably mitigate the risks presented by the operation of BESS projects.

Passed and approved this 24th day of February, 2025.

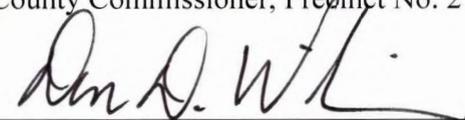

Daniel Jones,
County Judge




Charles Olfers,
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 1


Keith Kramer,
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 2


Charles “Chuck” Jenschke,
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 3


Don Weinheimer,
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

Attest:

Lindsey Brown

Lindsey Brown
County Clerk