

Pepco is planning to install and operate a new battery energy storage system at our existing Livingston Road substation in Oxon Hill, Maryland. The information below addresses common health, safety, and environmental concerns about battery energy storage systems.

Concern (Myth)	Response (Fact)
<p>Battery storage systems are a new technology and are not safe for residential use.</p>	<p>Battery energy storage technology is a safe and sustainable energy solution for grid applications. This technology has existed for many years and the safety of such systems has vastly improved over recent years.</p> <p>Safety is the top priority for Pepco. We are working with top national and local experts to ensure ample safety protocols and operating practices.</p>
<p>Fire safety planning and protocols that will be implemented are inadequate.</p>	<p>Pepco is working closely with local emergency management agencies, several fire protection engineering firms in Maryland, and Prince George's Fire and Rescue to educate and train first responders and the public on this facility. We have enhanced precautions with advanced, multi-layer fire protection and mitigation procedures, tools and technology. A list of specific standards and protocols being followed can be found in our project FAQ.</p>
<p>Battery fires cannot be extinguished and must 'burn off,' causing harmful gases to drift uncontrolled into the environment and shelter-in-place or evacuation to be necessary.</p>	<p>Pepco will do everything we can to ensure safe operation of the facility.</p> <p>Battery fires are rare and systems exist to counteract 'burn off' or 'thermal runaway'. Our state-of-the-art system will constantly monitor risks and will feature high performance automatic fire suppression and the safest design for fire department response and control.</p>
<p>Electric and Magnetic Field (EMF) levels will increase due to the battery system and impact nearby residents.</p>	<p>Third-party experts have determined that EMF levels from this low-voltage system will not impact nearby properties. We will continue to conduct independent EMF studies throughout the construction and operation of the battery system to ensure EMF levels remain safe.</p>
<p>Battery energy storage systems release runoff and emissions that can damage the natural environment.</p>	<p>Batteries have no emissions, and this facility will simply store electricity for local homes and businesses. This unit will also be self-contained to prevent any potential for runoff.</p>

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