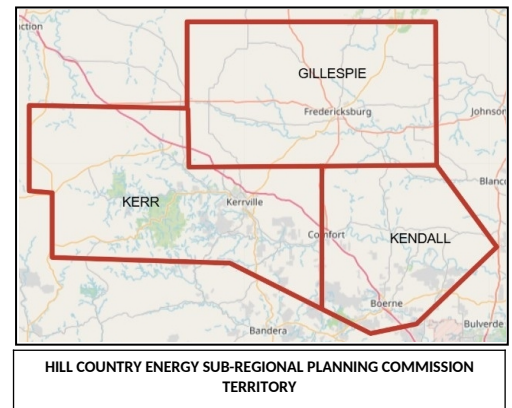


HILL COUNTRY ENERGY SUB-REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE



Texas Hill Country BESS Project STOPPED!

February 4, 2026

For the first time in the State of Texas, a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project has been voluntarily halted in the face of intense local opposition. The Rock Creek BESS is located in the small unincorporated Hill Country town of Comfort in Kendall County. On January 27th, the developer, East Point Energy, announced that it was stopping the project.

In a letter to the Boerne Star, Catherine Chapman, Manager of Community Engagement stated, *“Due to shifting strategic priorities, East Point Energy’s development of the Flat Rock Energy Center will no longer be pursued at this time.”*

East Point Energy is a subsidiary of EQUINOR, which is a giant Norwegian multinational oil and gas company. Foreign companies are heavily involved in the US BESS market. In 2023 East Point announced plans to build up to a 250 MW BESS facility on Flat Rock Creek near the LCRA substation and leased 10 acres of land for that purpose, with an option to buy. Immediately, the community and some local elected officials rose up to oppose the project.

Regarding this major victory, Jennifer McCall, Precinct 1 Commissioner of Kendall County stated, “We have a large group of citizens who have been involved in this process over the last 2 1/2 years. Additionally, our Kendall County Fire Marshall worked diligently demanding compliance with our County’s more stringent fire safety codes, and we hired a consultant who is a national BESS expert to advise us in our efforts to block this threat to our beautiful rural community. All this, together with the help of our 391 Commission, had the desired effect!”

The 391 Commission is the Hill Country Energy Sub-Regional Planning Commission, which was established under Chapter 391 of the Texas Local Government Code for the purpose of planning coordination with State agencies to prevent the installation of BESS in their jurisdiction, including Kerr, Kendall and Gillespie Counties. More information about their activities and BESS can be found on their Website, hcesrpc.com

Commissioner Paces, President of the Hill Country BESS Commission, pointed out, “Interestingly, East Point Energy’s decision came right after Governor Abbott added equipment manufactured by the Chinese company CATL to Texas’ list of prohibited technologies. 90% of BESS facilities in the U.S. have lithium ion batteries supplied by CATL. But community involvement is the key to keeping BESS out of this area.”

For more information and to schedule interviews with Commissioners McCall, Paces, and Carpenter,
contact: Linda Bullard, Secretary, HCESRPC, Tel: 830 890-1113, E-mail: secretary@hcesrpc
