

**JEFFERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION 2023-40

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING ALL COUNTY AGENCIES, BOARDS AND
COMMISSIONS NOT TO ISSUE PERMITS OR APPROVALS FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS) WITHIN
JEFFERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE AND DECLARING A MORATORIUM ON SUCH
USES**

County Commission Sponsors: Terry Dockery and Anthony “A.J.” Walker

WHEREAS, great public concern has been shown, regarding the location and potential effects of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS); and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission, Dandridge Regional Planning Commission, White Pine Regional Planning Commission and Jefferson City Regional Planning Commission have reviewed regulations and developmental standards for BESS uses; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that additional regulations and development standards are necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Jefferson County, and that additional study and research is necessary prior to the construction and implementation of BESS uses in Jefferson County, Tennessee; and whereas a motion was made to refer to the Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission the issues of additional regulations and development standards for BESS uses;

WHEREAS, a motion was made and passed by the Board to declare a temporary moratorium on BESS uses in Jefferson County, Tennessee for six (6) months so that additional regulations and development standards can be considered to further protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Jefferson County, and to provide a limited time to perform additional study and research, regarding regulation of BESS uses, prior to the construction and implementation of BESS uses in Jefferson County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of Jefferson County, the Board of Commissioners of Jefferson County deems it necessary for any such regulations and development standards regarding BESS uses be in effect when any permits are issued or when any plans or developments are approved, regarding BESS uses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Jefferson County, Tennessee (hereinafter the “Board”):

SECTION 1:

That any of the departments, boards, authorities, commissions or any other entity under the jurisdiction of the Board of Commissioners of Jefferson County pursuant to all local, state, or federal law, are directed not to issue any permits or approvals, regarding any proposed BESS until January 27, 2024, provided such BESS uses meet all eligible standards of rules and regulations then in effect for the issuance of such permits or approvals.

SECTION 2:

That a temporary moratorium is declared on all proposed BESS uses or similar developments or uses until January 27, 2024, provided such BESS uses meet all eligible standards, rules and regulations then in effect for the issuance of such permits or approvals.

Votes: 16 1 1
Yes No Abstain

Attest: Frank C. Herndon Date: 7/28/23
Frank C. Herndon, County Clerk



Approved: Mark Potts Date: 7/28/23
Mark Potts, County Mayor