

DECATURY BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY

Exhibit A-1.5 ALTERNATIVES

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT A-1.5 – ALTERNATIVES	2
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Appendices

Appendix 1.5-A: ALTERNATIVE MEMO

Appendix 1.5-B: ALTERNATIVE PROJECT LOCATION ANALYSIS MAP



EXHIBIT A-1.5 – ALTERNATIVES

A-1.5.a – Provide a map and description of each alternative site location, proposed site layout, or other alternatives that are or were considered, including rationale for why alternative locations were not selected for development.

If the proposed site of the energy facility is undeveloped land, the applicant must provide a description of feasible alternative developed locations, including, but not limited to, vacant industrial property and brownfields, and an explanation of why they were not chosen for the project site.

The process that the Applicant follows in finding and evaluating potential project sites varies; however, the elements described below are fundamental to the process and were used in the Applicant's review of potential areas in the state of Michigan.

Project Siting

- Transmission and injection capacity – Nearby electric transmission infrastructure is necessary to connect a project to the power grid. A project substation and additional transmission lines are often necessary, however the cost required to connect a project to the grid increases with the distance over which project-specific transmission must be built.
- Land availability – A large, open lot is necessary for battery storage projects. Areas of high residential density are eliminated in the first phase of the search for an eventual project site.

Focused Feasibility Evaluation

- Land use – A large, undeveloped space is ideal for battery storage projects. Battery storage projects are naturally compatible with agricultural land and can be returned to agricultural.
- Community – the Applicant values working with communities that welcome responsible economic development opportunities.
- Potential host landowners – prospective landowners are contacted to gauge interest in hosting the facility.
- Environmental concerns – environmental factors were studied within the potential project areas to screen for environmental factors including, but not limited to, wetlands, waterways, critical habitat, endangered species and animals, and hydric soils. The Project areas selected showed few environmental factors, and those factors identified can be avoided by placement of the battery storage infrastructure.
- Cultural resources – archaeological, cultural, and historical resources were considered during the site selection and Project design. The area selected will not impact known archaeological, cultural, or historical resources.
- Constructability – topography (elevation and slope), soils, and subsurface geology are reviewed at a desktop level. Detailed field evaluations are also performed later in the development process.
- Road infrastructure – highways and roads within the proposed project area are reviewed for compatibility with large construction vehicles and delivery trucks. Main highways

feeding into the area from major ports or rails are also considered for delivery of battery storage components.

Final Site Assessment

The Decatur Battery Storage Project was identified following a rigorous analysis of three key factors: the existing transmission grid in Michigan, the suitability of available land, and the receptiveness of the community.

In conducting grid analysis, the Applicant strategically identified interconnection points where the existing electrical infrastructure exhibits sufficient capacity and reliability. This methodology is designed to minimize interconnection facility costs and reduce the scope of network upgrades typically required for integrating new energy storage systems. Additionally, the Applicant prioritizes project locations with available land adjacent to the identified point of interconnection to limit the length of high-voltage generation tie lines and the number of supporting structures required.

For the Decatur Battery Storage Project, anticipated network upgrade costs are expected to be manageable. The Project's substation will be sited directly adjacent to the existing ITC substation and transmission line, significantly reducing the need for additional high-voltage infrastructure and enhancing the overall efficiency of the interconnection process.

With regards to the suitability of available land, battery storage projects are best sited on land that is relatively flat. The location of project also allows for the use of existing vegetation to be used to screen the project from adjacent landowners and rights of way.

With respect to community acceptance, the Applicant has proactively engaged with local units of government and members of the community to effectively communicate the anticipated benefits the Project will deliver at the local level. Communication was engaged early on in the project development process.

Appendix 1.5-A: ALTERNATIVES MEMO



MEMORANDUM

To: Michigan Public Service Commission
Decatur Energy Storage, LLC

From: Leonard Powell, Associate Director (Atwell)

Date: July 16, 2026

Re: Exhibit A-1.5 Alternatives Memorandum

INTRODUCTION

The Applicant, Decatur Energy Storage, LLC (Decatur Energy Storage), proposes to construct and operate a battery energy storage system (BESS) facility known as the Decatur Battery Storage Project (Project). The Project entails the development of an up to 50-megawatt (MW) BESS facility spanning approximately 2.8 acres in Decatur Township, Van Buren County, Michigan. The Project is located near the intersection of South George Street and East South Street.

Pursuant to the Michigan Public Act 233 (PA 233) Application Filing Instructions and Procedures, which requires information on alternative site layouts that are or were considered for the Project, Decatur Energy Storage has provided the Michigan Public Service Commission with this Alternatives Memorandum (Exhibit A-1.5). This Alternatives Memorandum provides maps and descriptions of each alternative layout that was not selected for development.

Decatur Battery Storage intends to interconnect to the grid using an available switchyard within the existing American Electric Power Transmission (AEP) Valley Substation located adjacent to the proposed Project substation. This point of interconnection to the grid is the primary driver of the Project location, as is common with BESS energy facilities, because increased distance between the BESS energy facility to the point of interconnection adversely impacts efficiency, overall development scope, and associated impacts. According to the Decatur Township Zoning Map, only four parcels are designated within the Light Industrial District. Desktop review indicates that three of the parcels are occupied by existing businesses, and the fourth parcel is predominantly covered by Mud Lake. As a result, there are no nearby vacant industrially zoned properties available within the Township for alternative siting of the BESS project. According to EGLE's Brownfields online

database, the closest brownfield site in proximity to the Project is Warren Frank Cannery (parcel IDs: 80-47-583-038-00, 80-0046-00-057-01) which is located over eight-miles northeast in Van Buren County.¹ The next closest brownfield site is Paw Paw Laundry and Paw Paw Dollar General (parcel ID: 80-47-257-001-00) located over nine-miles northeast of the Project. These properties are not located in proximity to the intended point of interconnection for the Project; therefore, they were not targeted for development.

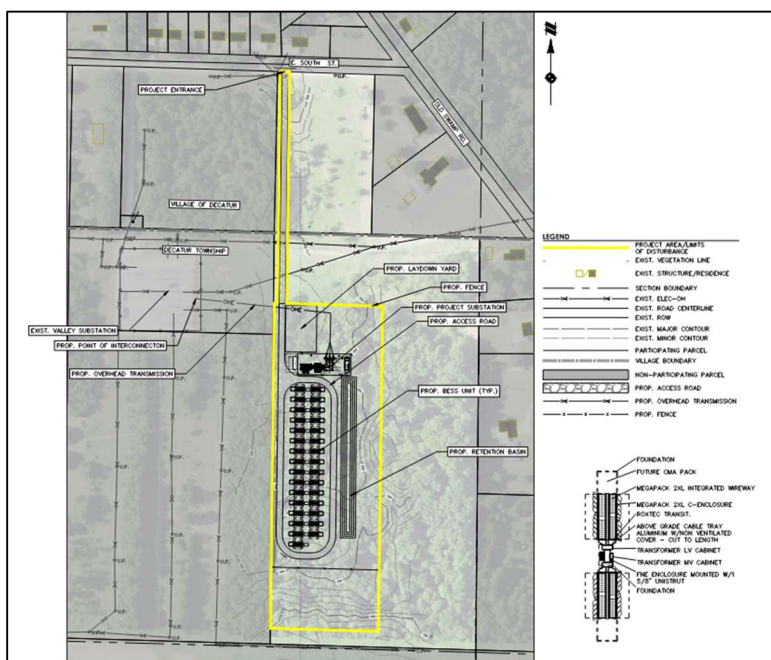
Various desktop and onsite environmental and feasibility studies were conducted for the parcels located in proximity to the point of interconnection, which were further refined based on the parcel that was signed on as participating in the Project. Using the results of these studies, the Project infrastructure locations were selected to develop an efficient design while minimizing impacts on the environmental, community, and surrounding uses resulting from construction (i.e., avoiding wetland impacts and clear cutting, minimizing tree clearing, centrally locating the BESS facility on the parcel to minimize sound impacts, siting adjacent to existing transmission infrastructure, etc.) to the greatest extent practicable.

¹ EGLE [Department of Environment Great Lakes, and Energy]. 2026. Brownfields. <https://gis-michigan.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/egle::brownfields/explore?location=44.667583%2C-86.295050%2C6>.

ALTERNATIVE 1: REDUCED PROJECT FOOTPRINT

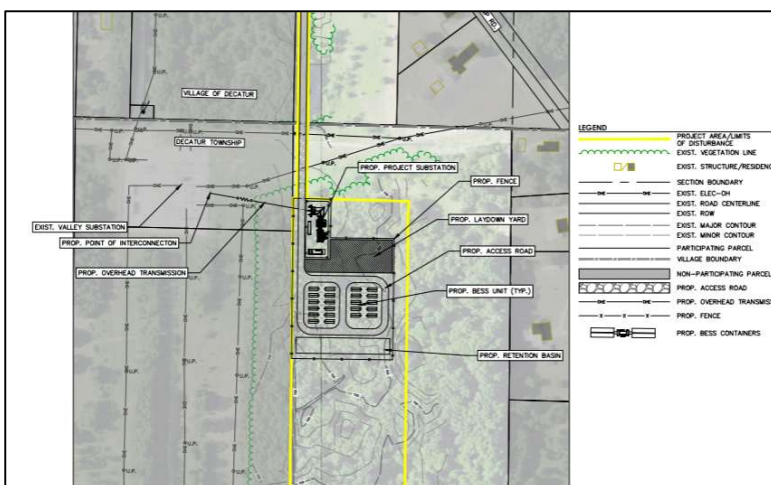
The initial Project layout featured a larger footprint that included approximately 7.8 acres of fenced in area. The project has since been revised utilizing updated equipment allowing for a significantly smaller footprint with a fenced in area of approximately 2.8 acres. See below for depictions of alternative 1.

1.1 ORIGINALLY PROPOSED LAYOUT:



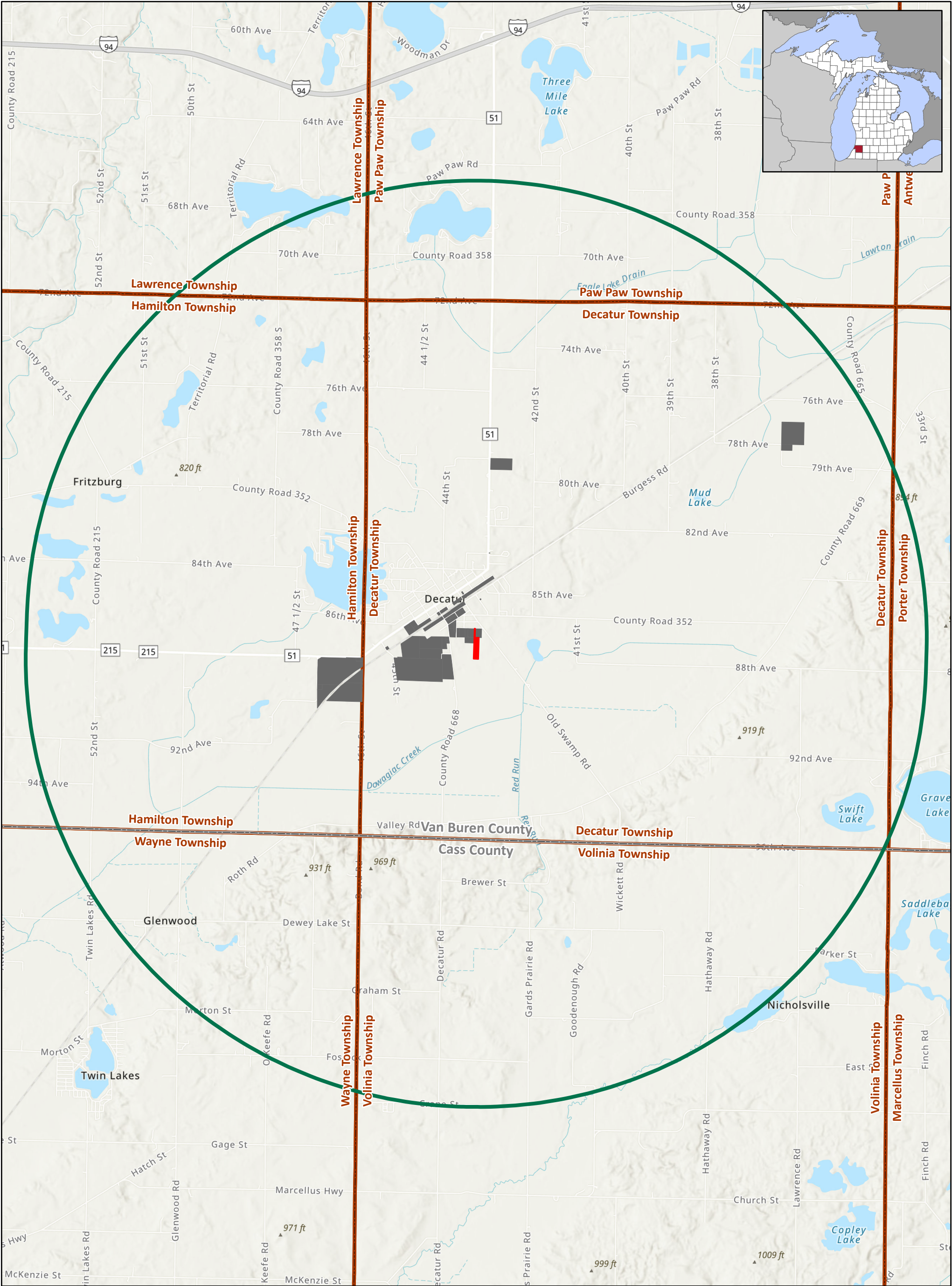
In the above photo, black battery rows are representative of proposed BESS containers, yellow line is representative of the proposed project area boundaries, diagonal lines are representative of the proposed laydown yard, and green lines represent the existing vegetation lines

1.2 UPDATED, CURRENT LAYOUT:



In the above photo, black battery rows are representative of proposed BESS containers, yellow line is representative of the proposed project area boundaries, diagonal lines are representative of the proposed laydown yard, and green lines represent the existing vegetation lines.

Appendix 1.5-B: ALTERNATIVE PROJECT LOCATION ANALYSIS MAP



- Project Area (~8.9 acres)
- Industrial Land Use Zone
- 5-Mile Buffer
- Note: No Brownfields within 5 miles of the Project Area
- County
- Township

Source: Esri Topographic Basemap

	Glidepath Power Decatur BESS 24005925 July 10, 2026	Figure 1 Alternative Project Location Analysis Map Section 20, T4S R14W, Decatur Township Van Buren County, Michigan
	01Miles	