PETITION TO THE TOWN BOARD OF NEW SCOTLAND:

We, concerned citizens, request that these Battery Energy Storage System facilities be placed in areas in the Town of New Scotland zoned as Industrial zoning districts; parcels in the RA zoning district located partially or wholly within 500 feet of the Industrial district; and/or Town-owned landfills.

This is the EXACT draft amendment language proposed and circulated in emails by town officials beginning in October 2023. The draft language was subsequently changed without any publicly available information on reasoning for or who proposed the changes, and was ultimately adopted before the community had a chance to fully evaluate the safety, environmental, and landuse implications of such technology — and before the Town's Comprehensive Plan could be updated to reflect these new industrial uses. The language ultimately eliminated this district-based restriction entirely, replacing it with language permitting such systems "in all zoning districts through issuance of a special use permit... on vacant parcels that are at least 7 acres, or on parcels having a new or existing large-scale solar facility.

The permissive language, with such minimal setbacks, adopted by the Town allows Battery Energy Storage Systems to be sited on nearly the entirety of the Town of New Scotland. This would create a situation where nearly every resident of the town would be required to take all the risks associated with battery energy storage, with no specifically stated benefit to the residents of the Town of New Scotland.

Sincerely,

_x_____

Name:_____

Address:_____

Date:_____