

Mitch Curtis
Commissioner Precinct 1

Cliff Williams
Commissioner Precinct 2

Bobby Phillips
Commissioner Precinct 3

Brandon Barton
Commissioner Precinct 4



121 East Dallas
Room 204
Canton, Texas 75103

ANDY REESE
COUNTY JUDGE

Voice: (903) 567-4071
Fax: (903) 567-7216

PRESS RELEASE – Friday January 16, 2026

Van Zandt County Fire Marshal Rejects Amador BESS Documents

Excerpts from the letter from Van Zandt County Fire Marshal Kevin Palmer concerning the denial of all documents pertaining to the Amador BESS Project located in Van Zandt County, TX.

“After reviewing the documents formally transmitted to my office on 10 December 2025, I am formally rejecting all documents associated with this project.

In May of 2025, stakeholders agreed that all documents pertaining to this project would be approved by the Fire Protection Engineer (FPE) HILLER prior to being sent to my office for review. However, several key documents did not have Hillers approval such as the NFPA 68, NFPA 69, Emergency Response Plan (ERP), and Fire Risk Assessment (FRA). Therefore, all future documents that are not approved by Hiller shall be rejected. Additionally, all comments from the Fire Protection Engineer of record (HILLER), shall be included in all documents.

The documentation provided for this project is extensive but is still lacking and does not demonstrate full compliance with relevant requirements in NFPA 855, NFPA 69, NFPA 68 and other standards. Again, the developer shall submit an NFPA 855 compliance review in which the FPE of record shall review each applicable requirement in the relevant standards and determine whether or not the site complies and provide documentation and references on how it complies.”

For further information contact Kevin Palmer at kpalmer@vanzandtcounty.org, phone 903-567-6026.

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