

Regarding Qu8.04, there is an error in the question: the recent fire at Handen Farm was not a domestic car battery fire but a house fire which destroyed property entirely. The firefighters who attended for over 16 hours on Jan 18th 2025 to control the blaze, did not have sufficient water to manage a house fire in this location. Despite draining the local mains supply and the lake by the house, Kent fire and rescue had to employ bowzers and close the road to erect a temporary storage pool, to bring water into the village on a constant back and forth basis for many hours. They did this as there were three Tesla batteries in the cellars which formed part of the house's solar power supply (not car batteries!). The firefighters said that if these caught fire they would have to evacuate the area due to toxicity and let them burn out which would take days. On being questioned about the probability of them being able to manage a fire in even one of the 54 battery compounds proposed by this scheme, all of the seasoned and highly experienced fire fighters were 100% clear that there was no way, even with water tanks on site, that they would be able to control, let alone extinguish, a battery fire in one of the BESS units in the proposed location. They said that the resulting toxicity would pose a high risk of fatalities in the local area to humans and wildlife.