



**CUPERTINO CITY COUNCIL**

CITY HALL

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June 28, 2017

Laura Casas, President Board of Trustees  
Foothill-De Anza Community College District  
12345 El Monte Road  
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Dear President Casas,

The City of Cupertino urges Foothill-De Anza Community College District Board of Trustees to postpone its negotiations with Bloom Energy for electricity generation at its De Anza and Foothill college campuses, and strongly encourages the Board of Trustees to explore options to procure cleaner sources of electricity.

After reviewing Bloom Energy's proposal presentation, we understand the Bloom Energy boxes to be essentially small natural gas power plants. If Foothill-De Anza Community College District signs a long-term contract with Bloom Energy, they would be locking themselves and our community into a dirty, fossil fuel-powered energy source for 15 years. This does not align with the District's Board priority to "Ensure environmental sustainability on our campuses and communities with a focus on improved energy and resource efficiency and reducing or eliminating pollutants and waste." It also does not align with the City's Climate Action Plan.

The City of Cupertino adopted a Climate Action Plan in 2015, and is working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the amount of carbon used to supply energy. While the City of Cupertino has no regulatory jurisdiction over De Anza College, the City's community greenhouse gas emissions inventory includes the energy usage from De Anza College. De Anza College has a very large presence in the City and is one of the top users of electricity in the commercial sector. If the Board decides to lock in electricity from a fossil fuel natural gas source, it will negatively impact our greenhouse gas emissions community-wide for many years.

Again, the City urges the Foothill-De Anza Community College District Board of Trustees to postpone its decision on the proposal from Bloom Energy to sign a long-term contract, and to explore other clean energy options available through Silicon Valley Clean Energy, or another third party.

Sincerely,

*Savita Vaidhyanathan*  
Mayor Savita Vaidhyanathan  
City of Cupertino