

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	24-OPT-02
Project Title:	Compass Energy Storage Project
TN #:	263405
Document Title:	Rachelle DeBaca Laguna Niguel Resident Comments - Oppose SJC BESS. Locals face the risk, not outsiders.Defenders of Wild life cite incorrect site details.
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Rachelle DeBaca Laguna Niguel Resident
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	5/27/2025 6:22:58 PM
Docketed Date:	5/28/2025

Comment Received From: Rachelle DeBaca Laguna Niguel Resident
Submitted On: 5/27/2025
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02

Oppose SJC BESS. Locals face the risk, not outsiders. Defenders of Wild life cite incorrect site details.

I am writing as a concerned resident of Laguna Niguel to strongly oppose the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in San Juan Capistrano.

Supporters of this project often include organizations and individuals who have no direct connection to our community. A prime example is Defenders of Wildlife. They've submitted comments in favor of the project, yet their California office is over 400 miles away, and most of their leadership isn't even based in the state. They even incorrectly referred to the project as being along State Route 72—a highway that doesn't exist anywhere near this site. That kind of mistake makes it painfully obvious they don't understand our geography or our risks.

Let's be clear: the people who do live near this facility—the ones who will suffer the consequences if a fire, chemical leak, or other disaster occurs—are overwhelmingly opposed. We're not just worried about the hypothetical; battery fires have already happened in other parts of the country. This isn't fearmongering—this is based on precedent.

Nearly every voice supporting this project either stands to benefit financially or is pushing a political agenda. They won't have to evacuate their homes in the middle of the night. They won't breathe in toxic smoke or worry about their kids playing outside next to a high-risk industrial site.

This isn't about opposing clean energy—it's about demanding responsible planning that puts safety and community first. We deserve to be heard, and we demand that our local officials listen to the people who will actually live with the consequences.

Sincerely,
Rachelle DeBaca