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## **BESS Laguna Niguel San Juan Capistrano**

According to an article case study published by FEMA.gov principal investigator Ofodike Ezekiel Ph.D P.E University of Texas at Austin <https://www.fema.gov/case-study/emerging-hazards-battery-energy-storage-system-fires>

“There has been a dramatic increase in the use of battery energy storage systems in the United States. These systems are used in residential commercial and utility scale applications. Most of these systems consist of multiple lithium ion battery cells. Unfortunately these lithium cells can experience thermal runaway, which causes them to release a very hot flammable, toxic gas.” (Cont.) “In large storage systems failure of one lithium cell can cascade to include hundreds of individual cells. The hot flammable gases can result in explosion and a very difficult fire to extinguish.”

The location of the proposed battery energy storage system is in an area already deemed by the state of California and multiple insurance agencies as a red zone for fire and at higher than usual significant risk for fire.

Combined with its proximity to interstate 5 freeway, state highway 73, three prominent schools, churches and thousands of homes and businesses' It is morally ethically and environmentally and economically irresponsible to build a battery energy storage system in the proposed space

If a fire did break out whether caused by the BESS or not, it would incur billions of dollars in damages

With economic fallout lasting for years

It is simple logic for the California energy commission to deny the proposition of The Compass Energy Storage LCC build site and suggest a more remote location that does not risk homes, lives, freeways, businesses, and schools.

It is determined by many businesses and individuals to therefore oppose the Compass Energy Storage LLC proposition's to construct, own, and operate a 250-megawatt (MW) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in the northern portion of San Juan Capistrano, bordering Laguna Niguel.