DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	24-OPT-02
Project Title:	Compass Energy Storage Project
TN #:	263586
Document Title:	Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting - Presentation
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Marichka Haws
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	5/30/2025 3:51:24 PM
Docketed Date:	5/30/2025

Compass Energy Storage Project Application

Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting

Docket Number: 24-OPT-02

May 29, 2025

Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Meeting Logistics

- Meeting is hybrid and recorded.
- Instruction for Zoom closed captioning service:
  - **To Activate**: click on “live transcript” icon and then choose either “show subtitle” or “view full transcript”.
  - **To Stop**: click "exit" from “live transcript” or select “hide subtitle” icon.
- Please be mindful of the audio for those participating online; speak slowly and clearly.
- Agenda includes time for public comment and input.

Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **CEC Staff Presentation**
  - Opt-In Certification Program
- **Applicant Presentation**
  - Proposed Project
- **CEC Staff Presentations**
  - Staff Assessment and Scope and Content of the Environmental Analysis
  - Safety Analysis
- **CEC Presentation**
  - Public participation and California Native American tribal consultation opportunities
- **Government Comments**
  - California Native American tribes
  - Government Agencies
  - Elected Officials
- **Lunch Break**
- **Public Comment**
- **Next Steps**
- **Closing Comments**
- **Adjourn**

Welcome

Moving California to 100% Clean Energy

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF THE

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Advancing State Energy Policy

Investing in Energy Innovation

Developing Renewable Energy

Preparing for Energy Emergencies

Achieving Energy Efficiency

Transforming Transportation

Overseeing Energy Infrastructure

Intergovernmental Collaboration

The Energy Commission is committed to promoting a **clean, affordable, and reliable** energy supply for **all Californians.**

Opt-In Certification Process

Presented by Kaycee Chang
Supervisor, CEQA Project Management Unit

Opt-In Certification Quick Facts

- Certain clean energy development projects may choose a consolidated state permitting option
- CEC is the CEQA lead agency

Solar photovoltaic or terrestrial wind

Energy storage systems

Stationary power plant using thermal energy

Specific manufacturing or assembly facilities for clean energy

Hydrogen production

Opt-In Agency Coordination

Source: CDFW

Source: State Water Board

Source: DTSC

CEC Findings Required to Approve Opt-In Projects

- Provides an overall net positive economic benefit to the local government
- Signed a legally binding community benefits agreement
- Commits to prevailing wage to skilled and trained workforce
- Complies with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards *or* is required for public convenience or necessity
- Significant effects of the project will be avoided or mitigated, *or* statement of overriding considerations for significant effects found infeasible to avoid or mitigate

270 Day Process Milestones

- **April 30, 2025 (Day 0): Determination of Complete Application**
- **May 2, 2025: Notice of Preparation of an EIR** *(SCH posted on May 5, 2025)*
- **May 5, 2025: Tribal Consultation Requests**
- **May 29, 2025: Informational and Scoping Meeting**

30 Days

150 Days

- **Day 150**: Staff Assessment (which includes a Draft EIR) and Notice of Availability** *(Anticipated Fall 2025)*
- **Day 180 to 210: Public Meeting on Staff Assessment** *(Between Days 30 – 60 of the public review period)*
- **Day 210: Close of the Public Comment Period on Staff Assessment** *(60 Days from published date)*

- **Day 240: Updated Staff Assessment (which includes a Final EIR)**
- **Day 270: CEC Business Meeting Decision**
- **Day 360: Partner Agencies Applicable Permit Decisions**

270 Days

**These Deadlines are subject to any substantial changes made to the project or certain other events occurring after an application is deemed complete.

Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement

If a proposed project is granted a CEC license, then during the operational life of the facility, CEC staff will:

- Verify compliance with license
- Perform formal site inspections
- Require monthly and annual compliance reports
- Review monthly and annual compliance reports
- Investigate complaints
- Conduct unannounced inspections

CEC Opt-In Webpage

Opt-In Certification Program
https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program

- Projects under review
- Opt-In fact sheet
- Opt-In FAQ
- Opt-In process timeline

Applicant Presentation on the Proposed Project

Compass Energy Storage

California Energy Commission
Public Meeting
May 29, 2025

We are a global energy company with local presence

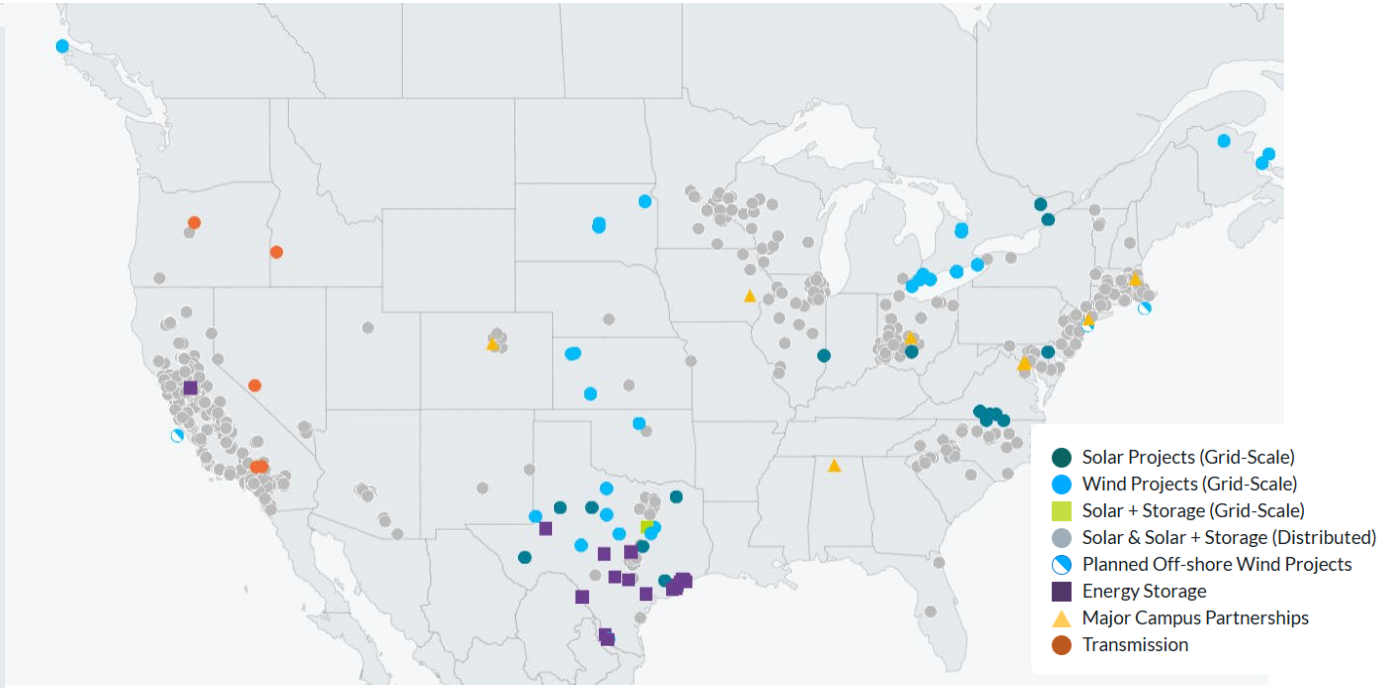
Globally		North America
~170 yrs.	Heritage	~50 yrs.
~98,000	Employees	~3,400 Including Impact
~$82B €79.8B	2024 Revenue	$5.76B Including Impact
46 GW	Renewable Capacity	~9.5 GW
4.3 GW	2024 Corporate PPAs	~1.4 GW

Data as of Dec 2024

Overview of our North America expertise, projects and scale

With a robust pipeline of growth projects ahead

- **1,000+** communities with active operations, projects or development
- **~11 GW** wind, solar, and storage assets in operation or under construction (4 GW Storage)
- **$28B** ENGIE's total investment plan in renewable projects in the US by 2030
- **45,000** commercial and industrial retail energy supply customers
- **2.2M** average U.S. homes can be powered by the renewable energy we produce



A trusted partner in our customers' journey to lower carbon

Public Sector

- K-12 schools and community colleges
- Universities
- State and local governments
- Public power utilities and aggregators
- Hospitals and medical research centers
- Federal government

Private Sector

- Retail
- Technology and datacenters
- Food and beverage
- Manufacturing
- Shipping and logistics

Engie North America BESS Sites at a Glance

25 Operating Projects / 11 Under Construction / >50 in Development

Each project is expertly delivered and operated

With a focus on…

Safety

Operational excellence

Safeguarding the environment

Cost competitiveness

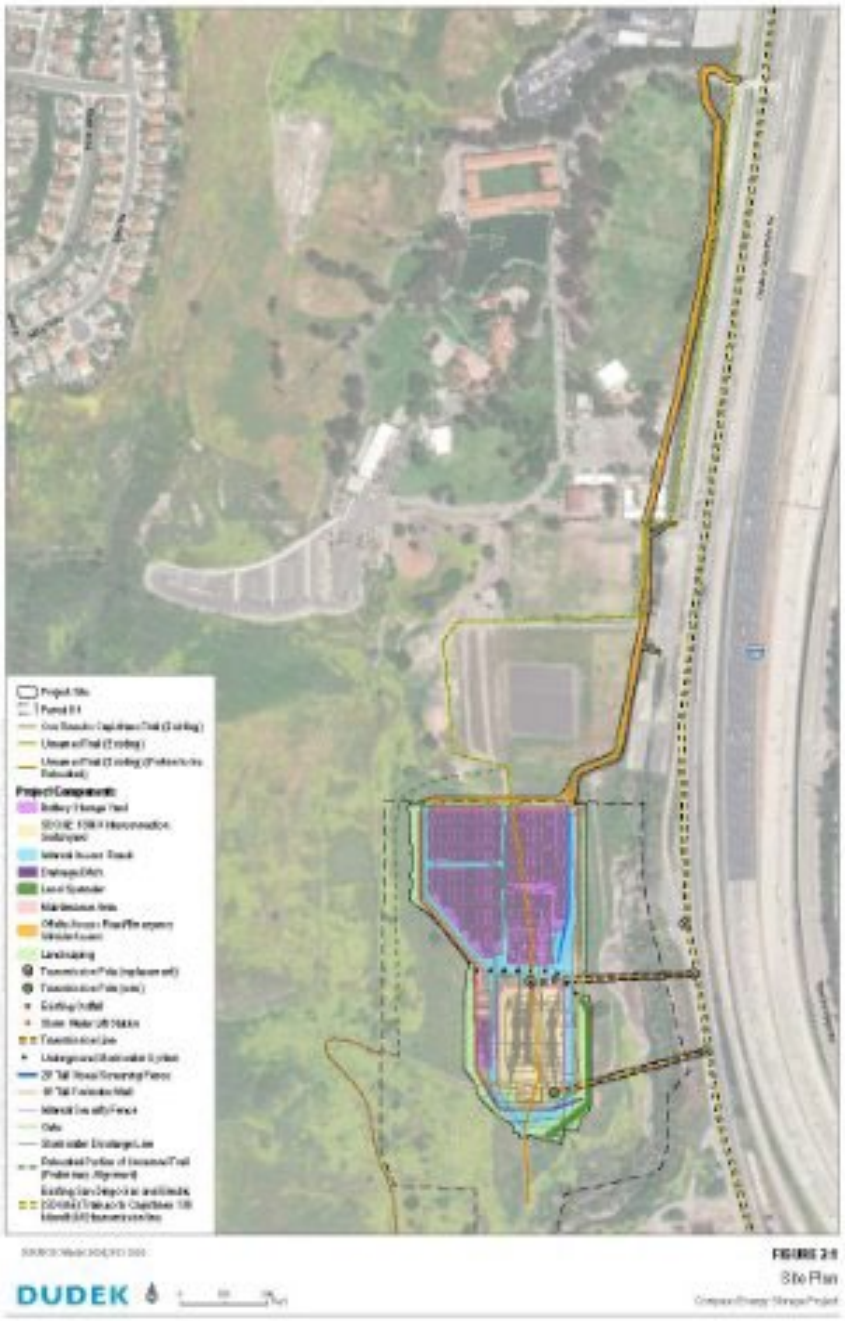
Our Safety Mindset

No life at RisK | **No mind at RisK** | **No asset at RisK**

Compass Energy Storage

About the Project

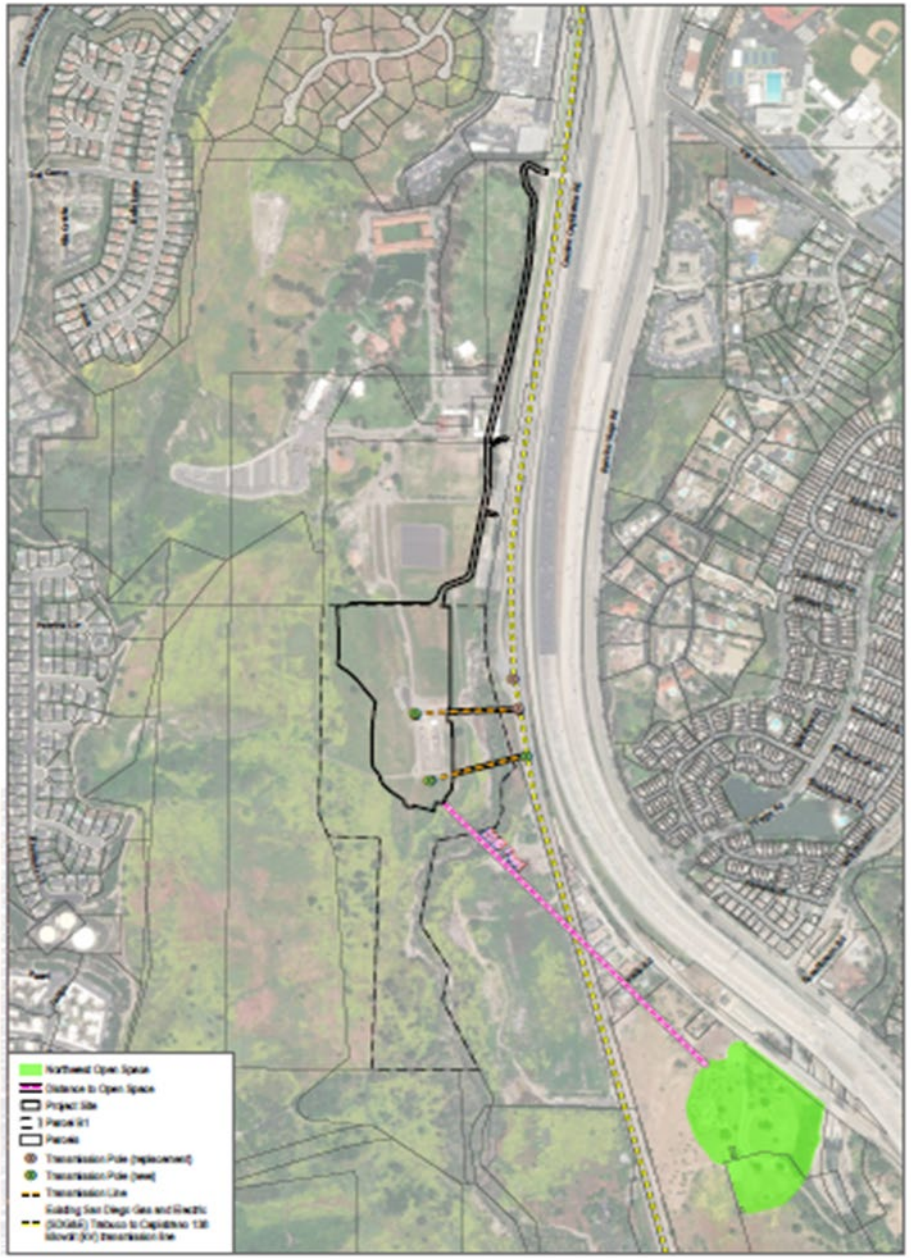
- 250-Megawatt clean energy storage project in San Juan Capistrano
- Adjacent to I-5, railroad corridor, and existing SDG&E Trabuco-Capistrano transmission line
- Will operate on 13 acres of a 41-acre parcel, preserving the remainder as open space
- Utilizes state-of-the-art Lithium-Iron-Phosphate (LFP) batteries



Project Vicinity and Open Space

- Remainer of parcel - 28 acres - will be dedicated open space with vegetation management - no potential for project expansion.

- ENGIE has contacted tribes and other stakeholders about options for the open space protection – easement or donation possible. Collaboration on vegetation management preferred.



Battery Storage

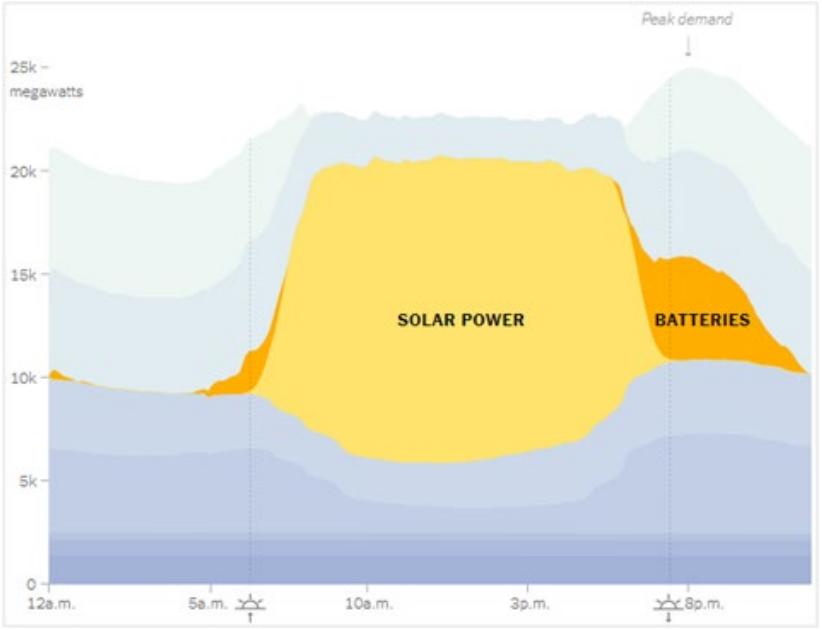
Why is it needed?

Meet energy demand growth and fill supply gap

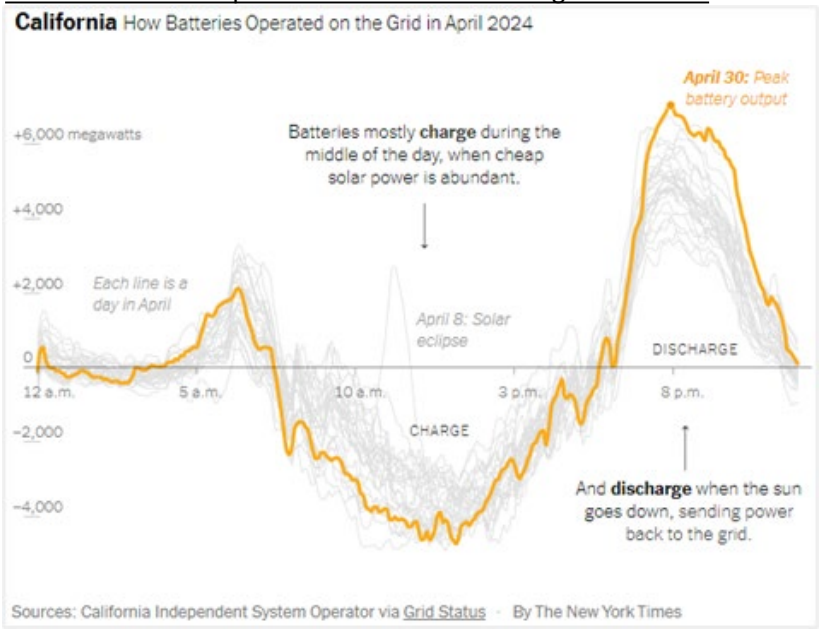
Charge when excess renewable energy is available and discharge during peak hours

Enhance grid reliability and reduce the risk of blackouts and brownouts

Reduce carbon emissions and meet sustainability goals



Batteries Shift Cheap Afternoon Solar to Evening Peak Period



California Energy Storage Systems Survey

Driving more affordable, carbon free energy

BATTERIES ARE EVERYWHERE:

3,549

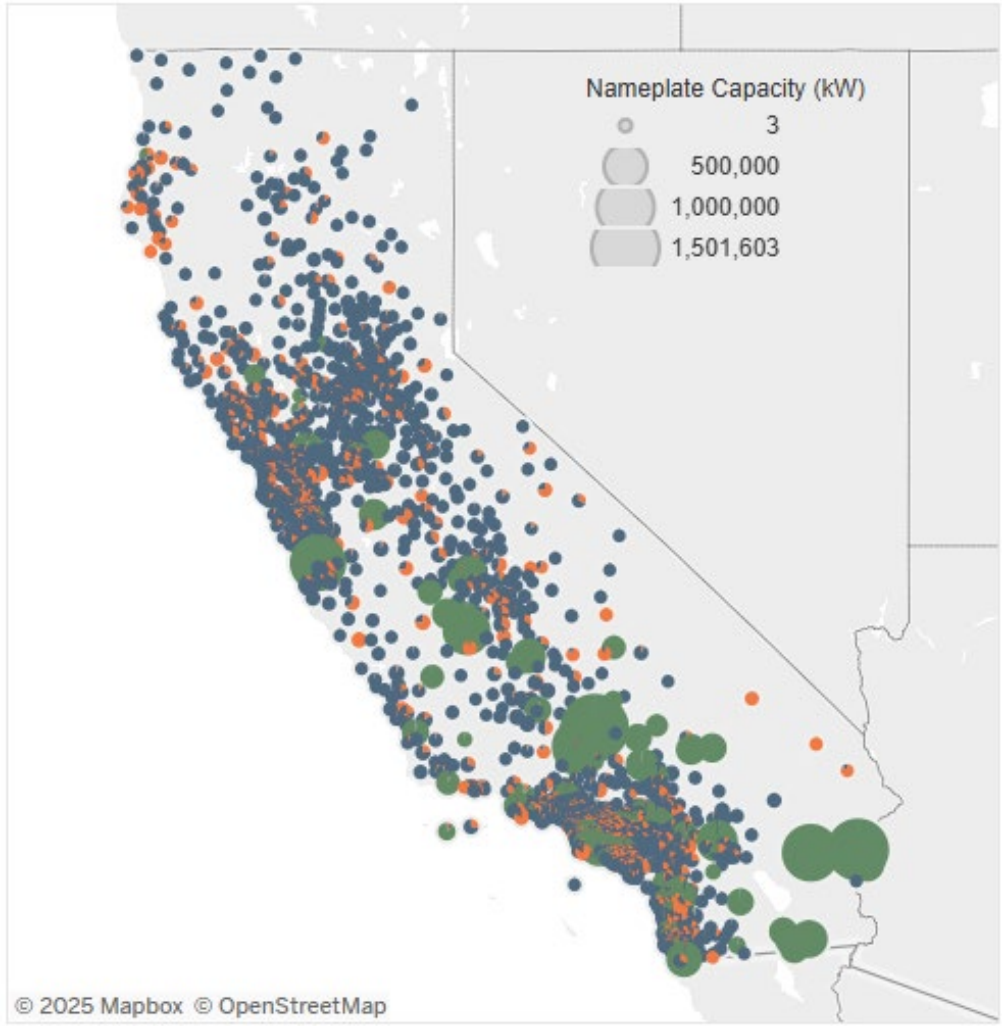
Utility/Commercial

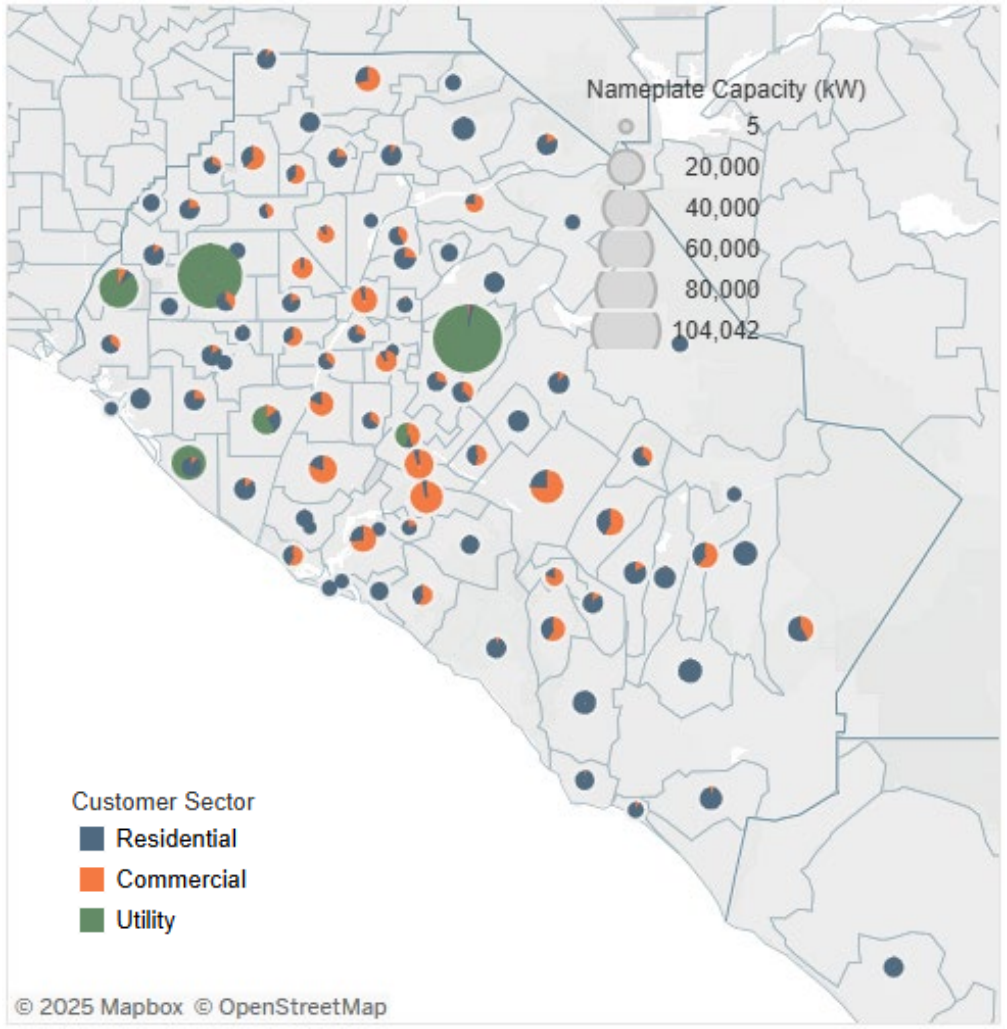
249,340

Residential

15,763

MWs





Source: CEC California Energy Storage System Survey

Why the location?

Compass Energy Storage

Many alternative sites were evaluated to utilize this transmission opportunity. Sites require minimal environmental impact, a willing seller, proximity to transmission with capacity, and the ability to comply with CAISO timelines.

SDG&E projects energy demand will double in this area by 2045

Previously disturbed land that is zoned institutional, located outside of sensitive biological habitats, and set back from sensitive receptors

Rare location on the grid that can absorb 100% of the project's energy

Existing SDG&E infrastructure to connect to grid without needing new transmission lines

Local Benefits

Compass Energy Storage

- Generates over $50 million in property tax revenues and over $9 million in sales tax revenues over 35 years
- Includes Project Labor Agreement, creating 130 construction jobs and 8 permanent Operation and Maintenance jobs
- Community benefits agreements, including $750,000 grant for scholarships and workforce development to the South Orange County Community College District
- Promotes sustainability, reduces carbon emissions, and enhances grid reliability

Community Engagement and Project Support

Compass Energy Storage

- Conducted extensive outreach to provide information and directly address concerns
- Supported by the Orange County Business Council
- Supported by the Los Angeles/Orange County Building & Construction Trades Council
- The Sierra Club has authored a supportive op-ed on the project
- Support Petition signed by nearly 400 residents from local communities and surrounding area
- Outreach has included tribes, neighborhood groups and NGOs

Regulatory Process at California Energy Commission (CEC)

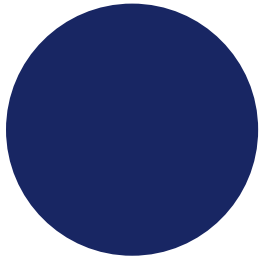
Compass Energy Storage

April 2024

Application Submitted

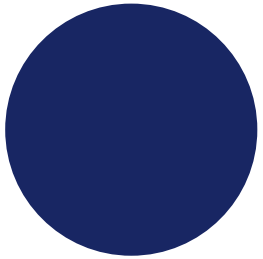
April 2025

CEC Deems Application Complete



In Progress

CEC Publishes Draft EIR (+270 Days)



Not Completed

CEC Commission Decision

Fire Safety
Compass Energy Storage

Utilizes state-of-the art Lithium-Iron-Phosphate (LFP) batteries

- Distinct from Moss Landing, Nickel-Manganese-Cobalt (NMC) and indoor facilities
- Perspective on risk

Components undergo extensive 3rd party testing for safety

- Hazard Mitigation Plan details battery chemistry and operations

Site plan designed for fire safety

- Battery Management System (BMS) for 24/7 real-time monitoring
- 10-foot non-combustible perimeter wall, vegetation management, and landscaping buffer

While extremely rare, thermal runaway incidents do not emit embers and are typically isolated to the individual battery cabinet

- Best practice is to only apply water to adjacent structures to keep equipment cool

Orange County Fire Authority Collaboration

Compass Energy Storage

Working closely with Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) on site design, Emergency Response Plan (ERP), and Fire Master Plan

OCFA is refining final ERP to ensure complete compliance with County and State standards.

ENGIE has agreed to meet and exceed any revisions and additions requested by OCFA

Air Quality
Compass Energy Storage

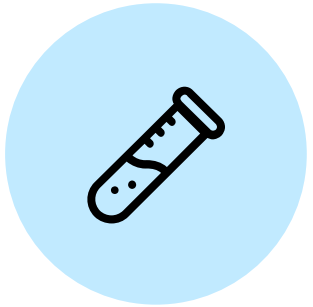
Zero emissions during operations

Application includes Air Dispersion/Plume Analysis as part of detailed Hazard Mitigation Analysis performed by national expert fire safety engineers

- Full-scale fire testing and Plume Analysis show air quality in surrounding areas would remain at safe levels, even under extreme conditions
- Any emergency emissions remain on site and offsite air quality remains at background levels – No toxic emissions offsite.
- Site plan includes air quality monitors and infrared cameras

Water Quality

Compass Energy Storage



Batteries are in solid state and placed in individually, hermetically sealed steal cabinets

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan compliant with all state and federal agencies

Vegetated stormwater retention basins that improve current drainage patterns

Underground filtration system designed for 100-year storm event to direct stormwater into existing Flood Control District storm drains

Water would not be applied on battery cabinet experiencing thermal runaway

The Environment

Compass Energy Storage

- Site is on previously disturbed, private land that is zoned institutional
- Operates emissions free
- No water needed for operations
- Outside of sensitive biological and cultural habitats
- Set back from sensitive receptors
- Completely avoids jurisdictional waters and protected open spaces
- Retains multi-use trail

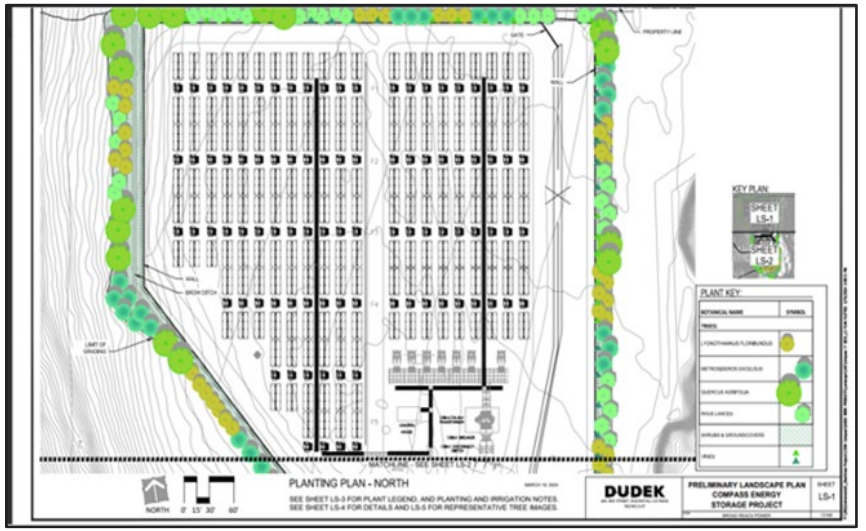
Visual Mitigation

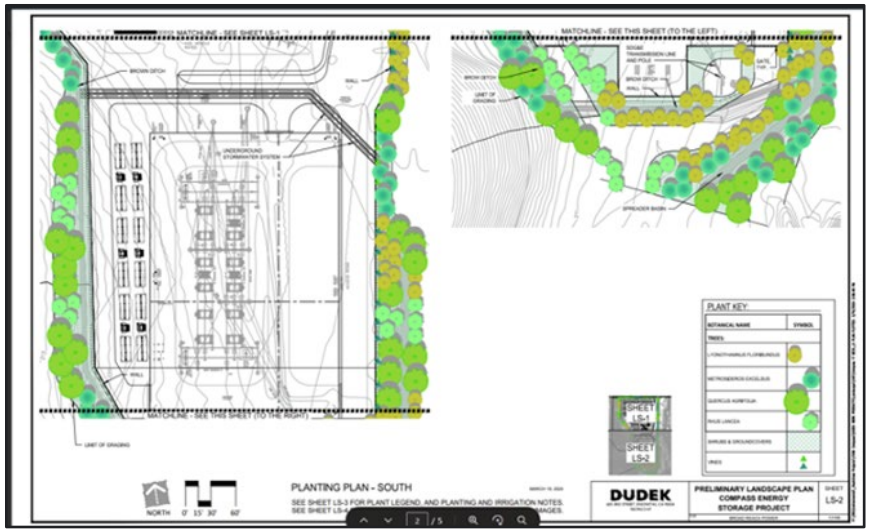
Compass Energy Storage

Extensive landscape screening to mitigate visual impacts

10-foot-tall, non-combustible, perimeter masonry wall made from natural earth tones

Landscaping buffer populated with trees, shrubs, groundcover, and vines, including native Southern California species with approval from OCFA





Visual Simulations
Compass Energy Storage

View to the northwest from Camino Capistrano with Visual Simulation of Project included

View to the southwest from Interstate 5 with Visual Simulation of Project included (approximately 10 years vegetation maturity)

FIGURE 4.13-2b

View 1: Southbound Interstate 5 (Visual Simulation 10 Year Vegetative Maturity)

Visual Resources Section - Compass Energy Storage Project

DUDEK

THANK YOU!

We are committed to ensuring the highest safety standards for this project and continued collaboration and engagement with the local community.

www.CompassEnergyStorage.com

Staff Assessment and Scope and Content of the Environmental Analysis

Presented by Renee Longman, AICP, LEED AP
CEQA Project Management Unit

What is a Staff Assessment?

- Comprehensive, independent, technical and environmental review prepared by the CEC
- Includes an EIR following the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act
- Key Staff Assessment information include:
  - Engineering Evaluation
  - Environmental Impact Assessment
  - Mandatory Opt-In Requirements
  - Environmental Justice Analysis
  - Compliance Conditions
  - Compliance Monitoring Requirements

Environmental and Engineering Impact Assessment

Environmental Evaluation
Air Quality
Biological Resources
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources
Efficiency and Energy Resources
Geology, Paleontology, and Minerals
Hazards, Hazardous Materials/Waste, and Wildfire

Noise and Vibration
Public Health
Socioeconomics
Solid Waste Management
Transmission Line Safety and Nuisance
Transportation
Visual Resources
Water Resources
Alternatives

Facility Reliability
Transmission System Engineering
Worker Safety and Fire Protection

Mandatory Opt-In Requirements

Requirements for Covered Project Under the Labor Code

Net Positive Economic Benefit to the Local Government

Legally Binding Agreement(s) for Community Benefits

Staff Assessment Purpose

- Provide objective information regarding the project's potential effects on the environment
- Identify mitigation to reduce impacts
- Describe reasonable project alternatives
- Assess the project's conformance with applicable local, state, and federal laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards
- Evaluate whether the application complies with additional licensing requirements
- Inform the CEC Commissioners' decision whether to approve the project

Staff Assessment / Next Steps

CEC prepares Staff Assessment which includes a Draft EIR

CEC publishes Staff Assessment in 150 days (with certain exceptions)

↓

CEC publishes Staff Assessment

60-day public review period | Public meeting for the Staff Assessment

↓

CEC prepares Updated Staff Assessment after public review period closes

CEC publishes Updated Staff Assessment

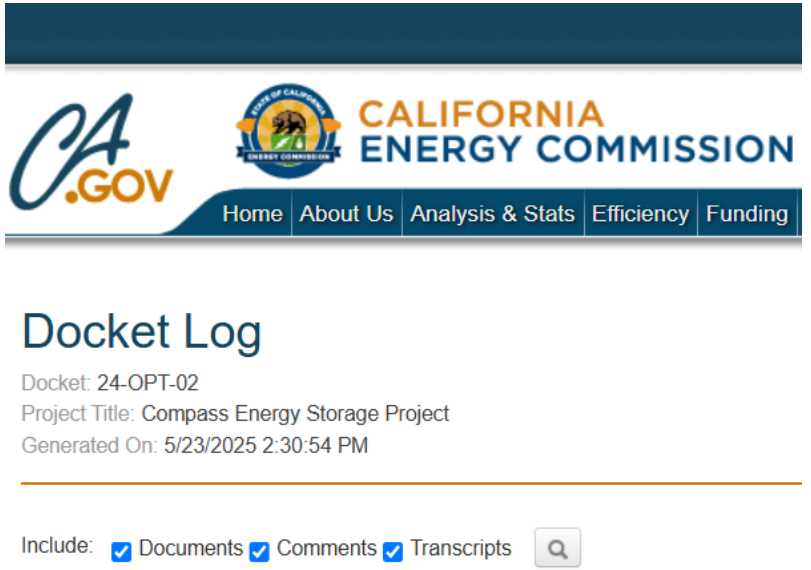
↓

Decision at noticed CEC Business Meeting

Comments Submitted by the Public

Total Comments: 1,100+

- Potential for fire/thermal runaway
- Safety of Battery Energy Storage Facilities
- Aesthetics
- Project Location
  - Near residential neighborhoods & schools
  - Undeveloped hillsides/vegetation
  - Near I-5 and rail corridor
  - Near creeks that drain to the ocean
  - Evacuation in case of an emergency



Recent Battery Energy Storage System Incidents Raised by the Public

Vistra Moss Landing Energy Storage Facility, Phase 1

Capacity: 300 MW, up to 1,200 MWh

Chemistry: Nickel, Manganese, Cobalt Lithium-Ion

Housed: In a refurbished concrete building

Source: Vistra.

Recent Battery Energy Storage System Incidents Raised by the Public – Continued

Gateway Energy Storage Facility

Capacity: 250 MW, up to 1,000 MWh

Chemistry: Nickel, Manganese, Cobalt Lithium-Ion

Housed: In a building

Source: cbcsteelbuildings.com

Evolving Strategies for Battery Safety

Older Units Indoors

Source: LS Power (top). Vistra (bottom).

New Units Outdoors

Source: Genex (top). Arevon Asset Management (bottom).

Battery Systems Certified By CEC

Henrietta BESS

Kings County

Border BESS

City of San Diego

Russell City Energy Center BESS

City of Hayward

Marsh Landing BESS

Contra Costa County

Stanton Energy Reliability Center BESS

Orange County

Sentinel Energy Center BESS

Riverside County

Safety Analysis

Presented by Dr. Alvin Greenberg
Risk Science Associates

Risk Assessment and Management

- Identify potential hazards
- Assess probability and impacts
- Recommend measures to mitigate risks/impacts

CEC Safety Evaluations

CEC will be evaluating projects against these latest BESS safety standards

Installation Safety Standard

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards for Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems

CEC staff requirements:

- Be **NFPA 855 Code** compliant

UL Safety Standards

UL Solutions 9540-A
Test Method for Evaluating Thermal Runaway

CEC staff requirements:

- Be certified to the latest edition of the **UL 9540 Standard and to UL 1973**

State Fire Safety Code

California Fire Code Chapter 12
Fire Safety Requirements for Stationary Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems

CEC staff requirements:

- Apply the Fire Code provisions of Chapter 12

Operation and Maintenance Standards

California Public Utilities Commission
General Order 167-C

CEC staff requirements:

- Review and ensure that the project follows the operation and maintenance requirements of GO 167-C

Possible Mitigation Requirements

- Deflagration panels
- Thermal infrared cameras
- Construction and operations & maintenance fire protection program
- Command and control center
- Real-time environmental air monitoring
- Partnerships for enhanced safety

California Battery Energy Safety Collaborative

MISSION

ADVANCE BATTERY SAFETY AND RELIABILITY

Office of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity, and Tribal Affairs

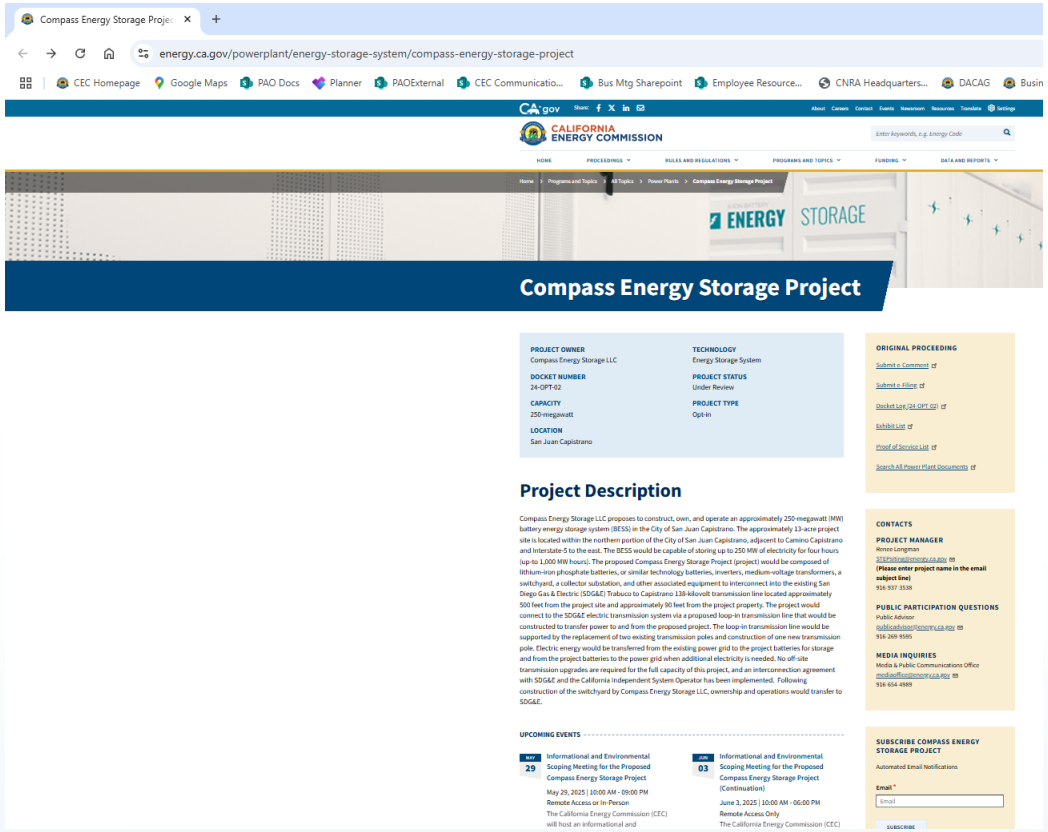
Office of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity and Tribal Affairs

Advise and support the CEC, stakeholders, California Native American tribes, and interested members of the public in meaningful engagement and participation in CEC programs, policies, and energy equity efforts.

Multiple Ways to Participate

1. Follow
2. Comment
3. Tribal Consultation

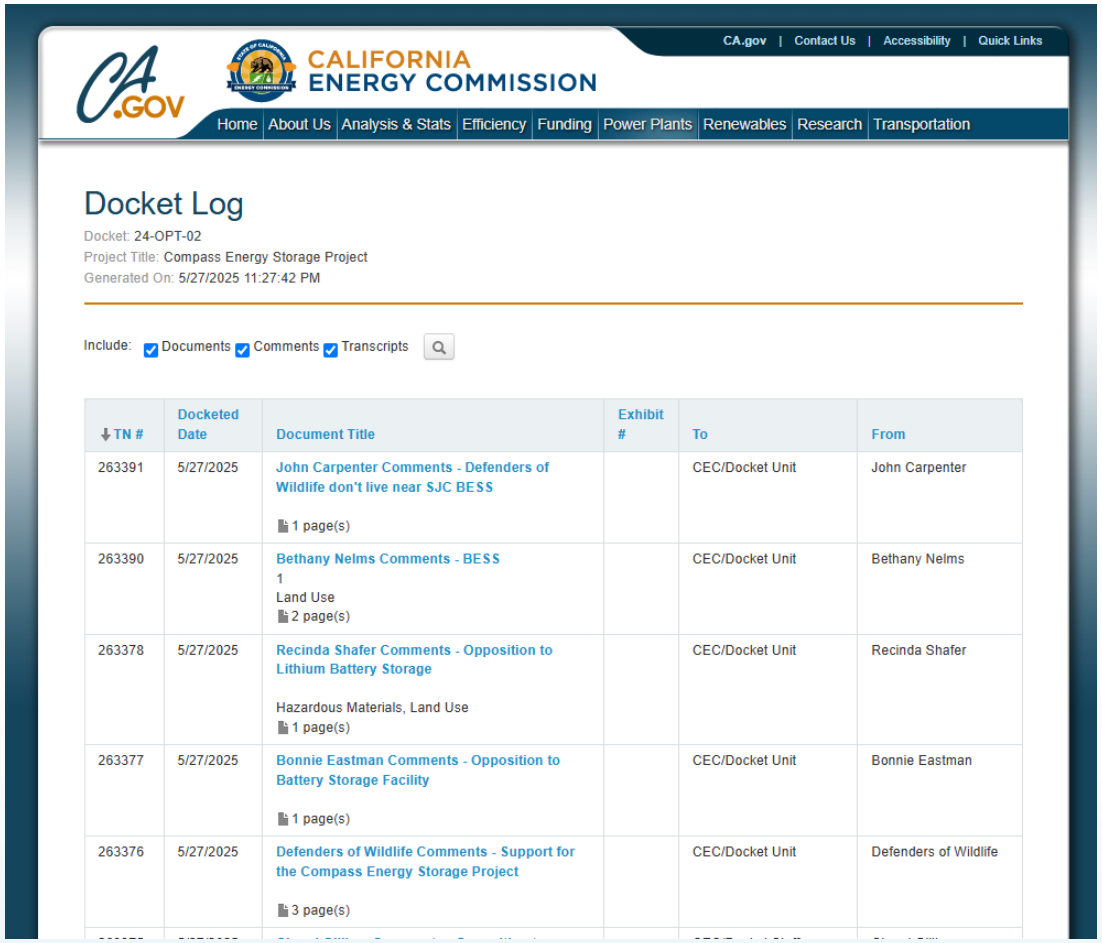
Follow Via Web, Email, and Events



- Project and event information
- Comment
- Sign up for email updates
- Link for project docket
- More

https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/energy-storage-system/compass-energy-storage-project

Project Docket



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Docket Log

Docket: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project
Generated On: 5/27/2025 11:27:42 PM

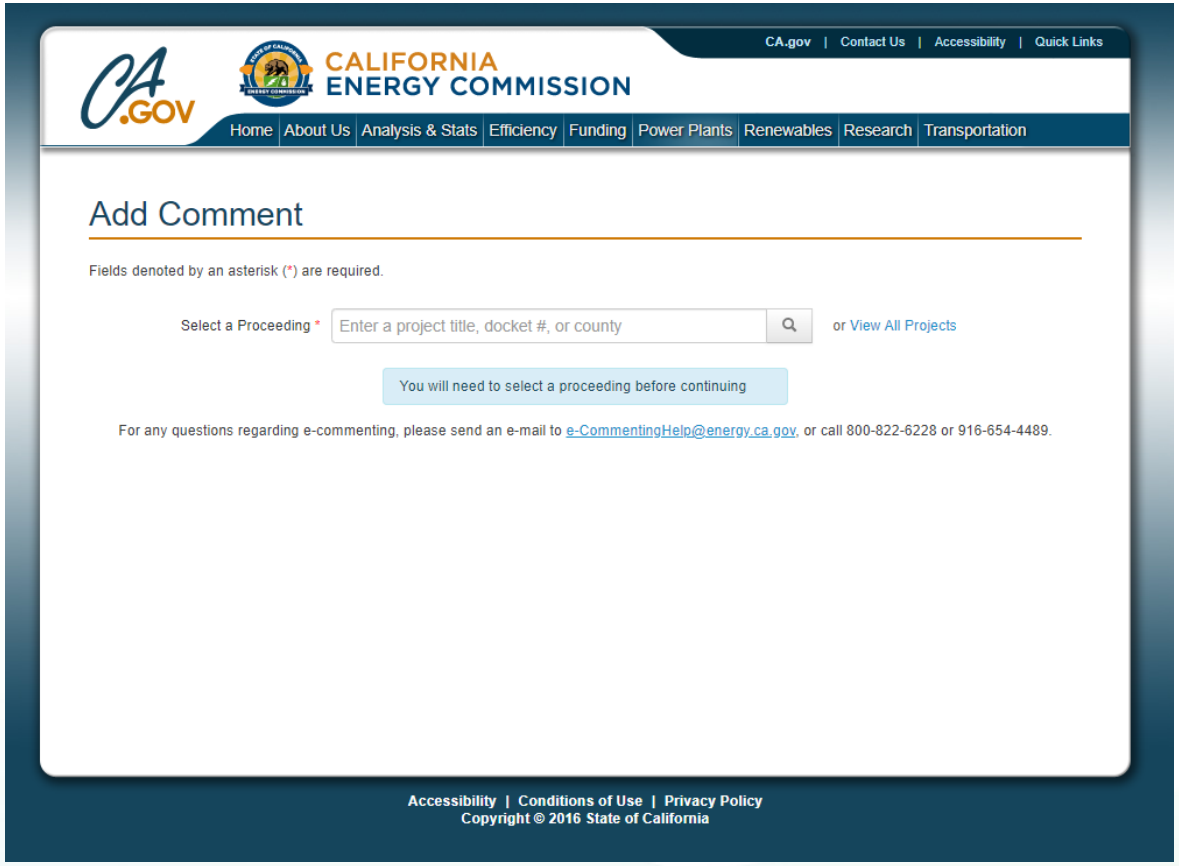
Include: Documents Comments Transcripts

TN #	Docketed Date	Document Title	Exhibit #	To	From
263391	5/27/2025	John Carpenter Comments - Defenders of Wildlife don't live near SJC BESS 1 page(s)		CEC/Docket Unit	John Carpenter
263390	5/27/2025	Bethany Nelms Comments - BESS 1 Land Use 2 page(s)		CEC/Docket Unit	Bethany Nelms
263378	5/27/2025	Recinda Shafer Comments - Opposition to Lithium Battery Storage Hazardous Materials, Land Use 1 page(s)		CEC/Docket Unit	Recinda Shafer
263377	5/27/2025	Bonnie Eastman Comments - Opposition to Battery Storage Facility 1 page(s)		CEC/Docket Unit	Bonnie Eastman
263376	5/27/2025	Defenders of Wildlife Comments - Support for the Compass Energy Storage Project 3 page(s)		CEC/Docket Unit	Defenders of Wildlife

Visit Docket 24-OPT-02 for free 24/7 access to project documents

https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-02

Verbal and Written Comments



https://www.energy.ca.gov/events

https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/ECommentSelectProceeding.aspx

Tribal Consultation

The CEC invites consultation in this and other opt-in proceedings with California Native American tribes.

Contact: Gabriel Roark, Assistant Tribal Liaison
Gabriel.Roark@energy.ca.gov (916) 237-2544

Thank You

Email

publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov

Phone

(916) 269-9595

Online

https://www.energy.ca.gov/about/divisions-and-offices/office-public-advisor

Government Comment

California Native American tribes

Government Agencies

Elected Officials

LUNCH BREAK

Please return at

AGENDA

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- **Adjourn**

Public Comment

Public Comment

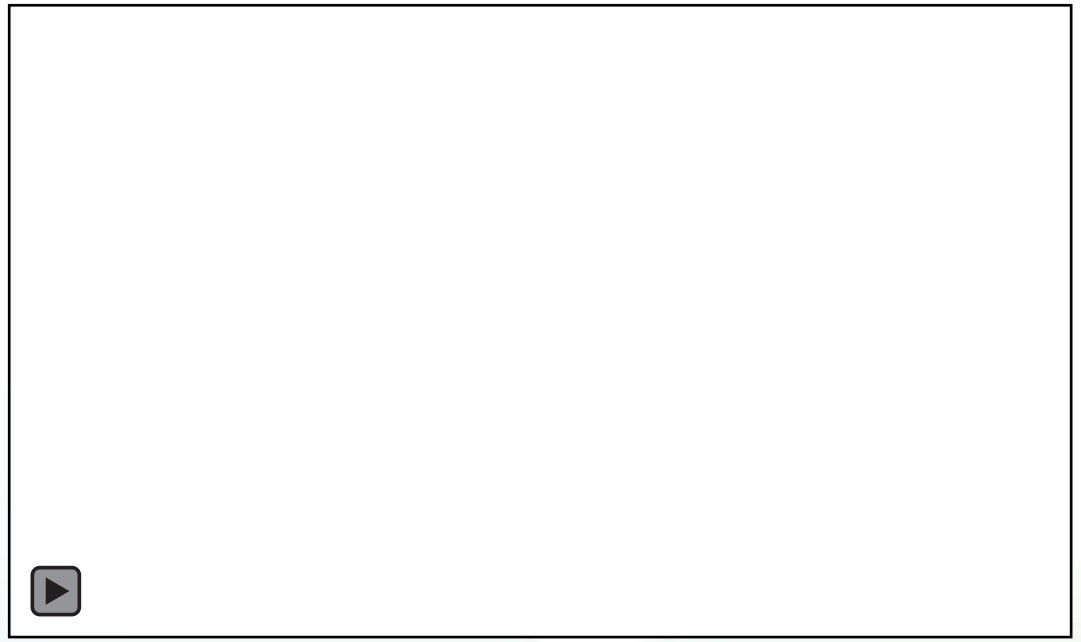
Instruction
- 2 minutes or less per person
- 1 representative per organization

Zoom App/Online
- Click “raise hand”

Telephone
- Press *9 to raise hand
- Press *6 to mute and unmute

When called upon
- CEC staff will open your line
- Unmute, spell name and state affiliation, if any

2-MINUTE TIMER



Timer

BREAK

Please return at

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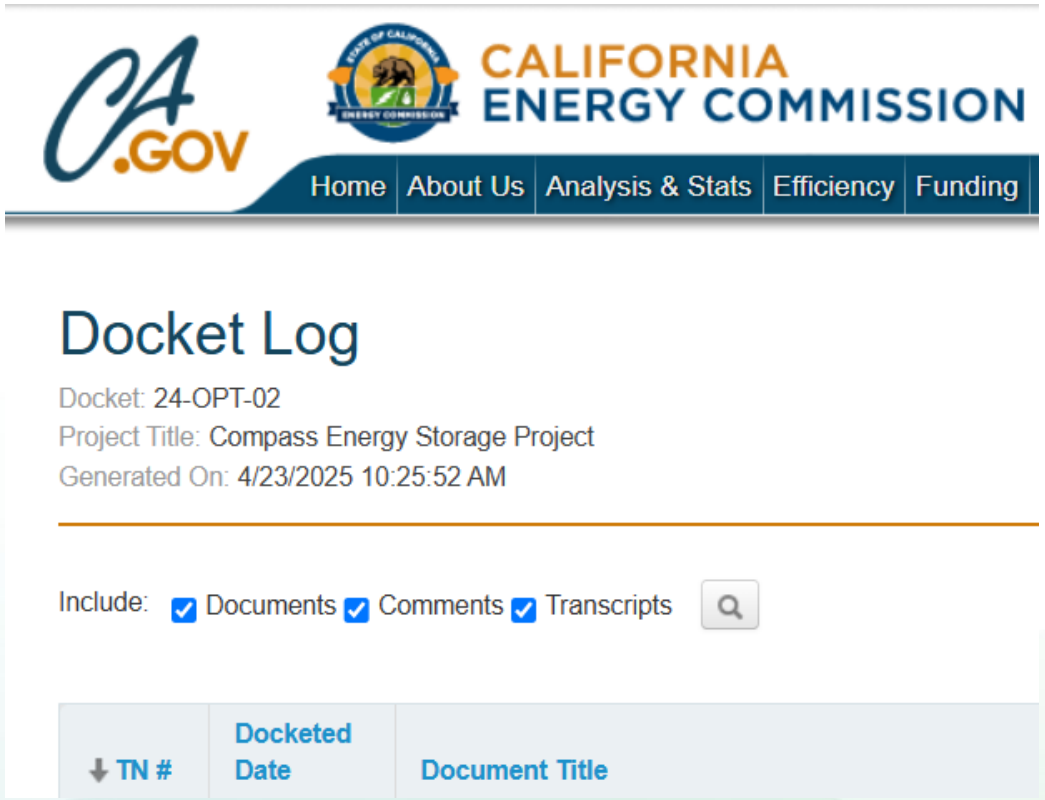
Comments Due

June 4, 2025, on the Notice of Preparation and Scope and Content of the EIR

Methods to Submit

1. Submit e-comments to project's docket, accessible at:
   https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-02
2. Email comments to: docket@energy.ca.gov*
   **Please include "24-OPT-02 and Compass Energy Storage Project NOP Comments" in subject line*
3. Send via U.S. mail, postmarked by June 4, 2025, to:

   Re: Compass Energy Storage Project
   California Energy Commission
   715 P Street, MS 40
   Sacramento, CA 95814



Next Steps

Activity	Timeframe
Host Follow-Up Remote-Only Meeting for Public Comment	**June 3, 2025**
Close Public Comment Period on the Notice of Preparation	June 4, 2025
Publish Staff Assessment**	Fall 2025

**These Deadlines are subject to any substantial changes made to the project or certain other events occurring after an application is deemed complete.

Thank You

Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

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