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<b>Project Title:</b>	Compass Energy Storage Project
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*Comment Received From: Dianna Stark*  
*Submitted On: 6/3/2025*  
*Docket Number: 24-OPT-02*

## **Opposition to Compass Energy Storage Project**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

**From:** [Dianna Stark](#)  
**To:** [Energy - Docket Optical System](#)  
**Subject:** Docket number 24-OPT-02 and Compass Energy Storage Project  
**Date:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 1:51:29 PM

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Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a local homeowner whose property will be impacted by this facility and I also run a business not far from the proposed battery site. I would like to start by pointing out that these meetings regarding the proposed battery project in SJC are taking place during weekday, working hours. Because of this, I can guarantee that you have seen and heard from considerably *less* people than you would have if you had these meetings at night after work, or on the weekends. The majority of the people in this area are working full time to pay for their homes, the value of which you are about to destroy. They cannot take time off to attend. Perhaps that was purposeful. There has also been a dearth of coverage on this issue and many people do not know anything about it. Again, perhaps this is purposeful.

These BESS facilities are a known fire risk. There have been *at least* 10 facility fires in California alone since 2021. Once they catch fire, they cannot be put out. Once they catch fire, the toxic fumes and smoke require closures and evacuations for undetermined amounts of time. You are talking about putting one of these on top of thousands of homes that are already at risk of being uninsurable due to fire risk. What will happen to these home owners when they cannot insure their properties? Uninsured though no fault of our own while sitting on top of a fire time bomb. Many of the people in this area have saved their whole lives to buy a home which will be rendered valueless if sitting on top of this hazard.

Who provides that bailout when a site failure occurs? The state? Compass Energy? Or will the cost of failure fall onto our families? I think we all know it will fall onto our families.

The facility will also be sitting adjacent to both Section 8 Housing and over 55 communities. Both of these populations would require special assistance in the event of a facility failure which nobody is set up for. This would inevitably result in loss of life of the elderly, the disabled and other marginalized community members. This is environmental racism and these communities do not have the resources to manage this. The state and this company should feel shame at the very thought of placing this facility in this location.

The facility will sit on top of several schools that will have to get evacuated and then close for an undetermined amount of time. You are putting children's lives and well-being at risk.

The main transportation corridor in the region, both rail and motorway will have to get evacuated and then close for an undetermined amount of time causing potential loss of life and catastrophic financial loss, not just for the people, but for the state. That is not hyperbole.

This facility will kill wildlife and increase pollution. Its presence will poison the land for decades to come. Nobody has any information on the long term impact on health and

environment from these facilities even if they do not burn. When it does burn, you will have a small Chernobyl on your hands, in the middle of one of the busiest spots of Southern California.

Your argument is that you have fire safety in place and that this “should not happen” but we all know this is a specious argument. There is also an attempt to develop this facility without local oversight. Why would that be unless someone were trying to cut corners or break rules? You can put your facility further away from homes and businesses but it costs a little more to run the lines. So, in order to save you money in the short term you are putting lives, homes and businesses at risk for your profit. This is short sighted and will ultimately cause everyone to lose, potentially everything.

I strongly oppose this BESS facility here in San Juan Capistrano and Laguna Niguel, or anywhere near homes and businesses. California prides itself on being, for the people. California Energy Commission, please, please do your job. Protect us. Please do not allow the development of this dangerous facility in our backyards.

Sincerely,

Dianna Stark  
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677