

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	24-OPT-02
Project Title:	Compass Energy Storage Project
TN #:	263802
Document Title:	Joshua Kalmonson Comments - Compass Energy Storage Project - OPPOSE
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Joshua Kalmonson
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	6/3/2025 3:15:44 PM
Docketed Date:	6/3/2025

*Comment Received From: Joshua Kalmonson
Submitted On: 6/3/2025
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02*

Compass Energy Storage Project - OPPOSE

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the proposed battery storage facility located on the old Saddleback Church site on Camino Capistrano. As a lifelong resident of Laguna Niguel and a firefighter, I am deeply concerned about the significant risks this facility poses to the safety of our community, particularly regarding fire hazards.

Having witnessed firsthand the devastation of recent fires in California, including the Palisades, Eaton, and Coastal Fires, I am particularly alarmed that this facility is being proposed in an area with dry brush and steep hillsides, which directly lead to the homes in my neighborhood. The potential for an uncontrolled fire igniting at this facility could have catastrophic consequences for local residents, especially given the proximity to homes. As a firefighter, I am acutely aware of the risks posed by energy storage systems, which, if not properly managed, can be a serious fire hazard, especially in areas like ours that are prone to dry conditions and high winds.

Additionally, I am concerned about the long-term financial impacts this facility may have on homeowners in the area. It is highly likely that insurance companies will raise premiums or even cancel coverage altogether for homeowners living near this proposed facility. This will place an undue financial burden on residents, who will be left to shoulder the risks imposed by this facility, which seems to be driven more by corporate interests than genuine concern for the safety and well-being of our community.

While I recognize the need for sustainable energy solutions, this facility's location, combined with its fire risk and potential for negative consequences, is not appropriate. The safety of the residents of Laguna Niguel should be prioritized over profit-driven motives, and I urge the California Energy Commission to reconsider the approval of this project.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I respectfully request that you carefully review the potential risks to public safety and property before moving forward with this project. I trust you will take the necessary steps to ensure that the needs and well-being of the residents of Laguna Niguel are given the utmost priority.

Sincerely,
Josh Kalmonson
Fair Elms
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677