

DOCKETED	
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Docket Number:	24-OPT-02
Project Title:	Compass Energy Storage Project
TN #:	264036
Document Title:	Comments in Opposition of the Compass Energy Project
Description:	Amanda Q., BLESSIN, Michael & Danice Terry, Kiddos Consignment, Mary Ann Tucker, Dinah Roitz, Patty Nemeth & Shohreh Hejazi
Filer:	Marianna Brewer
Organization:	Amanda Q., BLESSIN, Michael & Danice Terry, Kiddos Consignment, Mary Ann Tucker, Dinah Roitz, Patty Nemeth & Shohreh Hejazi
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	6/5/2025 2:24:13 PM
Docketed Date:	6/2/2025

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Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	6/5/2025 2:22:56 PM
Docketed Date:	6/2/2025

From:

Subject: DENY Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02).

Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 3:41:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

My name is Amanda Quintanilla and I have been a resident of Southern Orange County for over 50 years and I am a local activist for years. When looking at the California Energy Commission docket log, not all the public comments have been posted from the people who spoke at the May 29th meeting such as Assemblywoman Diane Dixon, Assemblywoman Laurie Davies, Max Werner rep for Senator Strickland, Former Mayor of San Clemente, Chris Hamm & President of Orange County Professional Firefighters, and others such as Laura Smith. I hope that this could be a transparent process and please include all of the public comments.

The public was informed that the California Energy Commission was going to be accepting public comments until 6 pm. Limiting the time and limiting public comments to only those who have not spoken before is a suppression of the free speech rights that are protected under the First Amendment.

I am in strong opposition to the Compass Energy Storage project in San Juan Capistrano. When listening to some of the public comments about placing a Battery Farm at San Onofre because they have energy lines, it is horrific.

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, SONGS, is a decommissioned nuclear power plant, but it still stores more

than 3.5 million pounds of nuclear waste in steel canisters surrounded by concrete. The plant was shut down in 2013 due to a small leak of radioactive steam, and its owner, Southern California Edison. They have been dismantling it in recent years.

The main cause of battery farm fires is thermal runaway, which is a chain reaction of overheating and self-ignition that can spread rapidly among battery cells. Thermal runaway can be triggered by various factors, such as internal cell defects, external short circuits, mechanical damage, overcharging, overheating or poor ventilation. Once thermal runaway starts, it can be very difficult to stop or contain. The high temperatures and pressures generated by the burning batteries can cause explosions and release flammable and toxic gases. Exposure to Hydrogen fluoride is lethal if inhaled and causes irreversible health effects after an hour of exposure.

Thermal Runaway can cause explosions at SONGS where they store more than 3.5 million pounds of nuclear waste and this would be like a Chernobyl, which was an explosion and it would be catastrophic.

In addition, please do not include the Prima Deshecha Landfill site since there are plans to expand this landfill in 2023 and that is currently under review. More importantly, the landfill site abuts the City of San Clemente Open Spaces and mitigated lands, which have conservation easements. Not to mention our open spaces are protected.

According to a SC Times article, [San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano Comment on Expansion of Nearby Landfill](#), "The

cities of San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano—both of which neighbor the Prima Deshecha Landfill—voiced their perspectives on the landfill's upcoming expansion late last week by submitting letters to Orange County Waste & Recycling (OCWR), the facility's owner and operator.

San Clemente expressed concerns related to impacts on air quality, hazardous materials, noise and more; San Juan Capistrano mentioned fire protection services, impacts to cultural resources significant to local Native American tribes, and traffic.

Both cities broached overlapping topics and requested to be included in the phases of the expansion to come.

"Given the project's proximity to (Forster Ranch and Talega) there is increased interest concerning the potential for these impacts to affect residents in these areas," wrote Dave Rebensdorf, San Clemente utilities director."

Locations for Compass Energy Storage facility in San Juan Capistrano or at San Onofre, and the Prima Deshecha landfill will have detrimental effects. Finding another location is not an option.

DENY the Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02).

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Quintanilla

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

As a concerned resident of the City of San Juan Capistrano, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) facility. The project applicant, Compass Energy Storage LLC, is proposing to construct, own, and operate an approximately 250-megawatt BESS facility on a 13-acre project site along the northern portion of the City of San Juan Capistrano immediately adjacent to the eastern border of Laguna Niguel. The project site, which is less than 1,500 feet from several residential neighborhoods in Laguna Niguel, is confined within a designated general open space hillside surrounded by native plants and significant vegetation, brush, and two recreational nature trails. This close proximity to residential areas heightens the potential risk to the community. Our community has organized meetings, hosted a meeting to view the proposed site with government officials from the County of Orange, Laguna Niguel, and San Juan Capistrano, received television news coverage, started submitting letters and comment submissions to the California Energy Commission emphasizing our united opposition.

The proposed location of Compass Energy Storage's project site poses significant and immediate wildfire risks. The BESS facility would be composed of lithium-iron phosphate batteries, which can be incredibly dangerous if they overheat, causing the battery to catch fire. Lithium battery fires burn hotter and faster than other fires and cannot be easily extinguished. Lithium batteries can reignite twenty-one (21) days after extinguishing the fire, presenting a long-lasting and persistent threat. Should the lithium batteries overheat and catch fire, the proposed project site's natural vegetation, steep terrain and surrounding landscape pose a significant and immediate fire threat.

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I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to carefully and fully consider these adverse fire, economic, environmental, and public safety risks as they evaluate Compass Energy Storage's proposed project. The health and safety of California residents should always take precedence over any potential benefits proposed by this project. I respectfully request that the California Energy Commission reject this project application and unequivocally prioritize public safety and community quality of life.

Sincerely,

Shirley Lee

Date:

Email address:

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ *shirleylee@gmail.com*

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

SJC CA 926.75

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

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Sincerely,

Susan Wernet

Date:

6/1/25

Email address:

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SJC CA 92675

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

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Sincerely,

Edwin Fox

Date: 5/31/25

Email address:

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXX

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

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Sincerely,

Karen Fox

Date:

5/31/25

Email address: _____

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXX

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675

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Sincerely,

Steve Franko

Date:

May 31, 2025

Email address:

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ # B 236

Laguna Niguel CA 92677

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
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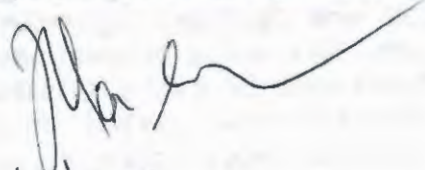
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Sincerely,



Date:

6/1/25

Email address:

~~maureen.lieberman@ca.nerc.com~~ XXXXXXXX@ca.nerc.com

Maureen Lieberman

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

San Juan Capistrano Ca 92675

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

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Sincerely,

Laura Ferraro K.D. Felato

Date: 6-1-25

Email address:

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX DE.
LAUNA NIWER, CT. 92677

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I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to carefully and fully consider these adverse fire, economic, environmental, and public safety risks as they evaluate Compass Energy Storage's proposed project. The health and safety of California residents should always take precedence over any potential benefits proposed by this project. I respectfully request that the California Energy Commission reject this project application and unequivocally prioritize public safety and community quality of life.

Sincerely,

Ravi Norak

Date:

6/1/25

Email address:

XXXXXXXXXXXX@att.net

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

*27017 Paseo Alameda
SJC, CA 92675*

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

As a concerned resident of the City of San Juan Capistrano, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) facility. The project applicant, Compass Energy Storage LLC, is proposing to construct, own, and operate an approximately 250-megawatt BESS facility on a 13-acre project site along the northern portion of the City of San Juan Capistrano immediately adjacent to the eastern border of Laguna Niguel. The project site, which is less than 1,500 feet from several residential neighborhoods in Laguna Niguel, is confined within a designated general open space hillside surrounded by native plants and significant vegetation, brush, and two recreational nature trails. This close proximity to residential areas heightens the potential risk to the community. Our community has organized meetings, hosted a meeting to view the proposed site with government officials from the County of Orange, Laguna Niguel, and San Juan Capistrano, received television news coverage, started submitting letters and comment submissions to the California Energy Commission emphasizing our united opposition.

The proposed location of Compass Energy Storage's project site poses significant and immediate wildfire risks. The BESS facility would be composed of lithium-iron phosphate batteries, which can be incredibly dangerous if they overheat, causing the battery to catch fire. Lithium battery fires burn hotter and faster than other fires and cannot be easily extinguished. Lithium batteries can reignite twenty-one (21) days after extinguishing the fire, presenting a long-lasting and persistent threat. Should the lithium batteries overheat and catch fire, the proposed project site's natural vegetation, steep terrain and surrounding landscape pose a significant and immediate fire threat.

In the past ten years, there have been twenty-three (23) wildfires within a five-mile radius of the proposed project site. Given the nature of lithium battery fires, firefighters are forced to take a containment approach. Should a fire break containment, all nearby homes and businesses would be in immediate fire danger. The imminent fire risk posed by the BESS facility threatens residents' safety and further exacerbates the state's homeowner's insurance crisis, making it even more difficult for residents to obtain adequate homeowner's insurance policies, compounding the already dire situation.

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Sincerely,

Date:

5/31/25

Email address:

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX SSC, CA 92678
ALEX Zaldivar

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

As a concerned resident of the City of San Juan Capistrano, ^{Capistrano} I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) facility. The project applicant, Compass Energy Storage LLC, is proposing to construct, own, and operate an approximately 250-megawatt BESS facility on a 13-acre project site along the northern portion of the City of San Juan Capistrano immediately adjacent to the eastern border of Laguna Niguel. The project site, which is less than 1,500 feet from several residential neighborhoods in Laguna Niguel, is confined within a designated general open space hillside surrounded by native plants and significant vegetation, brush, and two recreational nature trails. This close proximity to residential areas heightens the potential risk to the community. Our community has organized meetings, hosted a meeting to view the proposed site with government officials from the County of Orange, Laguna Niguel, and San Juan Capistrano, received television news coverage, started submitting letters and comment submissions to the California Energy Commission emphasizing our united opposition.

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I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to carefully and fully consider these adverse fire, economic, environmental, and public safety risks as they evaluate Compass Energy Storage's proposed project. The health and safety of California residents should always take precedence over any potential benefits proposed by this project. I respectfully request that the California Energy Commission reject this project application and unequivocally prioritize public safety and community quality of life.

Sincerely,

Date:

Email address:

Karen J. Zaldivar

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SJC, 92675

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

As a concerned resident of the City of San Juan Capistrano, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) facility. The project applicant, Compass Energy Storage LLC, is proposing to construct, own, and operate an approximately 250-megawatt BESS facility on a 13-acre project site along the northern portion of the City of San Juan Capistrano immediately adjacent to the eastern border of Laguna Niguel. The project site, which is less than 1,500 feet from several residential neighborhoods in Laguna Niguel, is confined within a designated general open space hillside surrounded by native plants and significant vegetation, brush, and two recreational nature trails. This close proximity to residential areas heightens the potential risk to the community. Our community has organized meetings, hosted a meeting to view the proposed site with government officials from the County of Orange, Laguna Niguel, and San Juan Capistrano, received television news coverage, started submitting letters and comment submissions to the California Energy Commission emphasizing our united opposition.

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Sincerely,

Chargu Rahm

Date: *5/29/2025*

Email address: _____

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

*88525 PMS 801211A
SAN JUAN Capistrano, CA 92675*

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

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Sincerely,

J. Quercia

Date:

8/31/2025

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
San Juan Capistrano, CA
92675

Email address: _____

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

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Sincerely,

Rouven Lloyd

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

Date:

5/31/2025

Email address: _____

California Energy Commission
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02
Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

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Sincerely,

Karen Rahn

Date: *5/29/2025*

Email address: _____

address:

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

*San Juan Capistrano, CA
92675*

From:

Subject: 24-OPT-02 and Compass Storage Project NOP Comments

Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 3:09:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

We are opposed to this project in our community. We have 10 grandchildren and we live across the street from several schools. This is too close to homes, schools and the famous downtown area, including the beloved Mission.

Michael and Darice Terry

From:

Subject: Please do not approve the battery facility

Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 11:40:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

California Energy Commission

Docket Number: 24-OPT-02

Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

As a concerned resident of San Juan Capistrano, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) facility. The project applicant, Compass Energy Storage LLC, is proposing to construct, own, and operate an approximately 250-megawatt BESS facility on a 13-acre project site along the northern portion of the City of San Juan Capistrano immediately adjacent to the eastern border of Laguna Niguel. The project site, which is less than 1,500 feet from several residential neighborhoods in Laguna Niguel, is confined within a designated general open space hillside surrounded by native plants and significant vegetation, brush, and two recreational nature trails. This close proximity to residential areas heightens the potential risk to the community. Our community has been demonstrating our united opposition.

The proposed location of Compass Energy Storage's project site poses significant and immediate wildfire risks. The BESS facility would be composed of lithium-iron phosphate batteries, which can be incredibly dangerous if they overheat, causing the battery to catch fire. Lithium battery fires burn hotter and faster than other fires and cannot be easily extinguished. Lithium batteries can reignite twenty-one (21) days after extinguishing the fire, presenting a long-lasting and persistent threat. Should the lithium batteries overheat and catch fire, the proposed project site's natural vegetation, steep terrain and surrounding landscape pose a significant and immediate fire threat.

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I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to carefully and fully consider these adverse fire, economic, environmental, and public safety risks as they evaluate Compass Energy Storage's proposed project. The health and safety of California residents should always take precedence over any potential benefits proposed by this project. I respectfully request that the California Energy Commission reject this project application.

--

Best,
Kristina

KiddosConsignment.com



Follow Us [@kiddosinoc](https://www.instagram.com/kiddosinoc)

RE: Opposition to the Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed siting of the Compass Energy Storage Project in San Juan Capistrano, on land currently owned by Saddleback Church.

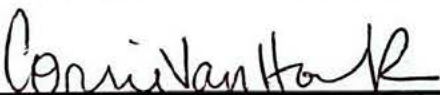
I have several serious concerns regarding this project:

1. **Proximity to Community Assets:** The proposed facility is dangerously close to residential neighborhoods, schools, senior living facilities, businesses, and a medical center. In the event of a fire, explosion, evacuation or toxic fume release, the impact on local residents and emergency services would be catastrophic.
2. **Transportation Risks:** Its location near Interstate 5 and several railway lines poses a significant risk. A disaster, such as the recent fire at Moss Landing, could lead to closures of these essential transportation routes, severely disrupting regional mobility and commerce.
3. **Environmental Impacts:** This area is home to diverse flora and fauna, including endangered species. Moreover, it serves as a popular recreational space, featuring trails enjoyed by hikers, bicyclists, and nature enthusiasts. The Oso creek drains to the ocean and cannot handle construction debris nor fire debris. This facility could irreversibly harm the ecosystem and compromise its community value.
4. **Demand on Community Resources:** The facility would also create an unsustainable demand on local resources, including water needed in the event of a fire. Fires have erupted in this valley, spread and threatened neighborhoods but were successfully extinguished by firefighters using water. Lithium fires cannot be extinguished by water and can burn for days.

I urge the Commission to prioritize the safety and well-being of Californians above any financial incentives or cost-saving measures that benefit the developer. The proposed site was likely chosen due to its proximity to the San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) Trabuco to Capistrano 138-kilovolt transmission line; however, this convenience should not come at the expense of community welfare.

I respectfully ask you to consider the serious risks outlined above and reject this OPT-IN application.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



SIGNATURE

Corrie Van Hook

ADDRESS

RE: Opposition to the Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed siting of the Compass Energy Storage Project in San Juan Capistrano, on land currently owned by Saddleback Church.

I have several serious concerns regarding this project:

1. **Proximity to Community Assets:** The proposed facility is dangerously close to residential neighborhoods, schools, senior living facilities, businesses, and a medical center. In the event of a fire, explosion, evacuation or toxic fume release, the impact on local residents and emergency services would be catastrophic.
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I respectfully ask you to consider the serious risks outlined above and reject this OPT-IN application.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Constance Hendrick

SIGNATURE

CONSTANCE HENDRICK

NAME

ADDRESS

From:

NO on the Proposed Battery Farm in my Backyard!!!!

Date:

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 2:23:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dangerous and only one road out of here. The fire will spread on our hill behind our house FAST!!! It's happened in early 90's at the church

Our Insurance Rates skyrocketed and dropped.. House prices decline. These homes are in high million dollars .

DO NOT ALLOW THIS!!!! Find a more suitable INLAND AREA ...

Refused by both San Juan Capistrano and Laguna Niguel!!!!

Money MONEY Being paid to the College for support!!!! Outrageous!!!

NO NO. NO

DONT ALLOW THIS !!!! what if it were your family's back yard. Your elderly mom with Alzheimer's....

Wake up DO THE RIGHT THING!!!

No one this!!!!

Dinah Roitz

Sent from my iPad

Dinah Roitz

S

From:
To:
Subject: Docket No. 24-OPT-02 - Compass Energy Storage Project
Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 12:00:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi:

I spoke at the May 29th meeting virtually. My name is Patty Nemeth. My husband and I have proudly called Laguna Niguel our home for over 25 years, during which we have lived on the ridgeline. In this time, we have endured three fires, including one where fire trucks were stationed in front of and behind our house for over 24 hours due to a seemingly simple brush fire.

We are adamantly opposed to the installation of this battery storage facility in our neighborhood. The health and safety risks have been well-documented by others, and I won't reiterate those points. However, I must emphasize the significant danger this facility poses to our community and our employees.

As the Chief Human Resources Officer at Fluidmaster, a renowned brand in toilet repair with headquarters and one of the largest employer in San Juan directly off J Serra, I can attest that our company is fully against this battery storage facility. The potential hazards it introduces are unacceptable. A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) collects energy from the grid, stores it, and then discharges it to provide electricity during peak demand. While this technology is beneficial, placing such a facility in a residential area is reckless and endangers the well-being of our community and workforce.

We urge you to consider the severe implications and reject the proposal for this battery storage facility. Our community's safety and health must be the top priority.

Thank you for your time.

Patty

Patty Nemeth
Chief Human Resources Officer



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From:
To: [Energy - Docket Optical System](#)
Subject: Docket No. 24-OPT-02-Compass Energy Storage Project
Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 11:52:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern ,

My name is Shohreh Hejazi . I live in Laguna Niguel.

I want to **STRONGLY OPPOSE** this project.

This project will make our community and environment very unsafe !!!!

Please deny this project!!!

Thank you !

Kindly
Shohreh Hejazi

Subject: FW: Docket No. 24- OPT-02 – Compass Energy Storage Project

Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 10:24 AM

To: Energy - Docket Optical System <docket@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: Docket No. 24- OPT-02 – Compass Energy Storage Project

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I apologize for making this posting. I didn't realize that it was a State requirement that the applicant provide something for the community.

Susan Staebell

On Thu, May 29, 2025 at 2:12 PM WJS <bblasst@gmail.com> wrote:

I scratch my head when I wonder why Engie gave a \$750,000 grant to Saddleback College, if they thought they wouldn't be building a BESS facility, directly across the freeway from the school. Kind of looks like the construction of the facility is a forgone conclusion, doesn't it?

Susan Staebell
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