DOCKETED	
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Project Title:	Compass Energy Storage Project
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Document Title:	BLESSIN Comments - Additional Letters of Opposition
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Organization:	BLESSIN
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	6/6/2025 2:31:07 PM
Docketed Date:	6/6/2025

Comment Received From: BLESSIN

Submitted On: 6/6/2025 Docket Number: 24-OPT-02

## **Additional Letters of Opposition**

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

RE: Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-0PT-02)

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

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Email address:

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Steve Franko

Date:

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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 bunter 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 bum 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 containment1 au 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.

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.

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Sincerely.

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Date: 5/31/2025	5 an Juan Capis paris
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