

DOCKETED

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Compass Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

I am a constituent and I am concerned that AB 205 allows a private energy developer to bypass the wishes of our city and residents. As a homeowner in San Juan Capistrano, I strongly oppose the Compass Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project proposed on Saddleback Church's property adjacent to Camino Capistrano and I-5.

This project raises serious concerns for my community:

- **Public Safety:** Battery fires at similar facilities have occurred statewide and nationwide, posing catastrophic risks to nearby homes—especially those directly upslope in Laguna Niguel.
- **Environmental Risk:** Trabuco Creek is a protected watershed that flows to the ocean. Toxic runoff from potential fire suppression would devastate wildlife and marine ecosystems.
- **Lack of Local Oversight:** The people of San Juan Capistrano already voiced opposition to this project, and the City Council denied zoning changes. It is unacceptable that state law now allows this project to proceed without local approval.

I urge the CEC to reject this application. The long-term safety of our families, environment, and community should not be sacrificed for expedience.