

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	24-OPT-02
Project Title:	Compass Energy Storage Project
TN #:	266244
Document Title:	Conditional Support for BESS Facility
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	David A Christopher
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	9/30/2025 3:26:05 PM
Docketed Date:	9/30/2025

*Comment Received From: David A Christopher
Submitted On: 9/30/2025
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02*

Conditional Support for BESS Facility

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

30 September 2025

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 forward-thinking resident of the City of Laguna Niguel, I am writing to express my support for 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. However, the project site is less than 1,500 feet from several residential neighborhoods in Laguna Niguel and within a designated general open space surrounded by significant vegetation. My support is contingent upon having appropriate measures in place to avoid excessive risk to the community due to lithium battery fires and the potential for such fires to ignite and spread to the vegetation in the surrounding open space and nearby neighborhoods.

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.

I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to carefully and fully address the fire, economic, environmental, and public safety risks as they evaluate Compass Energy Storage's proposed project. California needs the potential benefits proposed by this project. But it must incorporate adequate public safety measures.

Sincerely,

Dave Christopher
16 Seaport
Laguna Niguel, CA