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*Comment Received From: Michael McGrady
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Expediting the Wash Rinse Repeat

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

TO: California Energy Commission (CEC)
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

California Independent System Operator (CAISO)
Queue Management & Compliance Development

FROM: Michael McGrady, Representative of Hidden Creek Communities / San Juan Capistrano Residents

Project Title: Compass Energy Storage Project

To the Siting and Project Management Teams:

The applicant's June 30, 2026 status report marks the fourth consecutive month of absolute development stagnation under the cover of this administrative suspension. While regulatory protocols are intended to provide an unbiased, structured framework for legitimate project pivots, the Commission's ongoing acceptance of empty, repetitive updates suggests a preference for sustaining a political objective over enforcing standard commercial viability milestones.

Allowing a voluntary suspension to extend in perpetuity transforms a public regulatory mechanism into an indefinite corporate shield, effectively hoarding critical grid infrastructure without a single square foot of secured real property.

While we are not blind to this facade, and while we remain acutely aware that these monthly filings have degenerated into a meaningless administrative loop, we are not unsympathetic to Engie and the CEC and seek here to assist.

To ease the creative burden of repackaging the same stagnation each month, we offer this preformatted template as a public service. By simply updating the dates on these static talking points, the applicant can seamlessly maintain its regulatory facade while sparing everyone the tedious chore of pretending that this is an active project.

[Current Date]

ENGIE Project Manager
Siting and Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission

Re: Compass Energy Storage Project – Status Update, [Insert Previous Month, 2026, 2027, 2028, etc.]

In keeping with our continued reporting to the California Energy Commission regarding the approved suspension on the processing of the Opt-in application for the Compass Energy Storage Project, we are providing the following information on our ongoing, stagnant efforts to secure an alternative site.

Section 1: Site Assessment and Landowner Outreach

- a. Engie Development staff has conducted additional internal mapping and desktop due diligence on approximately 4 of the previously vetted urban infill sites and the nearby Landfill.
- b. We have conducted physical site visits on [Insert Number, usually 2] sites to evaluate suitability, though we have yet to confirm if they fit our project configuration.
- c. We have had direct meetings with several landowners, but these negotiations have failed to mature into confirmed Letters of Intent (LOIs) or agreeable commercial terms.
- d. Our current focus remains trying to consolidate multiple fragmented parcels from different owners to patch together adequate acreage for our transmission infrastructure.

Section 2: Stakeholder Outreach

- a. Engie staff and consultants have continued our vague contacts with key stakeholders to discuss theoretical next steps.
- b. We are currently trying to schedule or reschedule a meeting with [Insert local public agency, fire authority, or labor union] that was originally supposed to happen months ago.
- c. We hope to hold a new meeting with Orange County officials regarding the landfill site in the month of [Insert Next Month], which we hope will yield a revised timetable.

Section 3: Economic Analysis and Interconnection (Verbatim Copy-Paste Block)

- a. Engie has maintained its Large Generator Interconnection Agreement (LGIA) with CAISO and has continued our standard monthly check-ins with SDG&E strictly to preserve our queue position.
- b. Engie is continuing to review comparable equipment procurement options as part of a perpetual project cost analysis.
- c. Engie is running the exact same internal financial models for potential site alternatives to assess theoretical feasibility and deliverability.

We will continue to update the Commission staff on our lack of tangible progress next month.

Please let us know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

ENGIE North America