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## **Opposition to Compass Energy Storage Project**

We live in one of the established housing developments on the ridgeline above this project. The Otay Mesa fire of a similar facility that happened recently should be the leading example of why these types of facilities should NOT be anywhere near residential areas. The entire hillside surrounding the property is natural dry vegetation that, in the likely event the facility would start on fire, that fire would easily run up the hillside to our neighborhood. The project was proposed to the San Juan Capistrano city council for approval and it was denied for several reasons. Going directly to the California Energy Commission is a sleazy way of circumventing the wishes of the actual residents who would have to deal with this. California has hundreds of thousands of acres of wide open bare land no where near development: where people live, work, raise children and try to keep local waterways clean and homes safe. Those open lands away from urban areas are EXACTLY where a lithium battery storage facility should be! Californians are already enduring the highest property insurance rates in the country or outright insurance cancellations because of ill conceived decisions about energy sources and the fire consequences!