

DOCKETED

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Opposing Installation of Lithium-Ion Battery Storage Facility

As a concerned resident of the City of Laguna Niguel, 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 border of Laguna Niguel. The project site, which is less than 1,500 feet from several residential neighborhoods, my neighborhood included, 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 and the surrounding neighborhoods.

My husband is a retired fire captain, and worked many years as a Hazardous Materials fireman. He is also deeply concerned about the possibility of a fire and the impact these dangerous chemicals pose to our community. He understands that fighting this type of fire would cause lifelong damage to this, and to all neighboring areas, and could even cause an environmental disaster when using the necessary fire fighting chemicals to attack this type of fire. The chemicals could flow directly into the ocean. When this issue was first brought to our attention, I was amazed at how bad of an idea and location this is for such a facility, and wondered why a location, which was not close to homes and one that did not pose such a threat, was not located. I hope you will listen to the residents of this area and consider our concerns, for our homes, lives, and our community. Sincerely, Laura Tarbutton