

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	24-OPT-02
Project Title:	Compass Energy Storage Project
TN #:	258637
Document Title:	farzad behboodi Comments - Urgent Safety Concerns Regarding the Proposed Compass Energy Storage System in Laguna Nigual
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	farzad behboodi
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	8/22/2024 12:22:19 PM
Docketed Date:	8/22/2024

*Comment Received From: farzad behboodi
Submitted On: 8/22/2024
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02*

Urgent Safety Concerns Regarding the Proposed Compass Energy Storage System in Laguna Nigual

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

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August 18, 2024

California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Public Advisor's Office
Email: publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov

Subject: Urgent Safety Concerns
Regarding the Proposed Compass Energy
Storage System in Laguna Niguel

Dear Members of the California Energy
Commission,

I am writing to you as a concerned

resident of Laguna Niguel, directly impacted by the proposed Compass Energy Storage System by ENGIE North America. While I acknowledge the necessity for innovative energy solutions, the placement of such a facility in our community raises significant safety issues that require immediate and thorough examination.

Key Concerns:

- **Proximity to Residential Areas and Critical Infrastructure:** The site is perilously close to residential neighborhoods, major highways (5 and 73), and the San Diego-Los Angeles rail corridor. This location amplifies the potential for catastrophic impacts in the event of a failure.

- **Risk of Catastrophic Failure:** Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) have been known to pose risks of fires and explosions. Given the density of population and infrastructure nearby, the consequences could be dire, affecting not just local residents but also regional transportation and commerce.

Specific Requests for Information:

- **Failure Mode, Effects, and Criticality Analysis (FMECA):** Has an FMECA been performed on the BESS system proposed for Laguna Niguel? If so, what are the findings regarding the probability of catastrophic failure? This analysis is crucial for understanding the full spectrum of risks involved.

- **Safety Assessments:** I request detailed information on any safety assessments conducted by ENGIE North America. These should include:
- **Risk Assessments:** Specific evaluations of the risks posed to nearby residents and infrastructure.
- **Mitigation Strategies:** What measures are proposed to mitigate the identified risks?
- **Public Disclosure:** It is imperative that all safety assessments, including the FMECA, are made public. Transparency is key to building trust within the community and ensuring that all stakeholders are informed.
- **Emergency Response Planning:** What

are the detailed emergency response plans in case of an incident? This should include:

- **Evacuation Plans:** How will residents be safely evacuated?
- **Coordination with Local Services:** How will local fire departments, hospitals, and law enforcement be integrated into the response?

The potential for a catastrophic event at this site is not just a theoretical concern; it could lead to loss of life, massive property damage, and significant disruption to essential services. Therefore, I urge the CEC to:

- **Re-evaluate the Site Selection:**
Consider if this location is truly suitable

given the risks involved.

- **Engage with the Community:** Hold public meetings where residents can voice their concerns and receive direct answers from ENGIE and the CEC.

The safety and well-being of Laguna Niguel residents must be at the forefront of this project's considerations. I trust that the CEC will prioritize these concerns in its review process.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I look forward to your detailed response and to engaging further on this issue.

Sincerely,

Farzad Behboodi

Laguna Niguel Resident