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Comment Received From: Melodye Shore

Submitted On: 8/29/2024 Docket Number: 24-OPT-02

Letter to the California Energy Commission

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

August 29, 2024

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 homeowner and current resident of the City of Laguna Niguel, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) facility that abuts the northern portion of the City of San Juan Capistrano and the eastern border of Laguna Niguel.

At present, the proposed project site is a designated open space parcel--a rare and precious thing in our increasingly populated area. The surrounding hills are covered with native vegetation, and it's known also for its recreational trails. Its close proximity to residential areas, however, raises significant concerns about preserving this beautiful landscape, and the significant health, environmental, and wildfire risks it poses, much less our diminished quality of life, including the very real possibility it'll become even more difficult to secure homeowners' insurance.

Our City has raised very similar concerns about this proposed project, and I stand united with a host of other residents who are equally upset about the seemingly casual disregard being demonstrated when people voice their objections. I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to fairly, fully and honestly analyze the adverse fire, economic, environmental, and public safety risks it poses – all of which trump any potential financial gains. And in light of these considerations, I respectfully ask that the California Energy Commission reject outright this project application.

Sincerely, Melodye Shore