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*Comment Received From: Max Foroughi  
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## **Opposition to the Planned Lithium Battery Facility in Laguna Niguel**

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the planned installation of a lithium battery facility in Laguna Niguel, as well as any future permits for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in this location. It is imperative that this permit be denied and no further consideration given to similar facilities in our community.

The proposed lithium battery facility presents severe safety risks, including fire hazards, toxic chemical exposure, and environmental contamination. The potential consequences of a fire at such a facility, particularly given the proximity to residential neighborhoods, could be disastrous and should not be overlooked. Lithium battery fires are notoriously difficult to control and pose a threat not only to local residents but also to emergency response teams.

Additionally, this project could cause irreversible damage to our community's environment. Laguna Niguel should not be exposed to the substantial risks associated with large-scale lithium energy storage, particularly when there are other cleaner, safer, and more sustainable options for energy storage and infrastructure development.

I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to not only deny the current permit but also commit to rejecting any future applications for BESS facilities at this location. Our community deserves better, and we must prioritize public safety and environmental preservation over risky energy projects.