

| <b>DOCKETED</b>         |  |
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*Comment Received From: Luke Burson*  
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*Docket Number: 24-OPT-02*

## **Fire Fighting Resources**

The proposed Lithium Battery Farm in San Juan Capistrano has many public safety issues which have been outlined by both the cities of San Juan Capistrano and Laguna Niguel. The overwhelming reaction from the community is consistent with the same public safety issues. I live within a mile of the proposed Lithium Battery Farm and I share the same concerns regarding fire, the impact on Interstate 5, the impact on rail service to San Diego, the impact on the stream that runs to the Pacific, home values, the ability to obtain fire insurance and at what cost plus more. The location of this Lithium Battery Farm could not be in a worse location. I am hopeful that common sense prevails and California Energy Commission denies the application.

I must accept the fact that I live in California and the Energy Commission was put in place to facilitate the energy direction of our Governor and other elected individualsâ€”the California Energy Commission just might ignore the community concerns and approve the application.

My formal request is that you include in your fire-related analysis the impact on south Orange County fire fighting resources if a fire starts that is close to the Lithium Battery Farm. A fire incident where Orange County Fire Authorityâ€™s resources are dispatched to the Lithium Battery Farm to keep the fire from igniting the batteries. If they did it would result in a catastrophic fire. This would be a defensive firefighting action but the result would be fewer resources to protect the local community.

Specific questions to be raised by the California Energy Commission to the Orange County Fire Authority:

- \* How many firefighting units/resources would be deployed to protect the Lithium Battery Farm in the event of a fire close by?
- \* As a result of protecting the Lithium Battery Farm, how many firefighting units/resources would not be available to protect the community?
- \* What is the Orange County Fire Authorityâ€™s plan to protect both?
- \* What is the additional projected cost to protect both and is there an annual budget for the additional cost?
- \* Does the Orange County Fire Authority have confidence that additional budget dollars would be approved?

If you approve the proposed Lithium Battery Farm you must also 1) address the additional firefighting requirements to protect it from an external fire, and 2) the impact of that protection on the community that needs and expects the same firefighting protection.