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Fairmont Schools, San Juan Capistrano Battery Plant Comments

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



15 March 2025

Dear Ms. Longman,

Fairmont Schools, San Juan Capistrano, is a premier private school committed to academic excellence, student well-being, and community engagement. As a school dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment for our students, faculty, and families, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed **Compass Energy Storage Project**.

The proposed site for this project is in close proximity to our campus, where we serve a vibrant student body and dedicated educators. While we support sustainable energy solutions and environmental responsibility, we have serious concerns regarding the safety implications of this lithium battery storage facility.

As has been widely reported, lithium battery fires pose significant risks, often requiring large-scale evacuations and resulting in hazardous smoke and fire events. Given our school's location near the proposed facility, the potential for toxic emissions and emergency evacuations raises major concerns for student and staff safety. In the event of an incident, local infrastructure—including Interstate 5, nearby rail lines, and major roadways—would likely be overwhelmed, leading to significant delays in emergency response and potential risks for our school community.

We urge the California Energy Commission to thoroughly evaluate the environmental and public safety risks associated with this project. The well-being of our students, families, and staff must be a priority in this decision-making process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lugo Head of School, Fairmont Schools SJC 26333 Oso Road, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675