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Oppose Compass Energy Storage Project

I am adamantly opposed to the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility in San Juan Capistrano. Although it may be a useful facility in theory, it has proven to have very dangerous side effects. Multiple fires at Vistra Corporation's Moss Landing facility in Monterey County and a fire at the SDG&E facility in Escondido are justification for legitimate concerns for our area.

The proposed location is completely unsuitable for this type of installation for multiple reasons:

Wildfires: The surrounding hills are often dry brush and susceptible to wildfires. Further, these wildfires would quickly overtake residential communities in every direction. The overall loss of property and life would be devastating to the area and the State of California. We must learn from the catastrophic Palisades and Eaton fires in Los Angeles and address this potential danger and its impact on the safety and welfare of the long-established local population.

Interstate 5: This is an essential transportation corridor for people, services, and products. Any closure of this key artery would be disastrous.

Rail Transport: The Amtrak/Metrolink railway is immediately adjacent to the proposed location. Again, any emergency would create a severe disruption for transportation.

Environment: Unacceptable levels of toxic materials are detrimental to the local environment. These levels were recently confirmed by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) when they collected samples of soil/sand and ambient surface water from multiple locations near the Moss Landing facility on January 25, 2025. The State of California has stated they are committed to strong environmental stewardship; however, this project fails to support its commitment.

Health Concerns: Residents near the Moss Landing facility suffered from sore throats, coughing, headaches, eye irritation, and a metallic taste in their mouths. It is not yet known whether long-term illnesses will result from their exposure. Many businesses and schools in our area would be negatively impacted by any emergency. In addition to the human suffering, there are local farmland, horses, and wildlife that will be negatively impacted by "unexpectedâ€● accidents at this facility.

San Juan Capistrano is an inappropriate location for the "learning curveâ€● of this new technology. Instead, it should be tested/proven in remote areas far away from our families, residences, and businesses. In closing, I strongly encourage the California

Energy Commission to deny the application by Compass Energy Storage LLC for this installation. Thank you for your serious consideration.