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*Comment Received From: Laura Hawkins
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Iâ€™m against BESS

California Energy Commission-

Iâ€™m writing to share my concerns about the BESS project in San Juan [Docket # 24-OPT-02].

I understand that we need to make changes to our energy systems and that creating renewable energy solutions is important. I own an electric vehicle and have taken great strides to reevaluate my energy usage.

But as a Laguna Niguel resident, Iâ€™m very concerned about this proposed BESS project. The location is terrible! It backs up to a huge residential area, and poses potential risks to our community. Iâ€™ve spoken to our home insurance rep and he assured me that our insurance rates would increase if the BESS project were approved. It would definitely put our homes at risk and increase the likelihood of a fire. We are already in a high risk fire zone and our insurance has gone through the roof with recent fires. It seems crazy and irresponsible to increase our fire potential even more!

Please value the input of the community members who this would affect! The Laguna Niguel and San Juan Capistrano city councils are against it, and the residents are against it. We are the ones who would be paying the increased insurance payments and dealing with the effects of any malfunctions, environmental impact, or safety issues. We are the ones who would lose our homes if a fire broke out. Please consider the lives of our community! The risks arenâ€™t worth it.

Please deny the approval of this project and encourage a safer, more suitable alternative for renewable energy storage. Please consider the health and well being of our community!

Laura Hawkins
Laguna Niguel resident