

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Compass Energy Storage Project
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Document Title:	Notice of Informational and Environmental Scoping Metting
Description:	Day 1 meeting May 29, 2025 Day 2 meeting (continuation) June 3, 2025
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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Sacramento, California 95814

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CEC-70 (Revised 7/22)



IN THE MATTER OF:

*Compass Energy Storage Project Opt-
in Application for Certification*

DOCKET NO. 24-OPT-02

NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL and
ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETING

RE: Compass Energy Storage Project (SCH
2025050184)

**Notice of Informational
and Environmental Scoping Meeting
for the Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project**

Day 1: Hybrid Meeting In-Person and via Zoom

May 29, 2025

1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

In-person at:

Orange County location to be posted soon

Remote Access via Zoom:

See attendance instructions below.

and

Day 2: Continued Remote-Only Meeting

June 3, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Remote-Only Access via Zoom:

See the attendance instructions below.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) will host an informational and environmental scoping meeting pursuant to Public Resources Code section 25545.7.2 to present and solicit information on the proposed Compass Energy Storage Project. Members of the public can participate in the meeting consistent with the attendance instructions below.

Day 1 of the meeting will be a hybrid meeting with both a publicly accessible physical location and public access online or by phone through Zoom™ on May 29, 2025. Day 1 will include informational presentations and time for public comment.

Space at the in-person venue may be limited. Parking at the venue may also be limited. Attendees are encouraged to carpool or use alternative transportation to help reduce parking demand.

Day 2 of the meeting will be a remote-only meeting with public access online or by phone through Zoom™ on June 3, 2025. Day 2 will be for continued public comment.

Please see the CEC project webpage for more information on the project:

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/energy-storage-system/compass-energy-storage-project>. Each event webpage will be linked on the project webpage.

The CEC aims to begin promptly at the start time posted and the end time is an estimate based on the proposed agendas. The meetings may end sooner or later than the posted end times. Breaks will be announced during the meetings.

CEC welcomes public comments and has reserved time on both days to receive comments.

Recordings from both events will be posted on the event webpage (linked above). CEC will do its best to post the recording from the meeting on Day 1 so the public has access to the recording with the presentation and other content before the meeting on Day 2.

Day 1 Agenda: May 29, 2025

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. CEC staff presentation on the Opt-In Certification Program
3. Applicant presentation on the proposed project
4. CEC staff presentation on the scope and content of the Staff Assessment and environmental analysis
5. CEC staff presentation on safety standards
6. CEC Office of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity, and Tribal Affairs presentation on public participation and California Native American tribal consultation opportunities
7. Government Comments: California Native American tribes and federal, state and local government entities
8. Public Comments
9. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Day 2 Agenda: June 3, 2025

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Public Comment
3. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Background

Public Resources Code sections 25545 - 25545.13 allows specified clean energy projects to seek consolidated permitting at the CEC until June 30, 2029. These projects include energy storage systems 200 megawatt-hours or more and the electric transmission line from the facility to the first point of interconnection with the existing transmission system.

Under this program, the CEC permit is in lieu of any permit that would normally be required by the local land use authority and most, but not all, state permits. More information about the Opt-In Certification Program can be found at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-andtopics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program>.

The law also requires the CEC to be the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and, after an application is deemed complete, to do the following:

1. Prepare a Staff Assessment, which includes an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
2. Hold public meetings as close as practicable to the proposed project site.
3. Invite consultation with California Native American tribes that are culturally and traditionally associated with the geographic area of the proposed site.
4. Certify compliance with requirements for community benefits, labor standards, and economic benefits.
5. Approve or deny the proposed project at a publicly noticed business meeting.

Compass Energy Storage LLC (applicant) filed an Opt-In application on April 11, 2024, for the Compass Energy Storage Project proposed in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, California. On May 13 and October 7, 2024, the CEC deemed the application incomplete and docketed letters detailing the information deficiencies. On April 30, 2025, after receiving additional data, the CEC determined that the application was complete and on May 5, 2025, the CEC sent applicable California Native American tribes a letter inviting tribal consultation on the Compass Energy Storage Project. On May 2, 2025, the CEC issued a Notice of Preparation of a draft EIR to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the project. These and other documents are available on the CEC docket for this proceeding at: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-02>.

Project Summary

The Compass Energy Storage Project is a proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) that would be capable of storing up to 250 megawatts of electricity for four hours (up to 1,000 megawatt-hours). The project would be composed of lithium-iron phosphate batteries (Tesla Megapack 2XL is proposed), inverters, medium-voltage transformers, a switchyard, a collector

substation, and other associated equipment to interconnect into the existing San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) Trabuco to Capistrano 138-kilovolt transmission line located approximately 500 feet from the project site and approximately 90 feet from the project property. The project would connect to the SDG&E electric transmission system via a proposed "loop-in" transmission line that would be constructed to transfer power to and from the proposed project. The loop-in transmission line will be supported by up to five pole structures which will be sited to fully avoid Oso Creek. These poles consist of two poles on the project site within the SDG&E switchyard, west of Oso Creek, and three poles on the east side of Oso Creek (two of which will be replacing existing poles; only one pole on the east side of Oso Creek will be new).

Electric energy would be transferred from the existing power grid to the project batteries for storage and from the project batteries to the power grid when additional electricity is needed. No off-site transmission upgrades are required for the full capacity of this project, and an interconnection agreement with SDG&E and the California Independent System Operator has been implemented. Following construction of the switchyard by Compass Energy Storage LLC, ownership and operations of the switchyard would transfer to SDG&E.

The CEC maintains a website for this project with proposed project information, a link to the docket, email subscription sign-up, and more at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/energy-storage-system/compass-energy-storage-project>.

Purpose of the Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting

The Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting will provide an opportunity for interested members of the public, including surrounding communities, to learn about the proposed project and the CEC's opt-in certification process. The public will be able to obtain information, identify areas of environmental concern to be addressed during the CEC's environmental review of the project, and provide comments.

During the public meeting, the applicant will explain its proposed plans for constructing and operating the project and related facilities. CEC staff will describe the CEC and staff's role and responsibilities in reviewing the opt-in application and engaging with government agencies, the public, and California Native American Tribes to inform this review. The CEC's Public Advisor will describe how interested members of the public can participate in the process, including during the environmental review and CEC decision-making.

The CEC will prepare a Staff Assessment (SA). The SA will include a Draft EIR following the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, div. 6, ch. 3). The Notice of Preparation of the Draft Environmental Report (EIR) is available at: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=262903&DocumentContentId=99560>. The CEC is conducting public outreach to solicit input on the Compass Energy Storage Project application to identify the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant effects to be analyzed in depth in the EIR. This meeting also assists CEC staff in obtaining

additional information to prepare the Draft EIR and determining whether the project meets all program requirements.

Attendance Instructions

Day 1: May 29, 2025

Hybrid Meeting with in-person and remote attendance options.

In-person participants may join the meeting at:

Orange County location to posted soon

Remote participants may join via Zoom by internet or phone.

- **To join via Zoom.** Click on <https://energy.zoom.us/j/84004461785?pwd=gV9Wbpwv0zrTyWsCeXVO47utxTfVZp.1> or login in at <https://zoom.us/> and enter the Webinar ID 840 0446 1785 and passcode 715190 and follow all prompts.
- **To join by telephone.** Call toll-free at (888) 475-4499 or toll at (669) 219-2599. When prompted, enter the Webinar ID 840 0446 1785 and passcode 715190.

Day 2: June 3, 2025

Remote-Only Meeting

Please note the Day 2 meeting has a different Zoom link than Day 1. See link below.

Participants may join via Zoom by internet or phone:

- **To join via Zoom.** Click on <https://energy.zoom.us/j/86350486573?pwd=bSLLtLyZacFbnRgIbLeTeiOhwGSbTU.1> or login in at <https://zoom.us/> and enter the Webinar ID 863 5048 6573 and passcode 631171 and follow all prompts.
- **To join by telephone.** Call toll-free at (888) 475-4499 or toll at (669) 219-2599. When prompted, enter the Webinar ID 863 5048 6573 and passcode 631171.

Zoom Closed Captioning Service. At the bottom of the screen, click the Live Transcript CC icon and choose "Show Subtitle" or "View Full Transcript" from the pop-up menu. To stop closed captioning, close the "Live Transcript" or select "Hide Subtitle" from the pop-up menu. If joining by phone, closed captioning is automatic and cannot be turned off. While closed captioning is available in real-time, it can include errors. A more accurate transcript of the meeting will be docketed and posted as soon as possible after the meeting concludes.

Zoom Difficulty. Contact Zoom at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or the CEC Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov, or by phone at (916) 957-7910.

Public Comment

A public comment period will be provided at both the May 29 and June 3, 2025, meetings. Comments may be limited to two minutes or less depending on the number of comments.

Comments can be made whether attending in-person or via Zoom (online or by phone).

Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine.

If participating via Zoom's online platform, use the "raise hand" feature to indicate you would like to make a comment. The CEC will open your line to speak. Please restate and spell your name for the record, indicate if you have an affiliation, and begin your comments.

If participating by telephone, press *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute. The CEC will announce the last three digits of the phone number listed and open your line. Make sure to unmute your phone before speaking then restate and spell your name for the record, indicate if you have an affiliation, state your position on the proposed project, if any, and begin your comments.

The CEC encourages the use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the e-commenting page for this docket California Energy Commission: e-comment: Submit Comment at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-02>. Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat®. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB.

Written comments may be submitted to the Docket Unit by 5:00 p.m. on June 4, 2025.

Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine. Written comments may also be submitted by email. Include docket number 24-OPT-02 and Compass Energy Storage Project in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

A paper copy may be mailed to:
California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 24-OPT-02
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Public Advisor. The CEC's Public Advisor assists the public with participation in CEC proceedings. To request assistance, interpreting services, or reasonable modifications and accommodations, call (916) 957-7910 or email publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov as soon as possible but at least five days in advance. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on availability.

Media Inquiries. Email mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 654-4989.

Technical Subject and General Inquiries. Email Renee Longman at STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 937-3538.

Availability of Documents: Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available at [California Energy Commission: Docket Log](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-02) at:
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-02>.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those subscribed to the Compass Energy Storage Project. To receive these notices or notices of other email subscription topics, visit [Subscriptions](https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions), at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>.

Dated: May 19, 2025, at Sacramento, California.



Elizabeth Huber, Director
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

Subscriptions:
Compass Energy Storage Project