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Opposition to Proposed Compass Energy Storage Project (24-OPT-02)

Lithium Battery Storage has significant Fire risk with high toxicity. Moss Landing BESS Fire lasted for six days and reignited again a month later. Moss Landing fire had a evacuation area of 8 square miles (approx 1.6 mile radius). Moss Landing was a facility similar in size to this proposed facility.

Project site is located with 1500 feet of several residential neighborhoods to the east and within 1500 feet of interstate 5 to the east. Two schools (Niguel Middle School and Capistrano Valley High about 1 mile from site). A fire similar to Moss Landing would cause thousands of people to be evacuated and Interstate 5 to be shut down.

Fire fighting chemicals could adversely affect the Oso and Arroyo Creek waterbed and contaminate the San Juan Creek watershed. In January 2025 research scientists at San Jos  State University s Moss Landing Marine Laboratories said they detected â  unusually high concentrationsâ   of heavy-metal nanoparticles in marsh soils at Elkhorn Slough Reserve following the fire. The field surveys, conducted within a radius of approximately two miles from the power plant, measured a â  dramaticâ   increase in marsh soil surface concentration (hundreds- to thousand-fold) of the three heavy metals nickel, manganese and cobalt.

Californians recognize that Clean Energy Storage is vital but due to the inherent risks associated with Lithium Battery Storage, the location of these facilities must not be in heavily populated areas.