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AGAINST proposed BESS project in the City of San Juan Capistrano!

As a resident of the City of Laguna Niguel, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) planned for a project site in the City of San Juan Capistrano.

The proposed location of the BESS project site (directly adjacent to my neighborhood) poses a significant and immediate wildfire risk. The storage of lithium-ion phosphate batteries can be incredibly dangerous if overheated, causing the battery and its housing unit to catch fire. Lithium fires burn hotter and faster than other fires and cannot be extinguished. In addition to the heightened risk of wildfires, the proposed BESS project site presents significant environmental and public health risks. Lithium batteries emit toxic gasses within seconds of igniting, leading to air, water and soil contamination.

Facilities like these should NEVER be situated in populated areas including residential housing, schools, hospitals and waterbeds that drain directly to the ocean. I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to NOT approve this project!

Jennifer Miller, homeowner
Concord Hill/Laguna Heights
Laguna Niguel, CA