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## **No Lithium Battery facility**

Good afternoon,

My husband and I, along with our son, live in Laguna Niguel, in the Laguna Heights neighborhood. The residents and amenities, coupled with the incredible beauty and views make Laguna Niguel one of the nicest places to live in the world. We absolutely love living in this family centric community and weâ€™re devastated to hear that a lithium battery facility is being considered in the area.

Lithium battery production has long been associated with risk, but as the popularity of the batteries increase, so does the research into the risks associated. And the research is alarmingly clear. Lithium battery production has no place in communities where large populations of people, particularly elderly and young children reside.

We vehemently oppose the creation of this facility in our backyard and Iâ€™d like to highlight just a few reasons why:

1. The greatest hazard with lithium ion batteries is the flammable electrolyte stored within the battery cell. Lithium ion battery fires pose unique challenges to the fire crew who attend to them, as they are extremely hot, fast-burning fires that are difficult to put out. Add to this the release of dangerous gases from the burning battery, and you have a devastating blaze that can quickly spread into the community. **WHY WOULD WE PUT THIS RISK AND PRESSURE ON OUR ALREADY OVERBURDENED FIRE RESPONDERS?**

2. Hydrogen fluoride, which is a uniquely dangerous, strong inorganic acid has been found in smoke for Li-ion battery fires at levels approaching 600 ppm. As a frame of reference, the immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) concentration for hydrogen fluoride is only 30 ppm. **WHY WOULD WE EXPOSE OUR VULNERABLE POPULATION TO THIS RISK???**

3. The manufacturing process uses chemicals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, and other hazardous materials. Workers may be exposed to these chemicals during the manufacturing process, which may lead to serious health problems. Lithium batteries are highly flammable and can catch fire or explode if not handled properly. This risk is especially high during the manufacturing process, as the batteries are often exposed to high temperatures, charging variances and pressure. **DO WE REALLY WANT OUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATED WITH THIS?**

We urge you to put a stop to the creation of this facility. Our children are counting on you to keep them safe.