

<b>DOCKETED</b>	
<b>Docket Number:</b>	24-OPT-02
<b>Project Title:</b>	Compass Energy Storage Project
<b>TN #:</b>	260863
<b>Document Title:</b>	Joanne Litterelle Comments - Land stability
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	System
<b>Organization:</b>	Joanne Litterelle
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Public
<b>Submission Date:</b>	12/30/2024 2:43:17 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	12/30/2024

*Comment Received From: Joanne Litterelle  
Submitted On: 12/30/2024  
Docket Number: 24-OPT-02*

## **Land stability**

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility in San Juan Capistrano. My concerns are based on significant safety and environmental risks associated with the project, particularly given the unstable geology of the proposed site at Rancho Capistrano.

Several qualified geologists have reviewed the Soils Report submitted with the application in April 2024 and have raised serious concerns regarding the clarity and adequacy of the findings related to site stability. It is widely understood that this area exhibits geological instability, which could make it unsuitable for development. The potential for soil movement or land subsidence introduces substantial risks, including but not limited to structural failure, increased fire hazards, toxic runoff, and the release of hazardous fumes. Such outcomes would pose grave threats to the health, safety, and welfare of residents and businesses located mere hundreds of feet from the proposed site.

While I understand and support the necessity of expanding energy storage infrastructure to meet California's renewable energy goals, I urge you to give full consideration to the public safety implications of this project. It is critical to prioritize the siting of BESS facilities in rural or less populated areas to mitigate risks to human life and property. Placing such facilities in close proximity to residential neighborhoods and commercial establishments is not only ill-advised but may also expose the approving body to legal and regulatory liabilities should catastrophic incidents occur.

I respectfully request that the approving authorities conduct a thorough and independent review of the geological and safety risks associated with this site before proceeding further. The decision to approve this project must be informed by comprehensive due diligence and adhere to the highest safety and environmental standards to ensure the protection of surrounding communities.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I trust that public safety and environmental responsibility will guide your decision-making process.

Sincerely,  
Joanne Litterelle