

Lynn Budd

Air quality is the reason I am in Alto. I have severe asthma and other lung difficulties. I can breathe and live here in peace, or so I thought. Crystalline silica dust, which occurs during the process of making cement, is less than 5 micrometers in size and which is not captured by any means Mr. Roper has suggested for mitigating fugitive dust. Studies indicate this dust can easily lead to degenerative lung diseases. OSHA has very strict regulations for the workers at cement batch plants....but what about the rest of us nearby? It is impossible to contain all the dust...the technology does not exist! We have, besides myself, retirees in residential areas, golf courses, church camps for children, a nursery, Ft Stanton Snowy River National Conservation area, the Lincoln National Forest and the White Mountain Wilderness area with its endangered species all nearby and within an area that would receive the dangerous dust. Every single one of these would be negatively impacted by a cement batch plant in the proposed area because of the dust emissions produced. It would be folly to assume that topographical and meteorological statistics and conditions of Holloman Air Force Base would apply to Alto. Alto and Holloman AFB are not similar at all in these areas.

I would be absolutely heartbroken to have to leave my home in Alto, but I cannot survive with any quality of life in an area so harmfully impacted by a cement batch plant.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this serious problem.