

Dorothy Wilson

We oppose the proposed batch concrete plant in Alto. Here are a few reasons why:

1. We moved to Alto 14 months ago to escape the pollution, traffic, and noise of big-city living. As full-time Alto residents, we are now concerned about how the concrete batch plant will impact our health, our property, and the overall scenic residential and recreational areas of Alto.

2. As retirees, it's not surprising that we both have pre-existing conditions that require ongoing treatment and medication, putting us at risk. As cancer and auto-immune disorder patients, we're afraid dust emissions from the plant will exacerbate our respiratory and overall general health.

3. Our mountain perch overlooks herds of roaming indigenous wildlife that stop and graze frequently. We are gravely concerned that the concrete batch plant will affect not only the respiratory health of these animals, but many will also be making a regular diet out of dust-laden foliage.

4. One of the biggest adjustments of our move to Alto was tolerating the windy conditions several months out of the year. With 20-30 mph winds (with gusts up to twice that on occasion) we are bombarded with dust and debris on our property and it accumulates inside our home, as it is. There's no question that the dust emissions from the proposed plant, will worsen the problem. We also find that it's difficult to prepare for windy conditions when the weather channel and other sources are at odds with our private outdoor weather monitor, particularly as it relates to forecasting wind, its frequency, and wind speeds. We're concerned about how the dust will affect our health.

5. As property owners we are fearful that our property value will decrease significantly, based on reports we've seen. You need only drive by a concrete batch plant to see the devastation that can occur. We purchased our home because we were confident it would be a sound real estate investment with minimal risk. We have already made significant improvements to our property, the structures, and the native landscaping. As retirees, we need to protect this investment, but will that be possible with a concrete batch plant down the road? If our scenic and recreational areas decline, we all lose.

For all these reasons, we feel that a concrete batch plant is inappropriate in Alto, New Mexico. Thank you.