

Josh Agenbroad

I oppose Project Jupiter as proposed.

I spend half the year in Las Cruces so already know that the air quality in Doña Ana County is not great, noticeably worse than the other parts of the state.

The fuel cell backup plan is unproven at this scale. If the fuel cells underperform, there's no confidence the developer won't fall back on higher-emission generation.

Water in this region is already overallocated. Even setting aside agriculture's larger share of the problem, we shouldn't be adding new large-scale demand before existing shortfalls are addressed, especially when future water availability here is uncertain.

The claimed benefits don't hold up against these risks. Once built, the permanent jobs and local economic impact will be small relative to the project's scale — a handful of people benefit while New Mexicans are left holding long-term costs in air quality, electricity rates, and water. The one-time payments being offered (\$360M for schools/infrastructure, \$50M for water systems, etc.) sound large in isolation, but spread over the decades-long lifetime of a project this size, they're a small fraction of the ongoing costs residents will bear. I work in energy/tech innovation and use AI daily, and I still don't see the upside justifying this.

I'm also troubled by the process here. Project specs have shifted repeatedly — water estimates changed, and the power plan flipped from gas turbines to fuel cells — making it hard for the public to evaluate what's actually being approved. An out-of-state group ran an ad campaign supporting the project and is now being sued by the NM State Ethics Commission for undisclosed lobbying. That kind of behind-the-scenes maneuvering to manufacture support should give some pause.

I'm also concerned about timing: the current AI infrastructure buildout may be a bubble, and it's unclear what happens to these commitments if backers face financial pressure and look to cut costs.

Let other regions with more water and grid capacity host these datacenters — we can still benefit from the technology without committing long term to the local costs of hosting it.

Please deny the pending approvals. Send a message that New Mexico can't be so easily manipulated and sold for outside interests.