

Eli Carton

Hello,

I am writing to oppose granting this permit, I do not believe that Project Jupiter has any redeeming qualities when it comes to the environment or the well-being of the people of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, or the surrounding areas.

Data Centers such as this one cannot be environmentally friendly, it is in their best interest, and their standards, to remain online 99.995% of the time, to do so requires fossil fuels, as we neither have the infrastructure to run such a project on renewables, and they have no interest in building any for themselves, as renewables are not able to keep up with their uptime.

Let's do a calculation, the people behind Project Jupiter have previously stated that they would power the data center using natural gas, an abundant and cheap energy source, but also a polluting single use source. They plan on building a 700MW power station, according to a paper published by the New Mexico State Legislature, in that same paper they estimate 2.7 million tons of CO2 will be produced annually, roughly 3 times the pollution generated by the city of Las Cruces, New Mexico's second largest city. 2.7 Million tons of CO2 a year is roughly the same amount of carbon emissions as the entire country of Chad, almost twice the entire emissions as the Bahamas, and 5 times the pollution of the country of Greenland, in only a fraction of the area, and only from one source, polluting an entire county and surrounding areas.

Additionally, I would like to point out how telling the fact that they are forging signatures is to the popularity of this project. They can't find enough people that support this project, so they have to make up statements. This project has been littered with lies and falsehoods from day one, and we should not be rewarding those that attempt to pull the wool over our collective eyes. They lied about how many jobs it will create, they lied about it's support, they are actively trying to lie about it's environmental impact, and I would not be surprised if they were lying about both the budget, and where that money will go, because I'm willing to bet that only a fraction of the money they are spending will go into the state of New Mexico.

I would like to leave you with this, Las Cruces is a college town, people walk to and from classes, people go to concerts downtown, or on the lawn behind Corbett Center. I go to school in Las Cruces, my sister is going to go to school in Las Cruces, my friends live there. This data center would make all of our lives measurably worse, no one enjoys breathing in pollution, no one enjoys smog. I haven't even touched on the water yet, NMSU already has notoriously poor water, this would make it worse, in every conceivable way and this is a problem that would affect El Paso as well, as El Paso gets much of it's water from the Rio Grande, which Project Jupiter is conceivably taking water from. We can't afford the worse air quality, or the extra water usage, and this Microgrid goes against the states renewable energy goals.

I would like to make it as clear as I possibly can, I am not in support of Project Jupiter, and I do not believe we should be letting them continue with this project.

Deny this permit, thank you for your time.
Eli Carton

Sources:

<https://stpp.fordschool.umich.edu/sites/stpp/files/2025-07/stpp-data-centers-2025.pdf>

<https://sourcenm.com/2026/06/30/new-mexico-residents-say-their-names-used-without-permission-to>

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/WNR%20102925%20Item%205%20ECDAC%20Project%20Jupi>

<https://www.worldometers.info/co2-emissions/co2-emissions-by-country/>

(Please note: this message was previously sent via email, I do not intend to send duplicates, but I did not see my comment appear in the list.)