

Carly Howard

Dear NMED staff,

My name is Carly Howard. I live in New Mexico, and I am writing because I am concerned about the risks and harms Project Jupiter poses to New Mexicans. I am submitting this comment to urge the New Mexico Environment Department to reject Yucca Growth Infrastructure, LLC's air permit application for the YGI Microgrid in Doña Ana County.

Myself and many prominent community members have growing concerns and opposition to the development of data centers in the desert. Support for this project is overwhelmingly lacking, and the project is being advertised with misleading information, not allowing community members to give informed consent to developers. Vulnerable populations will suffer from this development. The jobs it will create are not worth the consumption and eradication of resources the entire world relies on.

The project's proposed fuel cell powered grid is concerning for many reasons:

It would still produce a high level of greenhouse gas and toxic pollutants.

This technology generates toxic waste, and the process for handling this waste is still unclear.

Fuel cell technology or a centralized waste system has never been tried at this scale.

Surrounding communities' air will be severely impacted by this development.

I urge the NMED to reject YUCCA Yucca Growth Infrastructure, LLC's air permit application for the YGI Microgrid. I ask the department to please hold a bilingual public hearing near the Santa Teresa community, so that residents can learn about the risks associated with fuel cell technology.

Sincerely, Carly Howard

The public should be given an additional 60 days to review and comment on the air quality permit so community members can participate equitably.

The air quality permit application should be denied given Bloom Energy's history of illegal dumping hazardous waste.

If the permit is not denied, a public hearing needs to be held in Santa Teresa, in both English and Spanish, with an option to participate virtually.

Approving this permit would be government-sponsored environmental racism as residents of Doña Ana County are already disproportionately impacted by environmental pollution.