

## Kym Ramsey

To the New Mexico Environment Department, Air Quality Bureau:

I am writing in opposition to the air quality permit application for the Bloom Energy fuel cell microgrid proposed for Project Jupiter in Santa Teresa, Doña Ana County.

My husband and I bought our home here in 2014. Our son turns five in a week and a half, and we want him to grow up in this place, not be forced out because the air isn't safe. I've seen what happens to communities near industrial polluters: towns where it feels like everyone eventually gets sick, where families either leave or stay and hope. No family in this county should have to make that choice. NMED's mission is "to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous NM for present and future generations," and the Air Quality Bureau exists to "protect the public health of New Mexicans and the natural beauty of the state by preventing the deterioration of air quality." I'm asking NMED to honor that mission:

Extend the comment period an additional 60 days. This \$165 billion project's air permit has already been rewritten once. Community members, especially Spanish speaking residents, need real time to review the filings and participate equally with the developer's legal and technical teams.

Deny the permit. Bloom Energy has a documented history of hazardous waste violations. The EPA fined Bloom \$1.16 million in 2020 for shipping hundreds of hazardous waste loads, including dozens to unpermitted facilities, without legally required manifests, from 2015 through 2019.

Bloom has also faced litigation alleging it illegally dumped benzene, a known carcinogen, into the ground at a California facility. A company with this record should not be trusted to self monitor a facility this size next to our homes.

If the permit isn't denied, hold a public hearing in Santa Teresa, in both English and Spanish, with a virtual option, so residents who can't travel or are more comfortable in Spanish aren't shut out.

Recognize that approving this permit is government sponsored environmental racism. Doña Ana County residents already carry a disproportionate pollution burden. Adding a multi gigawatt facility here, in a majority Hispanic community that has had little real say, repeats a familiar pattern of putting industrial burdens where people have the least power to push back.

Acknowledge this community cannot absorb more pollution. The Sunland Park area of Doña Ana County is a federally designated nonattainment area for ozone, meaning our air already fails to meet the federal health standard. Even with the switch to fuel cells, the developer's own estimates put annual emissions at roughly 10 million tons of greenhouse gases. Adding a major new emissions source on top of air already out of compliance contradicts NMED's own mandate to prevent further deterioration.

We've put twelve years into this home and this community. I'm not asking NMED to choose jobs over health. I'm asking it to make sure my son doesn't grow up in a place where that was ever a real trade off. Please put the health of Doña Ana County residents ahead of this project's timeline.