

Anonymous Anonymous

I am writing to formally submit my stringent opposition to the air quality permit application submitted by Yucca Growth Infrastructure, LLC for the "Project Jupiter" fuel cell facility planned for Doña Ana County. It is deeply concerning that outside corporate interests and high powered lobbyists appear to wield an unfair amount of influence over our state regulatory processes, pushing massive infrastructure developments forward without genuine equity, transparency, or regard for the local communities that will bear the heavy burden of their environmental footprint. We cannot continue to allow backroom corporate agendas to put New Mexico's precious and vulnerable natural resources at risk. We have seen this exact dynamic play out across the country such as the devastating strains placed on clean water supplies and local grids in states like Georgia where massive data centers were recently constructed. New Mexico cannot afford to repeat those disastrous, industry first mistakes.

The New Mexico Environment Department's official mission is explicit: "to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous NM for present and future generations." The NMED Air Quality Bureau is specifically tasked to ""protect the public health of New Mexicans and the natural beauty of the state by preventing the deterioration of air quality."" To uphold this vital mandate, I urge NMED to reject corporate lobbying pressures and take the following actions: This permit should be denied outright, particularly given Bloom Energy's deeply troubling history of illegal dumping of hazardous waste. Our community should not be forced to trust a corporation with a track record of violating environmental safety laws.

The public must be given an additional 60 days to thoroughly review and comment on this air quality permit. This extension is absolutely necessary so that everyday community members have the time and resources to participate equitably in a process that directly impacts their health.

If the permit is not denied immediately, NMED must mandate a formal public hearing to be held directly in Santa Teresa. To ensure true equity and community inclusion, this hearing must be conducted in both English and Spanish, and must feature a robust option for residents to participate virtually.

Approving this permit would be a direct act of government sponsored environmental racism. The residents of Doña Ana County are already disproportionately impacted by systemic environmental pollution. For years, Doña Ana County has been designated a "nonattainment" zone, meaning our local air quality consistently fails to meet federal safety rules. Forcing a massive new industrial project into an already overburdened community is a profound injustice.

New Mexico's air, water, and community health belong to its people not to the multi billion dollar entities trying to bypass local well being for private profit. I implore NMED to stand with New Mexicans, reject this permit, and protect our future.