

## Ricardo A. Rivera

I am a resident of Las Cruces. I am asking that you deny Yucca Growth Infrastructure's air quality permit. These AI data centers are being pushed through all over the country without real research into their environmental impact. It isn't enough that they're threatening our already fragile ecosystem but that our leaders are agreeing to these projects behind closed doors, under the cover of darkness. Other municipalities where this is happening are finding out that these companies are preying on weak, lower socioeconomic communities that are desperate for growth that they're willing to sign away their future. If you take a look at other data centers, for example Colossus and Colossus 2 in Memphis, these companies know what they're doing is wrong. So much so that when pressed they easily move their centers as far out as possible in hopes of avoiding detection for all the pollution they emit. The people who live near this data center experience increased noise pollution, their air quality drops causing issues for people with asthma and allergies (an issue that plagues the health of people in SW New Mexico), and complain about untold amounts of waste that threatens their health.

People and businesses with nothing to hide don't do things like that. They operate in the open. Keep everything above board. So why do data centers? Because they know if they do things the right way, they will never get what they want. Don't fall victim to their lies and sign away our future just for a quick buck, a handful of jobs that'll disappear once the center is built, all for an industry that is already starting to show cracks of imminent failure.

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.