

Anonymous Anonymous

Dear NMED staff, 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. The proposed design has an individual exhaust stack on each fuel cell, of which there will be 2,275. It would be inefficient to place monitors and controls on each individual stack and there are NO proposed pollution controls on any of these stacks. How, then, will this project show evidence of their compliance with emissions limit requirements under Title V? Has there been or will there ever be upstream fuel testing of methane gas to anticipate the composition of these fuel cells' emissions? How exactly will NMED enforce emissions standards without direct, long-term, continuous monitoring? Or isolate their deleterious impact on air quality without an accurate assessment of localized pollution? A fuel cell can continue to generate electricity or maintain operating temperatures while experiencing catalyst degradation which causes a massive spike in the release of carbon monoxide or Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). This project would need to centralize the 2,275 individual stack emissions into an exponentially smaller number of exhaust systems so that Continuous Emissions Monitoring Systems (CEMS) installed on these central exhaust systems can provide real-time, accurate data about operational compliance. As it is, this design plan completely fails to provide monitoring conditions that are "practically enforceable" under 20.2.70.302.B NMAC. 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.

"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 outright given Bloom Energy's history of illegal dumping hazardous waste. Approving this permit would be government-sponsored environmental racism directed at residents of Doña Ana County.

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