

Asher McCann

I urge the NMED to deny Air Quality Construction Permit Application 10883 for the Yucca Growth Infrastructure (YGI) Microgrid in southern Doña Ana County. Granting a permit to emit over 10 million metric tons of CO₂ annually violates NMED's mission to protect public health and prevent air quality deterioration, disproportionately harming BIPOC and low-income communities.

As much as the construction of the AI data plant will "supply jobs," said jobs are entirely temporary. The company wants to supply jobs to workers for the AI data plant, but the company's end goal is that AI will replace many, many jobs. That is not the only lie the AI company has convinced you to believe.

The microgrid will emit 161.2 tons/year of CO and 124 tons/year of VOCs near existing EPA non-attainment zones. It will generate a thermal plume and a "heat island" effect, raising downwind temperatures by up to 3.6°F in a sweltering desert climate, threatening vulnerable populations, most importantly, our New Mexico children and elderly, who we need to make up a community. If children are the future, they need to be alive to contribute.

YGI can not take over our state, our safety, and our New Mexico beauty. NMED, please reject this permit.