

Richard Wright

I am submitting this comment to share my strong opposition to the Yucca Growth Infrastructure, LLC-YGI Microgrid Air Quality Construction Permit Application.

Approval of this construction is an affront to the community of Santa Teresa and sets the precedent that all New Mexicans are to bear the financial, environmental, and health burdens associated with the development and operations of data centers.

The number of jobs this may create, or short-term financial benefit it may offer won't matter if there is no water for agriculture or neighboring communities and the air is polluted, exacerbating health problems such as asthma and COPD in a region already designated as a provider shortage area.

If this is not enough, please deny this application for the following additional reasons:

*YGI's application should be denied by NMED because YGI failed to include all relevant information about Bloom Energy's problematic history.

*Bloom Energy's Fuel Cells are not clean energy – no matter what YGI says. These fuel cells generate significant NOX, CO, and VOCs, all of which contribute to negative health impacts, as well as hazardous solid waste that cannot be ignored by NMED.

*Permitting any microgrid facility will result in a clear example of environmental racism and NMED is required to ensure no group of people bears a disproportionate share of negative environmental consequences. This is especially important because Doña Ana County residents already bear the disproportionate burden of environmental pollution compared to the rest of New Mexico.

*NMED should give the public 60 days of additional time to review and comment on the Application to ensure everyone can meaningfully comment and participate.

*If NMED does not reject YGI's application, NMED must hold a public hearing on the Application in both English and Spanish, in a hybrid format and in person in Santa Teresa.