

Dear NMED staff,

My name is Malia Trujillo Hanawalt. 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.

I am a proud Northern New Mexican whose family has sustainably lived off this land for generations. I want the same for myself, my future lineage, but most importantly for my community. We have rightfully been deemed the "Land of Enchantment" with our ecologic diversity blessing us with astonishing landscapes and environments, completely unique to our state. NMED, your claimed mission is "to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations." By granting these permit applications, you are directly harming New Mexicans and betraying your promise to protect our enchanting lands.

The Chihuahuan Desert borderlands of Doña Ana county, Tortugas Pueblo, Ysleta del Sur, and surrounding Pueblo communities are not a dumping grounds for Project Jupiter's developments. Our land does not deserve to be polluted with toxic waste. Our communities are counting on your protection based on the mission you promise to us.

I am a recent graduate of the University of New Mexico with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in which I have studied our environment and how all environmental factors directly impact our health. It does not take a degree in higher education to understand that the YGI Microgrid can only harm our communities.

I am asking you to think outside of yourself. Think outside of monetary gain. Think as someone who cares about the wellbeing of your fellow New Mexicans. Our land and our health should not be sacrificed for fuel cell technology experimentation. This will not let New Mexicans prosper.

The project's proposed fuel cell powered grid is concerning for many reasons:

- It would still produce a high level of greenhouse gas and toxic pollutants.
- This technology generates toxic waste, and the process for handling this waste is still unclear.
- Fuel cell technology or a centralized waste system has never been tried at this scale.
- Surrounding communities' air will be severely impacted by this development.

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.

Sincerely,

Malia Trujillo Hanawalt