

Elizabeth Hillenkamp

Dear NMED staff,

My name is Elizabeth Hillenkamp. I was born and raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and I am a grad student, pursuing a PhD in Astrophysics. 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.

Growing up in New Mexico, I feel deeply connected to the beautiful land here. It is absolutely essential that we protect the lands, waters, and people in this special place we call home. The growth of AI infrastructure necessitates extreme caution with who we allow to make use of these lands and waters, especially when projects are clearly designed to take from the land and people without concern for us.

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

It would 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 has never occurred at this scale.

Surrounding communities' air will be negatively impacted by this development.

I urge the NMED to outright 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.

Beyond the toxicity risks, the proposed project will use unfathomable amounts of water — water that we don't have. This is a decision between the greed of large companies and the livelihood of people in our communities. Please make the right choice.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Hillenkamp