

Whitney Watson

I am writing to express my opposition for Project Jupiter, which I believe offers no significant benefits for the community.

Project Jupiter is poised to raise electrical rates on residents of the city of Las Cruces and create an additional burden on the already heavy burdened water table. This underground water resource not only encompasses Doña Ana county, but the adjacent area of El Paso and also Luna County.

Most of the 4,000 construction jobs and 1,500 project-supported jobs will be filled by people from outside of the state.

Project Jupiter has committed \$50 million to help repair, upgrade, and improve local water systems; \$360 million in direct support for schools, infrastructure, and local services; and \$6.9 million to fund workforce development initiatives along with supporting the Boys and Girls Club of Las Cruces, clean drinking water, the local community college, and habitat restoration. In return, they are receiving huge tax breaks from Doña Ana county in order to build the project, as well as \$165 billion in government-backed industrial revenue bonds approved by local commissioners.

I urge the New Mexico Environment Department to reject this project.

Sincerely,
Whitney Watson