

Michael Saccone

Dear NMED staff,

My name is Dr Michael Saccone. I lived and worked in Santa Fe for 4 years, and 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 left professional, AI adjacent research to teach high school. This project is one of dozens of data centers that will be remotely operated or left in disrepair over the coming years as AI hype dies off. Their "financial commitments" are in lieu of taxation in many cases, a clever accounting trick to "gift" the county millions of dollars while still taking a tax break. Open AI and Oracle don't have the best interests of New Mexicans at heart and are poised to siphon their revenue away from the people whose air and water they are polluting. Our generations to come do not need these projects. The kids I work with are being forced into a grim future they never asked for. When the Rio Grande runs dry forever, they will take little solace in the size of the economic investment their grandparents accepted as a bribe.

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,
Dr Michael Saccone