

Francisco Santos

Dear NMED staff, My name is Francisco Santos, 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. Project Jupiter's power plant will release up to 10 million tons of climate-warming greenhouse gasses every year. This would make a mockery of NM's climate goals, and erase most of the climate progress we have made in the last two decades. The Chihuahuan Desert borderlands are not a barren dump site for Bloom Technologies to test their experimental technologies. Santa Teresa should not serve as ground zero for Bloom Technologies to scale their toxic technologies. Fuel cells generate hazardous waste. Fuel cells filter out sulfur and other contaminants in the methane stream. Jupiter claims that any pollution from opening and changing the filter media in the desulf canisters is exempt from air permitting regulations (because there is less than 1000 lbs/yr). Bloom was fined for improper hazardous waste handling in Pennsylvania and Maryland. In 2020, Bloom was fined \$210,000, and then \$1,161,000. The project's proposed fuel cell powered grid is also 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, Francisco Santos

"The public should be given an additional 60 days to review and comment on the air quality permit so community members can participate equitably.

The air quality permit application should be denied outright given Bloom Energy's history of illegal dumping hazardous waste. Approving this permit would be government-sponsored environmental racism directed at residents of Doña Ana County.

If the permit is not denied outright, a public hearing needs to be held in Santa Teresa, in both English and Spanish, with an option to participate virtually."