

Jan Thompson

I question (and hope you will, too) the use of fuel cells to power the massive data center planned for Santa Teresa commonly known as Project Jupiter.

Fuel cells have never been used in the quantity required for this project and the efficacy of such an array is questionable. Fuel cells have been known to explode, so there is a safety factor as well as environmental concerns.

I am told that, even with the use of fuel cells rather than gas-powered microgrids, the resulting air pollution will be greater than that of Albuquerque and Las Cruces, combined. If that is true, it will endanger the lives of even healthy residents in Santa Teresa and Anthony. The air quality in El Paso is already frequently in the red. Project Jupiter will exacerbate that situation and send many more people to emergency rooms with breathing problems.

To further complicate your decision, Bloom Energy cannot be trusted to have made a fair and honest application for permitting. They have a history of illegal dumping of hazardous waste. These are not people New Mexico should be doing business with.

It is the function of the NMED to keep us safe and healthy. Please keep that in mind when considering the permit requests of Project Jupiter.