

Leslie Giner

Hi NMED staff,

My name is Leslie. I have lived here all of my life, and throughout it I have come to love my city and my state. Although, it isn't always the best, it is home. As someone who's lived here their whole life, I've seen the decline of the city, especially Albuquerque and have acknowledged that severe changes need to be made in order to better it; building a power plant isn't one of them.

For the past two ish years, I believe, we have been in a drought or near drought conditions. Within the last six months the Rio Grande has completely dried up. I know people keep saying, "oh, it does that. It'll come back later" but if this power plant gets approved, it won't. This power plant may not affect our water reserves directly, but it does affect our climate and climate affects our water, the amount of precipitation we get, the weather, migration patterns, mating patterns, and agriculture; all of which are extremely important for New Mexico.

For the past 60 years scientists have been warning the public of the climate crisis, and as our nations continue to become more and more industrialized, it's gotten worse. We have about 3 years to start reversing climate change before the effects are even more detrimental than they already are. If this power plant gets built, 10 million tons of green house gasses will be produced every year. Not only is this harrowing for the environment it is also harrowing for the surrounding communities. For instance, the elementary school and high school that are located within 5 miles of the project site. The children and teenagers in these schools are vulnerable to the health risks of said green house gasses, (Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide etc.) as well as the residents who live near the site. It will impact these residents horribly and will leave them with a number of health conditions. Not to mention the injustice you will enact on them because of it.

If this plant gets approved, where will the toxic waste from the fuel cells go? In our communities or at least not far from them. New Mexico has beautiful agriculture, scenery and wildlife. If we allow this power plant to happen, all of New Mexico's beauty will be sullied by the waste that they plan to dispose of (most likely) in our communities.

If NMED allows this power plant to be built, their entire message and reason for existing is for nothing. Their mission is "to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations". If they allow Project Jupiter to be built, not only are they hypocrites, but they are enacting an injustice to all New Mexico communities and the land itself.

I love this state and the city I live in, and seeing someone trying to propose a project that will do more harm than good to the entire state is angering. We have so many issues that need to be fixed within it and instead they're promoting something that will have irrevocable consequences and add more damage to the already existing issues. If NMED and our state's government truly cares about our land and its people, please reject the proposal. We do not need this, nor do we want it.

Sincerely,
A concerned resident