

Traci Laney

I am writing to express my opposition to Project Jupiter and to urge the New Mexico Environment Department to carefully consider its long-term environmental and community impacts before granting approval.

While supporters emphasize the promise of temporary construction jobs, project-supported employment, and financial investments, these benefits should not outweigh the potential risks to our region's limited natural resources. Economic incentives and community donations do not eliminate or compensate for potential impacts to groundwater, air quality, public health, or the long-term sustainability of Doña Ana County.

The project's advertised commitments—including funding for water systems, schools, infrastructure, workforce development, and community organizations—are welcome investments, but they should not be viewed as substitutes for strong environmental protections. Community contributions cannot offset irreversible environmental damage if contamination or resource depletion occurs.

Our region already faces significant water challenges. Any project with the potential to increase water demand or threaten water quality deserves the highest level of scrutiny. The New Mexico Environment Department's responsibility is to protect New Mexico's natural resources and the health of its residents, not to weigh environmental protection against financial incentives.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the New Mexico Environment Department to deny approval of Project Jupiter unless it can be demonstrated through independent scientific analysis that the project will not adversely affect our water resources, environment, or the long-term well-being of our community.