

Kari Simmons Vickerman

I am submitting this comment because I am deeply concerned about the proposed Project Jupiter and its potential impacts on New Mexico's limited water resources.

New Mexico is an arid state facing ongoing drought, increasing temperatures, and long-term water insecurity. Water is not simply another resource here, it is essential to the health of our communities, our agriculture, our wildlife, our rivers, and future generations.

Any project that requires significant water consumption should be evaluated with extraordinary care. I question whether it is responsible to approve a water-intensive industrial project in a region already struggling with scarce water supplies. Facilities with such high water demands should instead be located in areas where water is abundant and where the environmental burden is substantially lower.

I respectfully ask the New Mexico Environment Department to fully consider the cumulative impacts this project could have on groundwater, surrounding communities, ecosystems, and long-term water sustainability. Short-term economic benefits should not outweigh the permanent value of protecting New Mexico's most precious natural resource.

Please place the long-term health of our state, our environment, and our residents first by requiring the strongest possible environmental review and by denying any permits that would jeopardize our already limited water supply.

Thank you for considering my comments.