

Nicole MacPhee

I am a wildlife biologist and botanist with extensive experience working for federal agencies and the private sector. I presently work in compliance for construction and development. Although I am aware that this is an application for an air quality permit and not a land use authorization permit, I strongly urge NMED to reject this application and not approve this permit. We have seen how air quality is affected by data center outputs countless times in other states who do not have the water crisis we are currently suffering. In addition to air pollution from general operations, it is a known fact that data center consumption of water is astronomically more than casual use, which not only affects our water supply (and thus our human rights), but the quantity of water available to the environment. Air quality issues are directly influenced by the presence of water in the landscape, impacting the stabilization of soils via perennial vegetation. New Mexico is one of the most speciose states for vegetation and this region in particular safeguards numerous desert plant species that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. I understand we can't stop the land clearing, but you have a choice to make on whether this permit is approved. You know it's unethical and you know the people don't want this. Reject it. Represent us, the plants, the animals, and the very air we all breathe like you are supposed to. Do not succumb to corporate interests.