

Suzanne Neville Staley

Residents of Dona Ana have been deliberately kept in the dark on the development of Project Jupiter. It has created an atmosphere of distrust around our elected officials and the citizens they serve. Now more than ever we need to conserve what water we have and put the needs of our people first above the needs of corporate shareholders.

Bloom Energy on paper sounds like an environmentally friendly company but the fuel cells will be producing enormous amounts of greenhouse gas in addition to using millions of gallons of water per day. Water is already so scarce in southern New Mexico and we cannot afford to waste it on a data center that has very little support from the communities around it.

I ask that the air quality permit application be denied. I ask that the public be given an additional 60 days to review and comment on the air quality permit so community members can participate equitably. And if the permit is not denied, I ask that, at minimum, a public hearing be held in Santa Teresa, in both English and Spanish, with an option to participate virtually.