

Annalisa Starke

I am a resident of Tijeras, New Mexico which is a small town outside of Albuquerque, New Mexico. In the past 4 years I've been working in a community orientated field and the one thing I see daily are people. Last year the summer was so hot we had people coming in just to get out of the sun, even when it was cloudy it was too hot. A drastic change from when I was a child living in the same village.

A data center in New Mexico will push those levels higher. They're already predicted to be higher this year and higher again next. Carbon dioxide has proven time and time again that it causes the temperature of the earth to rise. I hear ambulances passing my home, my work and my vehicle daily due to high temperature sending people into heat related seizures. It was never like this when I was young and with no restrictions on pollutants, like this data center, it will only get worse.

New Mexico as a state was unsettlable for generations as it was hard to find water for even wells. Our Rio Grande is nearly dry, a data center uses millions of gallons of water to cool it. In a desert state, there are few places to get that much water. That will cause more communities to suffer, especially those nearest to Project Jupiter. That is added to the high altitude our state sits at in general. Pollutants have to travel less distance to reach our ozone layer. We have a much higher responsibility to protect our air quality because of that.

I sincerely ask my state representatives, is a data center really worth the harm you will cause to not just our state but also our people? The air quality permit application should be denied given Bloom Energy's history of illegal dumping hazardous waste. The people of Dona Ana County should have a say in such a large project that would effect their community and way of life. Should this permit not be denied there should be a hearing provided - in English and Spanish - for community members to participate and state their concerns.