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Please do not approve the YGI Microgrid air quality construction permit application. As we've seen with other microgrids at other data centers around the country, companies are using "microgrid" exemptions to skirt the air quality requirements New Mexico would normally enforce for them to bring a normal natural gas power plant online. Unlike a normal natural gas plant, however, YGI is the sole beneficiary of the power generated. The rest of the community has to deal with the noise and the pollutants; Project Jupiter would emit over 14 million tons of greenhouse gasses per year, more than twice the annual emission of the cities of Albuquerque and Los Alamos combined. If we're willing to accept that level of pollution in our state, I'd rather it be because we've approved things like more busses for public transportation, not a data center.

I'm also deeply skeptical of YGI's commitments to invest in local infrastructure improvements because, again, we've seen multiple data center projects launch with a splash and lots of good press, only to have their funding cut and evaporate overnight. The risk in approving this project is that New Mexico will end up with another private natural gas plant that consumes our gas and water and pollutes our air, and nothing given back to the community. Almost everyone I've talked to about Project Jupiter feels the same way - we're tired of AI companies and we're worried about our natural resources.