



Doña Ana County

July 6, 2026

New Mexico Environment Department
Office of Public Facilitation
ATTN: Pamela Jones
Runnels Building
1190 S. St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Support for Yucca Growth Infrastructure, LLC-Microgrid Air Quality Construction Permit

To the Members of the Board:

As Chairman of the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners, I am writing to express my strong support for Project Jupiter. This project represents a significant opportunity to strengthen our local economy, expand career opportunities, and invest in critical community infrastructure.

Having grown up in Anthony, New Mexico, and El Paso, Texas—the Borderlands I proudly call home—I understand firsthand the challenge of finding high-paying, career-oriented employment in our region. With the support of my family, I earned admission to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study Mechanical Engineering. After graduation, however, I was unable to find opportunities in my field close to home and spent more than a decade away before returning to Doña Ana County.

For the past seven years, I have proudly represented District 5 on the County Commission. Throughout that time, I have worked to create opportunities that allow future generations to build successful careers and raise their families here, rather than being forced to leave in search of opportunity. Project Jupiter advances that goal.

Project Jupiter will create high-quality jobs to support both the data center and its associated power infrastructure. It will also deliver substantial community investments, including approximately \$360 million over 30 years through Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTs), \$50 million for repairs and upgrades to local water systems, and \$6.9 million in direct support for schools, public services, and infrastructure. These benefits do not include the gross receipts tax revenues expected during construction or the additional economic activity generated for local businesses. At a time when economic growth is slowing across New Mexico, Project Jupiter provides Doña Ana County with an opportunity to strengthen its economic future.

After reviewing the proposal before the Board, I am encouraged by the project's evolution and the environmental improvements incorporated into the current plan. Our region has experienced challenges related to ozone and particulate matter, and the transition from gas turbines to fuel cells substantially reduces nitrogen oxide (NOx) and particulate matter emissions compared to the original proposal. This approach also reduces water consumption associated with emission-control systems. The project team remains committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2045, consistent with the conditions established through the Industrial Revenue Bond process. I look forward to seeing continued progress toward that commitment as the project develops.

I recognize that Project Jupiter has generated significant public interest and scrutiny, particularly regarding air quality and water use. Public engagement is essential and I appreciate those who have taken the time to participate in the discussion. Economic development must be balanced with environmental stewardship and responsible resource management. Based on the proposal before the Board, I believe Project Jupiter achieves that balance.

Project Jupiter has the potential to be transformative for Doña Ana County. It will create jobs, generate long-term public revenue, and provide resources that will enable local government to better serve our residents for decades to come. For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Members of the Board to approve the requested air permit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manuel Sanchez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Manuel Sanchez
Chairman
County Commissioner, District 5