

Jake Greene

I am concerned about the various pollutants that this project will create and put into the air we all breath. Asthma runs in my family and I know the terror of having to rush my little sister - blue in the face - to the hospital in the middle of the night. She had a childhood case of asthma all her short life - she died at 43 years of age. My mother struggled with asthma much of her life and I developed an adult onset case by my mid thirties. In fact, we moved from California's central vally to Santa Fe county in 2001 to leave behind the nation's third worst airbasin to experience the clearer air of New Mexico. I carry a rescue inhaler but have never used it since moving here. I fear my asthma may return if this project is allowed to emit 37+ tons of NOx and 75+ tons of particulates annually into the atmosphere. Moreover, I am concerned the men, women, and children who live near this development will be subjected to the same ailments and more (lung cancer, strokes, heart attacks, brain damage, and others) my family suffered with, including premature death, if this project is allowed to use our air as a sewer. Thus, I believe this project should not be permitted at all but, if it is permitted, it should be held to strictly enforced standards already in place in New Mexico, including meaningful fines and stoppages until the development meets those standards.

Turning to the subject of the local population - men, women, and children living near this project - Doña Ana County has been a nonattainment zone for years — that is, county air quality does not meet federal standards. It is simply racist and an environmental injustice to site this project in the county. As a part of New Mexico state government, the Environment Department would be engaging in intolerable behavior toward the state's citizens by approving this project, given what we all know about the effects of the pollution it will generate. Approving this project ipso facto sentences a portion of nearby men, women, and children to lifelong ailments, a lessened quality of life, and premature deaths. It simply is wrong to approve this development wmeetingsithout hearing from people in person. Thus, the Department must hold local public meetings in English and Spanish to understand how the people feel about the impacts of this project.

There is also the matter of the trustworthiness of one proponent, Bloom Energy. According to what I have read, Bloom has been fined over \$1.4 million by several states for illegally handling and dumping hazardous wastes. These wastes included cancer-causing benzene, heavy metals such as lead, arsenic, and chromium, and toxic compounds, including sulfur. Furthermore, there is evidence Bloom falsified records to hide what the company did and to escape responsibility for the malfeasence. If agua es vida, we cannot put our limited water at risk by allowing this company to move forward with this project. Nor can we risk our soil and air to a company of dubious reputre and honesty.