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**FW: Solar Lithium Battery Storage Facility**

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**From** Gabriel C. Bustos <gcbustos@santafecountynm.gov>

**Date** Fri 4/18/2025 8:06 AM

**To** Lisaida M. Archuleta <lmarchuleta@santafecountynm.gov>

**Cc** Dominic J. Sisneros <djsisneros@santafecountynm.gov>; Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

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**From:** jal@jalarts.com <jal@jalarts.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 17, 2025 8:59 PM

**To:** Gabriel C. Bustos <gcbustos@santafecountynm.gov>

**Subject:** Solar Lithium Battery Storage Facility

**Warning:**

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Dear Mr. Bustos,

According to "Violation Tracker" ([violationtracker.goodjobsfirst.org/parent/aes-corp](https://violationtracker.goodjobsfirst.org/parent/aes-corp)), 56 penalties were incurred by AES between 2000-2019, resulting in \$40 million in fines. These fines were for hazardous waste, environmental, air pollution, water pollution, health, labor relations, and workplace energy market infractions. Not included: Penalties between 2019 and the present.

In a direct quote from my correspondence with John Buscher, Northern Group Chair | Sierra Club Rio Grande Chapter, he stated; "AES is a roughly \$13B per year company. \$40M in fines from various problems over a multi-year interval is quite small, and typical of problems any company might experience." What he failed to mention was the harm to human beings or the environmental damage which incurred these penalties.

To paraphrase a woman who recently had to close her restaurant due to hazardous pollution from the Moss Landing facility fires, "I would just like you to prove to me that my community and I will be safe." To "prove" means that you are 100% sure, not from conjecture, guesswork, theorizing, opinion or comparison with other facilities. Can AES do that? Do we deserve less?

I invite you to picture yourself moving into our Rancho Viejo community and living within five miles of this industrial sized lithium battery storage facility. I support the development of solar energy in New Mexico, but AES has not convinced me that in the building of this facility, they can ensure the absolute safety of the surrounding residents. Therefore, I oppose their proposed solar lithium battery facility in Santa Fe.

Sincerely,

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