



Fw: Proposed "Solar" Project

From Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

Date Wed 4/2/2025 1:41 PM

To Dominic J. Sisneros <djsisneros@santafecountynm.gov>; Gabriel C. Bustos <gcbustos@santafecountynm.gov>

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From: Tamara Burgh <tburgh@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 1:30:21 PM

To: Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

Cc: Gabriel C. Bustos <gcbustos@santafecountynm.gov>

Subject: Proposed "Solar" Project

Warning:

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Dear Commissioner Hughes,

As you know, the Santa Fe County Planning Commission approved a “solar” project—a BESS (Battery Energy Storage System)—near my community of Eldorado. AES, a utility and power-generating company based in Arlington, Virginia, plans to construct this greenwashed project and install more than half a million lithium-ion batteries.

AES FACILITIES ARE KNOWN TO BE UNSAFE AND DANGEROUS.

AES has 54 violations and over \$40 million in fines for environmental, safety, and employment-related offenses. Their poor performance is recorded here:

<https://violationtracker.goodjobsfirst.org/parent/aes-corp>

Considering the recent toxic fires and permanent ground contamination from a similar facility at Moss Landing, CA, the Santa Fe County Planning Commission’s decision in favor of this facility is unconscionable and terrifying. New data shows heavy metals from the smoke of the Moss Landing battery storage (BESS) fire have turned up SEVERAL miles away at levels toxicologists call “concerning.”

We live in a **HIGH WILDFIRE RISK AREA.**

Due to AES' documented poor record, it is safe to say that toxic plumes, water, and land contamination are bound to happen. Should that facility cause a major disaster, it's clear, under the present administration, that we can anticipate no federal relief. It's unclear what, if anything, the state or county would provide under those circumstances. This means protecting residents' health, safety, and welfare now falls to us, aside from trying to protect the value of our properties and the ability to get adequate insurance. This is why I **strongly** oppose the approval of this project.

STOP THE SCAM! The AES project is not clean energy.

As the video (link below) outlines, safer solar alternatives.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Tamara Ann Burgh

Watch the Video: <https://www.cleanenergycoalitionsfc.org>