



In support of CUP - case #24-5200 Rancho Viejo Solar

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Date Wed 6/11/2025 8:37 PM
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I am writing in support of the Rancho Viejo Solar Project that is proposed by AES. It is important that the energy that we use is produced locally, and even more importantly, that the energy is carbon-free. Not only is locally produced electricity cheaper, it prevents the spoiling of the lands outside the greater Santa Fe area. It is that open space that makes New Mexico so special.

Though many fear that the batteries (BESS) are a fire hazard, this fear is unfounded. Not only are BESS fires rare and getting rarer, no fire has ever escaped a BESS. The latest design specifications are meant to quickly react to an overheating cell and interrupt the series of events that lead to a "thermal runaway" event.

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