



Comment on AES Rancho Viejo BESS & Solar Facility-Opposition to CUP

From abhaya barbara aldridge <abhaya108@sbcglobal.net>

Date Thu 6/12/2025 10:59 AM

To Dominic J. Sisneros <djsisneros@santafecountynm.gov>

Warning:

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Dear Mr. Sisneros,

This is to go on record as OPPOSITION to the conditional use permit for the AES Rancho Viejo BESS & Solar Facility project.

This project, in the location it is proposed for, should NOT be permitted. Alternative siting needs to be considered. In New Mexico, there are thousands of acres more suitable for a utility-scale facility which have not been considered.

There are many reasons that this project is not suitable for this location, so close to Eldorado and Rancho Viejo. To summarize:

1. County Codes: a utility-scale facility like this project is prohibited by county codes.
2. RISK: The project adds great risk to the area in the form of fire, water use and groundwater contamination, wildlife effects, noise and light pollution hazards. The high winds, dry vegetation, and few evacuation routes all add up to a disaster waiting to happen should this facility be allowed to be built. The risks inherent in such a facility would affect property owners in a negative way by lowering property values, causing insurance cancellations, and reducing tax dollars to the County.
3. AES' environmental record: currently there are 10 pending environmental lawsuits against AES with injuries to people and environmental infractions.

Please place this opposition comment in the record.

Thank you,
Barbara Aldridge
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