



Fw: AES Project

From Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

Date Thu 6/19/2025 12:30 PM

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

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From: Kathy C <kathycashiola@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 10:09:54 PM

To: Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

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

Subject: AES Project

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June 18, 2025

Dear Commissioner Hughes,

I write to you as a concerned citizen of the Eldorado Community in Santa Fe County regarding the proposed AES Rancho Viejo Solar Project. As you may know, the proposed facility is in the middle of the 3 vibrant communities of Eldorado, Rancho San Marcos and Rancho Viejo. Many area residents, including the Clean Energy Coalition, have raised serious issues and questions with the AES proposal and the Santa Fe County Commissioners during County Hearings. These concerns include the location of the site, the size of the facility, environmental concerns of PFAS from the Lithium-Ion Battery storage, wildfires and wind factors in our High Desert area, possible well water contamination, and a 2.3 mile high-voltage power line tie to a 115KV switching station, to name a few. These major concerns about the location of the project site, especially having the storage of lithium-ion batteries so close to homes, have been raised by teams of people within our city and county residential areas for months on end. The fact that AES did not explore any other location for this project, although there are many thousands of acres in New Mexico more suitable and safer for such a large scale solar and battery installation, is very troubling. This is a

very real issue. It is about the site location rather than the project.

It is approximately a mile radius from our neighborhoods, schools, senior centers and community gathering spaces. Please consider the grave importance of this matter. Our communities need the support of Santa Fe leaders to ensure the health and safety of its citizens.

For the above stated reasons, I ask you to DENY the AES Rancho Viejo Solar/Battery Project permit applications in Santa Fe County at the next Santa Fe County Commissioners Public Hearing on this project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mary C. Cashiola
5 Altura Road
Santa Fe, NM 87508

Sent from my iPad