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**FW: Strongly object to AES project**

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From Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

Date Sun 6/8/2025 8:11 AM

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

Hank Hughes

Santa Fe County Commissioner, District 5



**SANTA FE COUNTY**

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**From:** Nancy Neskauskas <neskauskas@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Saturday, June 7, 2025 1:19 PM

**To:** Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

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

**Subject:** Strongly object to AES project

**Warning:**

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Dear Commissioner

As a professional forester of 40 +years, 20 of which have been in fire management I am writing to express my sincere fear and alarm presented by the possible construction of the solar lithium battery project slated to sit between Rancho Viejo and Eldorado.

This type of facility poses an extreme danger of overheating which can lead to a thermal runaway which Santa Fe County fire department is ill prepared to manage. One overheated cell can cascade and affect hundreds of other cells.

The company wanting to build this facility has a had accidents at their facilities in Arizona and California.

The release of toxic gases during a thermal runaway incident can endanger the nearby residents of Rancho Viejo, Eldorado and fire personnel,

An overheating thermal runaway incident would most likely result in "Shelter in Place" scenario for hundreds of residents in proximity to the facility. It will produce long lasting toxic effects to the environment.

With the persistent drought most of Santa Fe county is considered at high to extreme risk of wildland fire. If a brush fire came through the area, the results could be catastrophic.

There are tens of thousands of acres of open ranch land in Santa Fe county not close to homes. Is there no other place that isn't right between 2 well established communities that you can put this project???

I beg of you to reconsider.

Respectfully

Nancy Neskauskas