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**FW: To commissioner Hughes:**

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**From** Gabriel C. Bustos <gcbustos@santafecountynm.gov>  
**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 11:31 AM  
**To** Dominic J. Sisneros <djsisneros@santafecountynm.gov>  
**Cc** Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

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**From:** Mary Lou Jackson <mljackson42@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 23, 2025 10:14 AM  
**To:** Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>  
**Cc:** Gabriel C. Bustos <gcbustos@santafecountynm.gov>  
**Subject:** To commissioner Hughes:

**Warning:**

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Hello Santa Fe County Commissioner Hank Hughes,  
(COPY: Gabriel Bustos Liaison)

I am appealing to you as an elected Santa Fe County Commissioner, and specifically District 5 where I live, to protect ALL Santa Fe County residents by voting against the AES Conditional Use Permit in the upcoming appeal hearing.

Regarding the upcoming AES Conditional Use Permit appeal, due to AES's own statements in their annual reports that fire risks are present in recent annual reports, I encourage you to vote to reject their application in the interest of ALL Santa Fe County residents including those who have their homes, schools and businesses close to the proposed site.

For residents living near the proposed installation of solar panels and massive volatile Lithium-ion Battery Energy Storage Site, it is a matter of health and welfare, and we are counting on you to prevent AES from building a facility that could endanger the 10,000 residents, school children and businesses who are close to the site.

If a Lithium-ion fire were to occur, suppressed or not, there would be toxic gasses released into the air from the fire suppressant which is toxic when used, and toxic hazardous smoke which could blow into neighborhoods causing shelter in place and evacuation orders. Lithium-ion fire smoke could contaminate the air we breathe, the soil in our properties and school yards, and our groundwater with toxins such as heavy metals. My husband and I live in Eldorado, built our home, dug our well, and raised our children here. We hope to live here for many more

years without the threat or the occurrence of a disaster because Santa Fe County allowed AES to build their proposed Rancho Viejo massive Solar and Battery Energy Storage System.

There are many other locations available, identified by the state, that would not pose the risks to New Mexico residents that the Rancho Viejo site would. AES is a \$45 billion international corporation that should be able to afford to build transmission lines or buy property in a location away from residences, schools and businesses.

Also, would you please request the venue for the appeal hearing be large enough to accommodate all who wish to attend in person since this is incredibly important to us as long term Santa Fe County residents who deserve the same safety as the other approximately 144,000 county residents who do not live near the site?

Respectfully,

Mary Lou Jackson

Santa Fe County resident since 1990