O Outlook

Fw: Santa Fe County to buy 2,700-acre open space north of Eldorado for $3.7 million

From Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>

Date Tue 5/6/2025 8:06 AM

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

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From: Milicent McFarland <milliemc@cybermesa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:24:26 AM
To: Hank Hughes <hhughes@santafecountynm.gov>
Cc: Millie McFarland <milliemc@cybermesa.com>
Subject: Santa Fe County to buy 2,700-acre open space north of Eldorado for $3.7 million

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Dear Hank,

I am writing re. the county's recent decision to purchase more land for recreation. I saw an immediate suggestion appear on the newspaper's response page and that was for a Conservation Easement to be added to the purchase. This would prevent the area from being exploited by developers. I think that is a brilliant idea and is often a way for areas to be protected from development.

I am also wondering what the latest is on the proposed giant commercial solar battery development here, near us, in ElDorado.
I am still strongly opposed.
I have two questions regarding county and state law regarding developments such as these:
1. How is the Dark Sky Ordinance being enforced and the dark skies being protected from this development? What amount of light is released/created by such an installation? Man-made light has a strong negative impact on bird flight and other animal behavior. It also interferes with enjoyment of the night sky and study of stars by humans.
2. Have there been studies of the noise coming from developments such as these and how the noise affects the general quiet and animal nesting and habitation, etc.?
In addition to the dark skies here in ElDorado, the peace and quiet is my favorite thing about living here. I can't believe that there won't be noise during construction, of course. But I wonder what the ambient noise level will be on a regular, operational, basis, if this is actually installed.

Sincerely,
Millie McFarland