

Dominic J. Sisneros

From: Cliff Walker <hondurascliff@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 2:30 PM
To: Jordan A. Yutzy; Dominic J. Sisneros
Subject: Letter of support for Rancho Viejo Solar

Warning:

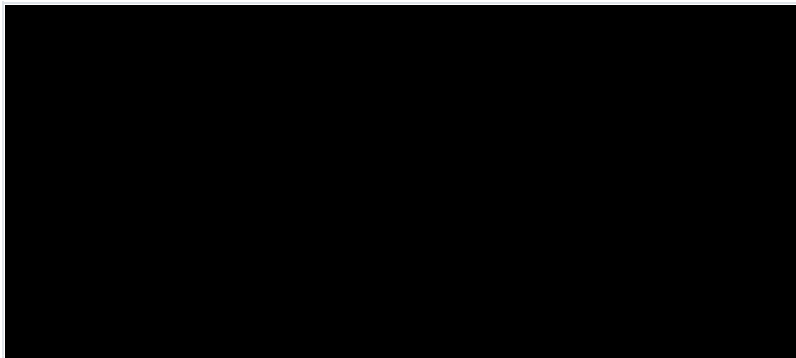
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Dominic Sisneros and Jordan Yutzy,

As a native born and 30 year resident of Santa Fe County, I support the Rancho Viejo Solar project.

As a civil engineer, this project should be approved based on the sound science and engineering practices presented by the developer.

It should not be rejected based on the politically motivated opposition organized by Citizens for Responsible Solar, a Washington DC based anti solar power group, who are misleading local residents of the benefits this project will bring to our area. [An activist group is spreading misinformation to stop solar projects in rural America](#)



An activist group is spreading misinformation to stop solar projects in ...

An NPR/Floodlight investigation found that a longtime Republican insider is stoking solar opposition by spreadin...

The project will bring many benefits to Santa Fe County such as:

- The lowest cost electricity generation ensuring affordable electricity for all residents, particularly residents who cannot afford the capital cost of rooftop solar.
- Emission free form of electricity generation.
- Electricity generation located near its use rather than incurring losses by long distance electricity transmission and straining a distribution grid near its capacity.

- Battery backup ensuring reliable electrical supply and peak load electricity supply.
- A form of electricity generation that does not require water, crucial for our arid area.
- Economic activity, particularly well paying technical jobs for retaining and employing young residents.

I see the main concern from local residents are visual impact and structural fire concerns. As with any construction project, the developer has provided the following mitigations, among others:

- Low profile solar panel and racking system to conserve our landscape.
- Exceeded mandated setbacks from other private property.
- Electrical and battery management systems to isolate any electrical circuits before an electrical fault is created.
- Fire containment and suppression systems to quickly contain and extinguish any forms of heat or fire.
- A large water storage tank to aid fire suppression and aid fire fighters to contain approaching wild land fires or structural fires.

I urge the county to approve this project for the benefit of all Santa Fe County and New Mexico Residents.

Sincerely,

Cliff Walker
Professional Engineer, Civil Water Resources
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Santa Fe, NM 87506