

**From:** [Hank Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Emma Felt](#); [Greg Shaffer](#); [Gabriel C. Bustos](#); [Dominic J. Sisneros](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: AES Rancho Viejo Solar Conditional Use Permit application  
**Date:** Monday, June 17, 2024 8:34:56 AM

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Hank Hughes  
Santa Fe County Commissioner  
District 5

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**From:** Dana Killen <danakillen@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 16, 2024 6:03 PM  
**To:** Hank Hughes; Gabriel C. Bustos; Anna C. Hansen; Justin S. Greene; Camilla M. Bustamante; Anna T. Hamilton  
**Subject:** AES Rancho Viejo Solar Conditional Use Permit application

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To: The Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners

I am a resident of Eldorado at Santa Fe and I'm asking this board to please enact a moratorium on the review process for the AES Rancho Viejo Solar Conditional Use Permit application until the correct codes, guidelines and regulations are in place and to allow the necessary time to explore other existing safer alternatives.

I believe the only reason the fires attributed to similar smaller installations in Arizona and California were not catastrophic is that they were not in populated areas. The proposed AES site is right in the middle of three residential communities affecting thousands of people, their homes and their very lives. The land itself is dry grassland plagued by drought, hot temperatures, high winds and low humidity making it already subject to risk of fire. The proposed lithium-ion battery energy storage system has the highest potential for sparking fires of all the available energy storage systems. There are safer solutions that need to be considered.

The idea of utilizing solar power is great, but the certainties of more costly home owner insurance coverage (if available at all), declining property values and strain on our water supply incurred as a result of this proposed installation added to the noise pollution created and the threats of air and water contamination and potential fire risk make this a very questionable plan. There are better sites and safer energy storage systems. Please protect your neighbors in these areas by taking the time and steps necessary to find the very best and safest solutions.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Dana Killen