

From: [Katherine Bruch](#)
To: [Daniel Beaman](#); [Wayne Johnson](#)
Subject: Fwd: Diamond Trail Solar & Battery Storage
Date: Monday, January 27, 2025 3:33:55 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nina Beucler Rebstock <ninabeucler@gmail.com>
Date: January 27, 2025 at 1:38:18 PM MST
To: Katherine's Bruch <kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov>, Jon Herr <jrherr@sandovalcountynm.gov>, Michael Meek <mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov>, Jordan Juarez <jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov>, Joshua Jones <jjones@sandovalcountynm.gov>
Subject: Diamond Trail Solar & Battery Storage

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Dear Sandoval Board of County Commissioners,

I am writing in opposition to PCR Energy's proposed Diamond Tail Solar Plant to be located at the center point of our Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway. The visual disruption caused by this proposed 2.8-square-mile solar facility, particularly its visibility from elevated points along the Turquoise Trail, threatens to spoil views, deter tourism, and diminish property values, while endangering critical economic and cultural benefits for New Mexico. I urge the commission to recommend relocating this project to a more suitable site away from the byway's viewshed. New Mexico offers vast stretches of land ideal for solar development that do not compromise its scenic or cultural treasures. Such a relocation would balance the need for renewable energy with the equally critical need to protect landscapes that hold significant cultural, ecological, and economic value.

Our opposition to PCR Energy's Diamond Tail Solar Plant boils down to these 2 specific concerns:

- Threat of fire and water contamination:

This proposed power plant endangers the safety and wellbeing, of the surrounding citizens, their properties, and residential wells. PCR's proposed battery energy storage system is generically prone to fire caused by lithium storage batteries and their specific design has inadequate security safeguards against battery failing to meet industry "best practices" for safety and security. These same batteries can leach forever chemicals contaminating our aquifers, residential wells and the Albuquerque Basin providing water to the entire city. The location of the proposed power plant is inappropriate, because the site is too remote, with first responders too far away to effectively intervene in the event of fire, which is a real threat as this site is already subject to recurring natural wildfires.

- Wrong Location:

The size and scale of this proposed power plant would obviously detract from the scenic beauty of Turquoise Trail, being in full view of Sandia Crest Overlook, being in close proximity to and in full view of the Albuquerque Golden Open Space; being in close proximity to and in full view of the Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway; and being situated on a location at which several Hollywood movies have been filmed due to its enchanting natural beauty as well as thousands of works of art done by notable artist such as Georgia O'Keeffe.

There are other locations in Sandoval County, and in New Mexico, that are far more appropriate for a power plant and battery energy storage system of this type and scale, specifically so-called "brownfields", in which the land has already been disturbed, is not subject to wildfire, and is situated closer to first responders. I ask you to vote "no" to this zoning change to ensure that New Mexico remains a leader in scenic preservation. I ask the commission to relocate this project ensuring a balanced approach to development that respects and integrates the beauty of the landscape with renewable energy.

Sincerely,

Nina Rebstock

Resident of Santa Fe County

Nina

bigpicturelonglife.com

Nina Beucler Rebstock
Nutrition Coach, Health Planner

"Let thy food be thy medicine, and thy medicine be thy food" Hippocrates