From: Theresa Haycock < tmhaycock@icloud.com >

Date: January 28, 2025 at 8:39:43 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Fwd: 'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules

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I am an Appellant for the approval given by the SC P&Z Commission for the PCR request. This is the rezoning to accommodate their solar and BESS plans for the Diamond Tail property. I am a proponent of green energy but the risks to the Sandia Mountain from the BESS installation and potential fire is a risk that none of us should contemplate. This PCR proposal is an example of "Right Project, Wrong place". The West Mesa of SC already has several solar and BESS installations so why not move the PCR project there?

Here is a news article that makes the fire risk clear and ahead of existing regulations and technology.

Th Monterey County Supervisor says this about the Moss Landing battery fire:



'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules yahoo.com

From: Theresa Haycock <tmhaycock@icloud.com> **Date:** January 28, 2025 at 9:08:27 AM MST

To: Jordan Juarez < jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov>

Subject: Can Solar Farms Catch Fire

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How Often Do Solar Farm Fires Occur? firetrace.com

From: Theresa Haycock < tmhaycock@icloud.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 9:10:07 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Can Solar Farms Catch Fire

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How Often Do Solar Farm Fires Occur? firetrace.com

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Carla Ward < carlaward11@gmail.com/ Date: January 25, 2025 at 3:15:24 PM MST

To: Jordan Juarez < jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Diamond Tail Solar Farm

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Letter from Turquoise Trail Association;

Carla Ward and Patricia Brown Turquoise Trail Association P.O. Box 303 121 Sandia Crest Rd. Sandia Park, NM 87047 505-281-5233 www.turquoisetrail.org From: Theresa Haycock < tmhaycock@icloud.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 9:10:07 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Can Solar Farms Catch Fire

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How Often Do Solar Farm Fires Occur? firetrace.com

From: Theresa Haycock < tmhaycock@icloud.com >

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:07 AM **To:** Jon Herr < <u>irherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>

Subject: Can Solar Farms Catch Fire

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How Often Do Solar Farm Fires Occur? firetrace.com

From: b.lisa.davis@gmail.com

Date: January 28, 2025 at 2:06:56 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov, Jon Herr < irherr@sandovalcountynm.gov, Michael Meek < mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov, Jordan Juarez < jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov, Jordan Juarez < jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov), Jordan Juarez < jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov), Wayne Johnson < mailto:wjohnson@sandovalcountynm.gov)

Subject: Diamond Tail Solar Plant Letter of Opposition

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DAVIS - Opposition Letter Proposed Diai

Please find attached my letter in opposition to the Diamond Tail Solar Plant.

Lisa Davis

Mobile: 505.238.7036

Email: b.lisa.davis@gmail.com



From: <u>b.lisa.davis@gmail.com</u> < <u>b.lisa.davis@gmail.com</u>>

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 2:06 PM

To: Katherine Bruch <<u>kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jon Herr <<u>jrherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Michael Meek <<u>mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jordan Juarez <<u>jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Joshua Jones <<u>jjones@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Wayne Johnson <<u>wjohnson@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>

Subject: Diamond Tail Solar Plant Letter of Opposition

Please find attached my letter in opposition to the Diamond Tail Solar Plant.

Lisa Davis

Mobile: 505.238.7036

Email: b.lisa.davis@gmail.com

From: patczeto@volitionwellness.com <patczeto@volitionwellness.com>

Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 9:29 AM

To: Katherine Bruch < <u>kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jon Herr < <u>jrherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Michael Meek < <u>mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jordan Juarez < <u>jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>;

Joshua Jones < jjones@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Diamond Tail Solar Plant

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If this email looks suspicious, report it to the IT department immediately.

Dear Sandoval Board of County Commissioners: Michael Meek 2025 Chairman, Jordan Juarez 2025 Vice-Chairman, Katherine A. Bruch, Jon Herr, and Joshua Jones

Please seriously consider the consequences of approving the Diamond Tail Solar Plant. We don't want another tragic fire and disaster like the Moss Landing Lithium Plant fire in northern California! https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=kBZ8f8TxmGs&fbclid=lwY2xjawlClsxleHRuA2FlbQlxMQABHWJrh5KTxlsHcrXBJYKSHrJsh3HXSD6uekczY2FBSmnFeLt7ohcocTXDBw_aem_rQiftDNwipJflinWRMBRTw

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 safely 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 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,

Pat Czeto

From: Kaye < kaye@coopmead.com >

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 10:28 AM

To: Katherine Bruch < <u>kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jon Herr < <u>jrherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Michael Meek < <u>mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jordan Juarez < <u>jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>;

Joshua Jones < jjones@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Diamond Tale Solar Plant

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Dear Sandoval Board of County Commissioners:

This letter is to confirm my opposition to the Diamond Tale Solar Plant. This facility is an extremely large project by developers with no experience and too near homes given what has now been proven by the Moss Landing BESS fire disaster.

The San Jose State University has now released information just yesterday on serious toxic heavy metal contamination in at least a two mile area surrounding the Moss Landing facility. The metals (nickel, cobalt and manganese) found are extremely dangerous to human health and have now contaminated the soil in this protected area.

This University's scientists have been studying soil in this exact area for ten years so they have all the data that proves that when they measured the soil after the Moss Landing fire they found a huge spike in the readings for these three specific chemicals which can be directly traced back to the Lithium-ion batteries used in the facility which were NMC. The NMC stands for the heavy metals contained in the batteries — Nickel, Manganese and Cobalt and these are the three chemicals they found.

This is absolute proof that these BESS fires the industry likes to say "don't escape their containers", absolutely do escape their containers in the form of toxic smoke and the smoke is one thing these owners cannot control as the containers must be designed with deflagration panels that open to vent all the toxic gases or the containers will quickly explode from the gas pressure. There is no way to stop the smoke from polluting wide swaths of land surrounding the facility. Did the developer mention the toxic smoke and contamination in their Hazard Mitigation Analysis provided to you?

The State Land Office here in New Mexico on their webpage has confirmed there are 9 million acres of land available in the state for solar development. The Federal Bureau of Land Management under their newly updated Western Solar Plan offers another 3 million acres of federal land available right now for solar development in New Mexico within 10 miles of existing or planned transmission lines making it more attractive for developers. That's 12 million other acres where this power plant could be sited.

These extremely dangerous facilities must be sited far away from any neighborhoods, schools or hospitals and should only be placed on brownfield sites since we now know any lithium-ion batteries will pollute the environment with extremely toxic chemicals.

Time to stop right now and reassess a safe place to site this facility which is obviously not its current planned location. Please do the right thing and don't endanger your constituents lives in favor of a foreign company who just wants to make money.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and really consider and understand how vital your decision is in the safety of your community. Your lives and constituents' lives are depending on you and this land use decision. Please don't let them down.

Sincerely,

Kaye Cooper-Mead

https://www.ksbw.com/article/heavy-metal-moss-landing-soil-battery-facility-fire/63575941

From: patczeto@volitionwellness.com

Date: January 27, 2025 at 9:37:57 AM MST

To: Katherine 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 Tail Solar Plant

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Hello Again, This may be a better link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBZ8f8TxmGs&t=783s

Dear Sandoval Board of County Commissioners: Michael Meek 2025 Chairman, Jordan Juarez 2025 Vice-Chairman, Katherine A. Bruch, Jon Herr, and Joshua Jones

Please seriously consider the consequences of approving the Diamond Tail Solar Plant. We don't want another tragic fire and disaster like the Moss Landing Lithium Plant fire in northern California! https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=kBZ8f8TxmGs&fbclid=lwY2xjawlClsxleHRuA2FlbQlxMQABHWJrh5KTxlsHcrXBJYKSHrJsh3HXSD6uekczY2FBSmnFeLt7ohcocTXDBw aem rQiftDNwipJflinWRMBRTw

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.

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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.

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Sincerely,

Pat Czeto

From: Kaye < kaye@coopmead.com >

Date: January 28, 2025 at 10:35:34 AM MST

To: Katherine 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 Tale Solar Plant

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Sincerely,

Kaye Cooper-Mead

https://www.ksbw.com/article/heavy-metal-moss-landing-soil-battery-facility-fire/63575941

From: Nina Beucler Rebstock < <u>ninabeucler@gmail.com</u>>

Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 1:38 PM

To: Katherine Bruch < <u>kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jon Herr < <u>jrherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Michael Meek < <u>mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jordan Juarez < <u>jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>;

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.

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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

From: Nina Beucler Rebstock < <u>ninabeucler@gmail.com</u>>

Date: January 27, 2025 at 1:38:16 PM MST

To: Katherine 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,

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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

From: Carla Ward < carla Ward < carla Ward <a href="

Subject: Diamond Trail Solar Farm

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Letter from The Turquoise Trail Association;

From: <u>Katherine Bruch</u>

To: <u>Wayne Johnson</u>; <u>Daniel Beaman</u>

Subject: Fwd: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar **Date:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:16:54 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Berton Coxe

 berton.coxe@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 9:11:34 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: berton.coxe@gmail.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. This project represents a unique opportunity to bring significant benefits to our area—good-paying construction jobs, stable income for landowners, and critical tax revenue to fund schools and first responders—while respecting the quiet, open spaces that make our county special.

Solar farms are a practical and low-impact use of rural land, ensuring it remains productive without the demands of high-density development. With advanced technology, including energy storage systems, these projects enhance grid reliability and support a stable energy supply for our region while simultaneously supporting New Mexico's renewable energy goals. Importantly, they align with broader efforts to diversify our energy resources and keep energy costs low, which is beneficial for families and businesses alike.

Supporting the Diamond Tail Solar Project is a common-sense step that strengthens our local economy while preserving the values we hold dear. Thank you for your service to our community and for considering this important project.

Sincerely, Berton Coxe Corrales, NM 87048-7248 berton.coxe@gmail.com From: Theresa Haycock < tmhaycock@icloud.com >

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 8:42 AM **To:** Jon Herr < <u>irherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>

Subject: 'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules

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Here is a news article that makes the fire risk clear and ahead of existing regulations and technology.

Th Monterey County Supervisor says this about the Moss Landing battery fire:



'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules yahoo.com

From: Theresa Haycock tmhaycock@icloud.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 8:57:20 AM MST

To: Jordan Juarez < jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov>

Subject: 'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules

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'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules yahoo.com

From: Theresa Haycock < tmhaycock@icloud.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 8:39:43 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < <u>kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>

Subject: Fwd: 'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules

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I am an Appellant for the approval given by the SC P&Z Commission for the PCR request. This is the rezoning to accommodate their solar and BESS plans for the Diamond Tail property. I am a proponent of green energy but the risks to the Sandia Mountain from the BESS installation and potential fire is a risk that none of us should contemplate. This PCR proposal is an example of "Right Project, Wrong place". The West Mesa of SC already has several solar and BESS installations so why not move the PCR project there?

Here is a news article that makes the fire risk clear and ahead of existing regulations and technology.

Th Monterey County Supervisor says this about the Moss Landing battery fire:



'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules yahoo.com

From: Theresa Haycock < tmhaycock@icloud.com > Date: January 28, 2025 at 8:39:43 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Fwd: 'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules

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'Horrifying' fire at California lithium battery plant sparks calls for new clean energy rules yahoo.com

From: Merilynn Hidalgo < <u>1sunfield@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 9:58:25 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: <u>1sunfield@use.startmail.com</u>

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

As a member of the community who values our rural character and economic resilience, I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. This project represents a unique opportunity to bring significant benefits to the area—good-paying construction jobs, stable income for landowners, and critical tax revenue to fund schools and first responders—while respecting the quiet, open spaces that make our the special.

Solar farms are a practical and low-impact use of rural land, ensuring it remains productive without the demands of high-density development. With advanced technology, including energy storage systems, these projects enhance grid reliability and support a stable energy supply for our region while simultaneously supporting New Mexico's renewable energy goals. Importantly, they align with broader efforts to diversify our energy resources and keep energy costs low, which is beneficial for families and businesses alike.

Supporting the Diamond Tail Solar Project is a common-sense step that strengthens our local economy while preserving the values we hold dear. Thank you for your service to our community and for considering this important project.

Sincerely,
Merilynn Hidalgo
Albuquerque, NM 87114-9310
1sunfield@use.startmail.com

From: Merilynn Hidalgo < 1sunfield@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 9:58:25 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: <u>1sunfield@use.startmail.com</u>

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Sincerely,
Merilynn Hidalgo
Albuquerque, NM 87114-9310
1sunfield@use.startmail.com

From: Alexis Jimenez alexisjimenez2016@everyactioncustom.com

Date: January 28, 2025 at 10:59:39 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: <u>alexisjimenez2016@gmail.com</u>

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

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Sincerely, Alexis Jimenez Rio Rancho, NM 87124 alexisjimenez2016@gmail.com From: Donald Miller < donaldmiller2750@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 12:47:35 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: donaldmiller2750@gmail.com

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Sincerely,
Donald Miller
Rio Rancho, NM 87124-3918
donaldmiller2750@gmail.com

From: Jo Harmon < <u>jocharmon@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 2:24:49 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: jocharmon@gmail.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

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Sincerely,
Jo Harmon
Rio Rancho, NM 87124-0991
jocharmon@gmail.com

From: Phillip Rochford <<u>d.rochford@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 7:17:01 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: <u>d.rochford@outlook.com</u>

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

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Sincerely,
Phillip Rochford
Corrales, NM 87048
d.rochford@outlook.com

From: Lynne Patton < lynnepattonn@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 6:41:48 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: lynnepattonn@hotmail.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

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I am a resident of Sandoval County and I am a PNM customer.

Sincerely, Lynne Patton

Sincerely, Lynne Patton Rio Rancho, NM 87124-0975 lynnepattonn@hotmail.com **From:** Berton Coxe < berton.coxe@everyactioncustom.com >

Date: January 28, 2025 at 9:11:34 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: berton.coxe@gmail.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. This project represents a unique opportunity to bring significant benefits to our area—good-paying construction jobs, stable income for landowners, and critical tax revenue to fund schools and first responders—while respecting the quiet, open spaces that make our county special.

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Sincerely,
Berton Coxe
Corrales, NM 87048-7248
berton.coxe@gmail.com

From: Nancy Peterson < neen 11475@msn.com >

Sent: Sunday, January 26, 2025 4:50 PM

To: Katherine Bruch < <u>kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jon Herr < <u>jrherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Michael Meek < <u>mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jordan Juarez < <u>jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>;

Joshua Jones < jjones@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Proposed Diamond Trail Solar & Battery Storage

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If this email looks suspicious, report it to the IT department immediately.

Dear Sandoval County Commissioners,

I am writing to you to request that you PLEASE DO NOT allow any solar farms/ battery storage facilities near residential areas nor the Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway. I have been informed that the State Land Office has identified millions of acres of "brownfields" that are much more appropriate to locate these industrial plants. In fighting against a proposed massive battery farm in Santa Fe County to be located in the middle of 25,000 residents, I have done quite a lot of research into these highly dangerous and explosive batteries. It is not safe to put these battery farms near people and they endanger our environment with the high risk of causing wildfires and polluting the air, land and water with forever chemicals and many other toxins.

I believe it is the FIRST responsibility of our local county governments to protect the residents and the environment of this state from harm. These industrial-size battery/solar farms are way to dangerous for the locations that have been proposed. Since there are "brownfields" already identified as better suited and in safer locations, then it only makes sense to install them where they do not destroy the health, safety and welfare of the citizens and the environment, as well as our beautiful views, pristine land and our ground water. It does seem counterintuitive to try to prevent climate change while simultaneously polluting the environment and endangering residents. Please choose a more reasonable location and do not destroy the livability of our beautiful state.

Thank you,

Nancy Peterson

From: Tamara Burgh < tburgh@sbcglobal.net>
Date: January 28, 2025 at 3:47:59 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Cc: "Jon R. Herr" < <u>irherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>, Michael Meek < <u>mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>, Jordan Juarez < <u>iojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>, Joshua Jones < <u>ijones@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>

Subject: PCR Diamond Tail Solar Plant Concerns

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Dear Sandoval Board of County Commissioners,

I am writing in opposition to PCR Energy's proposed Diamond Tail Solar Plant, with a proposed location 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 with significant cultural, ecological, and economic value.

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

• The threat of fire and water contamination:

This proposed power plant endangers the safety and well-being 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 batteries 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 a 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 detract from the scenic beauty of Turquoise Trail, which is in full view of Sandia Crest Overlook, the Albuquerque Golden Open Space, and the Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway. The plant is situated in a location where several Hollywood movies have been filmed due to its enchanting natural beauty and thousands of works of art by notable artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe.

Other locations in Sandoval County and New Mexico 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, providing a balanced approach to development that respects and integrates the beauty of the landscape with renewable energy.

Sincerely,

Tamara Burgh Santa Fe tburgh@sbcglobal.net From: Nancy Peterson < neen 11475@msn.com > Date: January 26, 2025 at 4:49:37 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov>, Jon Herr < irherr@sandovalcountynm.gov>, Michael Meek < mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov>, Jordan Juarez < jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov>,

Joshua Jones < jjones@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: Proposed Diamond Trail Solar & Battery Storage

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Dear Sandoval County Commissioners,

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Thank you,

Nancy Peterson

From: Nancy Peterson < neen 11475@msn.com >

Sent: Sunday, January 26, 2025 4:50 PM

To: Katherine Bruch < <u>kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jon Herr < <u>jrherr@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Michael Meek < <u>mmeek@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>; Jordan Juarez < <u>jojuarez@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>;

Joshua Jones < jjones@sandovalcountynm.gov >

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Thank you,

Nancy Peterson

From: James Gover < <u>igover@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 10:20:28 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov >

Subject: I support building nuclear power plants in Sandoval County for data centers

Reply-To: jgover@kettering.edu

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

Data centers that run AI-based software have high demands for electric power. I recommend that Sandoval County attract companies who build data centers to come to NM and make use of the most reliable electric power in the world, nuclear power. For more information including the file deck I recently used for a UNM talk, please make email contact with me.

Sincerely,
James Gover
Rio Rancho, NM 87124-1507
jgover@kettering.edu

From: Anastasia Andersen < <u>AAndersen62@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 12:09:50 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < <u>kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov</u>>

Subject: I Support Diamond Tail Solar Project

Reply-To: AAndersen62@outlook.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. Solar farms are a practical and low-impact use of rural land, ensuring it remains productive without the demands of high-density development. With advanced technology, including energy storage systems, these projects enhance grid reliability and support a stable energy supply for our region while simultaneously supporting New Mexico's renewable energy goals.

Importantly, they align with broader efforts to diversify our energy resources and keep energy costs low, which is beneficial for families and businesses alike.

Supporting the Diamond Tail Solar Project will strengthen our local economy while preserving the values we hold dear. Thank you for your service to our community and for considering this important project.

Sincerely,
Anastasia Andersen
Albuquerque, NM 87110-2519
AAndersen62@outlook.com

From: Dawn Foster < dawnfoster84@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: February 4, 2025 at 7:52:42 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: dawnfoster84@comcast.net

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

As a retired environmental engineer, and resident of Placitas, I value our rural character and economic resilience, I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. As you know, this project represents a unique opportunity to bring significant benefits to our area—good-paying construction jobs, stable income for landowners, and critical tax revenue to fund schools and first responders—while respecting the quiet, open spaces that make our county special.

Solar farms are a practical and low-impact use of rural land, ensuring it remains productive without the demands of high-density development. With advanced technology, including energy storage systems, these projects enhance grid reliability and support a stable energy supply for our region while simultaneously supporting New Mexico's renewable energy goals. Importantly, they align with broader efforts to diversify our energy resources and keep energy costs low, which is beneficial for families and businesses alike.

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Sincerely,
Dawn Foster
Placitas, NM 87043-9411
dawnfoster84@comcast.net

From: Christine Spigarelli < <u>eldoradosf@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 3:48:54 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: eldoradosf@yahoo.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

As a member of the community who values our rural character and economic resilience, I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. This project represents a unique opportunity to bring significant benefits to our area—good-paying construction jobs, stable income for landowners, and critical tax revenue to fund schools and first responders—while respecting the quiet, open spaces that make our county special.

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Sincerely, Christine Spigarelli Rio Rancho, NM 87127 eldoradosf@yahoo.com From: Mitchell Freedman < MITCHELLFREEDMAN@everyactioncustom.com >

Date: February 5, 2025 at 3:53:08 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: MITCHELLFREEDMAN@yahoo.com

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Sincerely,
Mitchell Freedman
Rio Rancho, NM 87124-5917
MITCHELLFREEDMAN@YAHOO.COM

From: M Timothy Callan < tim17271@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 4:01:13 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: tim17271@gmail.com

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Sincerely, M Timothy Callan Placitas, NM 87043-9335 tim17271@gmail.com **From:** Jae Riebe < <u>jaeriebe@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 4:07:41 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: jaeriebe@gmail.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

As a member of the community who values our rural character and economic resilience, I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. This project represents a unique opportunity to bring significant benefits to our area—good-paying construction jobs, stable income for landowners, and critical tax revenue to fund schools and first responders—while respecting the quiet, open spaces that make our county special.

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Supporting the Diamond Tail Solar Project is a common-sense step that strengthens our local economy while preserving the values we hold dear. Thank you for your service to our community and for considering this important project.

Sincerely,
Jae Riebe
Rio Rancho, NM 87144-3501
jaeriebe@gmail.com

From: Delbert Schafer < schafer42@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 4:30:42 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: schafer42@gmail.com

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Sincerely,
Delbert Schafer
Rio Rancho, NM 87124-1333
schafer42@gmail.com

From: Karen Miller < <u>karen-miller@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 4:43:37 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar Reply-To: karen-miller@pinewoodpreschool.com

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Sincerely,
Karen Miller
Rio Rancho, NM 87124-3918
karen-miller@pinewoodpreschool.com

From: Ann Kepley <ann.kepley@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 4:49:58 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: ann.kepley@gmail.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

As a community member who values our rural character and economic resilience, I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. This project represents a unique opportunity to bring significant benefits to our area, including good-paying construction jobs, stable income for landowners, and critical tax revenue to fund schools and first responders while respecting the quiet, open spaces that make our county unique.

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Supporting the Diamond Tail Solar Project is a common-sense step that strengthens our local economy while preserving the values we hold dear. Thank you for serving our community and considering this vital project.

Sincerely, Ann Kepley Bernalillo, NM 87004-5770 ann.kepley@gmail.com **From:** Lynne Patton < <u>lynnepatton@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 5:20:40 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: lynnepatton@hotmail.com

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Sincerely, Lynne Patton

Sincerely, Lynne Patton Rio Rancho, NM 87124-0975 lynnepatton@hotmail.com **From:** Charmaine O'Rourke < <u>werecamo@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 5:58:56 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: werecamo@gmail.com

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Sincerely, Charmaine O'Rourke Ruidoso, NM 88345-7811 werecamo@gmail.com **From:** Dennis Bumgarner < behavior-coach@everyactioncustom.com >

Date: February 5, 2025 at 6:36:54 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: behavior-coach@att.net

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Sincerely,
Dennis Bumgarner
Placitas, NM 87043-8766
behavior-coach@att.net

From: Lindsay Lannholm < lindsayanne99@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 8:34:43 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: lindsayanne99@hotmail.com

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Sincerely, Lindsay Lannholm Rio Rancho, NM 87124-4718 lindsayanne99@hotmail.com **From:** shelley mann-lev < <u>shelleymannlev1@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 9:17:27 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: shelleymannlev1@gmail.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

As a public health leader who values our rural character and economic resilience, I'm writing to express my support for the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. This project represents a unique opportunity to bring significant benefits to our area—good-paying construction jobs, stable income for landowners, and critical tax revenue to fund schools and first responders—while respecting the quiet, open spaces that make our county special.

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Sincerely, shelley mann-lev Santa Fe, NM 87505-6528 shelleymannlev1@gmail.com **From:** Dianne Burke < bdianne48@everyactioncustom.com >

Date: February 6, 2025 at 1:00:23 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: bdianne48@yahoo.com

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Sincerely,
Dianne Burke
Rio Rancho, NM 87124-7619
bdianne48@yahoo.com

From: Sue Adams < adams2361@everyactioncustom.com >

Date: February 6, 2025 at 8:45:05 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: adams2361@yahoo.com

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Please support this Solar project.!

Sue Adams

Sincerely, Sue Adams Rio Rancho, NM 87144-7550 adams2361@yahoo.com From: Gail PINKEPANK < gpinkepank@everyactioncustom.com >

Date: February 6, 2025 at 9:51:53 AM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: gpinkepank@msn.com

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Sincerely,
Gail PINKEPANK
Rio Rancho, NM 87144-1594
gpinkepank@msn.com

From: Stefi Weisburd < <u>weisburd@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 6, 2025 at 12:50:27 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: weisburd@mac.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

I have written to the Commission previously about the compelling economic and job benefits to the county of the proposed Diamond Tail Solar and Storage project in the East Mountains where I live. Replacing coal-generated electricity with solar is a huge water savings, and the income from the farm will enable the ranch owners to conduct conservation on an important Rio Grande Basin watershed in the county.

We are lucky to have companies like PCR who want to invest in clean energy in our state especially now when Federal support is so precarious.

Studies indicate that we must build the equivalent of one 200 MW solar and one 200 MW wind farm per month in our state for 16 years to slow climate change that is already taking its toll here. (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SBp4K2A2oKx 7-R5wVNVKLp0JZDFfpBn/view).

I know my neighbors are worried about fires from batteries, but the spread of sometimes alarming and misinformed messages on Next Door and other forums does a great disservice to a reasoned public discussion. Reiterating some important points experts have made:

- o No battery fire has ever spread or caused property damage outside of its facility. (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SC-KRbeh6uYosfzAzOShlswdMZxH8FIB/view)
- o As you know, modern battery systems, like that envisioned for Diamond Tail, are designed as a series of widely spaced, continuously monitored containers certified to stringent, multilayered fire safety codes and each equipped with fire prevention and suppression systems.
- o The last decade and post-2022 fire safety standards have substantially reduced the frequency and severity of battery fires as deployment of these systems has skyrocketed.
- o The proposed Tesla Megapacks exceed some local fire safety standards.
- o The recent Moss Landing fires occurred in a completely different design which concentrated racks of batteries into a repurposed building. Less than 1% of facilities are designed that way, for good reason. (https://www.canarymedia.com/articles/energy-storage/moss-landing-fire-reveals-flaws-in-the-battery-industrys-early-designs)

My neighbors also object to the seeing the farm from their homes a few miles away and from some trails in the Sandias. I seriously doubt the project, which really can't be seen from NM14, will have any impact on Turquoise Trail tourism. If anything, I see the farm as a monument to the pioneering contributions New Mexicans have made to solar energy development – including Indigenous, Sandia Labs and university scientists, the National Solar Thermal Test Facility, the nation's oldest solar energy association, the country's first solar thermal business building, and the experimental passive solar buildings at Ghost Ranch, among other achievements.

Sandoval County has a great opportunity to participate in the clean energy economy and reduce climate pollution, giving the East Mountains a greater chance of staying beautiful for decades to come.

Sincerely, Stefi Weisburd Tijeras, NM 87059-0579 weisburd@mac.com **From:** Arwen Lynch-Por < <u>readings@everyactioncustom.com</u>>

Date: February 6, 2025 at 3:15:22 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch < kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov > Subject: New Mexicans Support Diamond Tail Solar

Reply-To: readings@tarotbyarwen.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

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Supporting the Diamond Tail Solar Project is a common-sense step that strengthens our local economy while preserving the values we hold dear. Thank you for your service to our community and for considering this important project.

We must bring in more jobs and find renewable energy solutions. I love where I live.

You have a wonderful opportunity to make it even better.

Sincerely, Arwen Lynch-Por Rio Rancho, NM 87124-4119 readings@tarotbyarwen.com From: Susanne Hinkle < susanne.g.hinkle@everyactioncustom.com>

Date: February 5, 2025 at 4:47:53 PM MST

To: Katherine Bruch <kbruch@sandovalcountynm.gov>

Subject: Support Diamond Tail Solar Reply-To: susanne.g.hinkle@gmail.com

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Dear Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch,

As a member of the community, I support the Diamond Tail Solar Project in Sandoval County. From what I have read it's a win/win/win for all parties, ie, our planet, PNM, and Sandoval County residents. Please vote in favor of this project for the good of everything. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely, Susanne Hinkle 6042 Hoochaneetsa Plz S Cochiti Lake, 87083

Sincerely,
Susanne Hinkle
Cochiti Lake, NM 87083-6036
susanne.g.hinkle@gmail.com

Hello Wayne,

After our discuss, I spoke with my board members as well as EMPAC's to organize our response to Chairman Meek's memorandum concerning the Feb. 18th hearing. Attached is a PDF of our request, which is also cut and pasted into this email. As you referenced, you will be meeting with Chairman Meek tomorrow morning and will address our request and concern then. You also indicated you would get back to us about your discussion in a timely manner.

Look forward to hearing back from you soon.

Thank you, Karen Yank

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Michael Meek & Manager Wayne Johnson, Sandoval County

FROM: Karen Yank, President, TTRA; Dennis Kellogg, President, EMPAC

DATE: February 5, 2025

RE: Organization and Procedures for Hearing Appeals on ZNCH-24-005

As appellants who filed formal appeals, on December 30, 2024, alleging abuse of discretion by P&Z Director Beaman, we write to respond to Chairman Meek's memorandum, dated January 31, 2025, setting forth the procedures for the ZNCH-24-005 hearing process.

<u>Objection</u>: We respectfully object to the hearing process outlined by Chair Meek. By "lumping" our December 30 appeals in with all the other subsequent appeals, our December 30 appeals are obliviated. We paid separate filing fees for the December 30 appeals, and we expect a separate hearing to consider these appeals.

<u>Request</u>: We request that the County hear our December 30 appeals first, and separately, from the other 10 follow-on appeals. These first appeals relate to the discrete issue of how P&Z erred on several counts involving the posting of materials by both parties for public record, along with Mr. Beaman error made by deny our request to postpone the scheduled December 10, 2024, P&Z Hearing on ZNCH-24-005.

<u>Preferred Outcome</u>: We hope—and expect—that after the County has considered our December 30 appeals, the County will remand ZNCH-24-005 back to P&Z for another hearing in which all parties will be provided with a full and transparent opportunity to present their facts and arguments, pro and con, on the matter of ZNCH-24-005.

Reasoning: The P&Z hearing held on December 10 was rushed and inadequate, and thus defective. Applicant PCR flooded the participants with a mass of last-minute documents and the opposition parties had no time to digest that PCR material and respond accordingly. This is why we requested a postponement of the December 10 in the first place, which Mr. Beaman denied in error. Furthermore, Staff Director allowed the applicant to submit documents well past the 72-hour deadline and in fact allowed materials to be posted the day before the hearing. At the same time, Staff Director withheld posting timely materials submitted by the opposition parties for several day wasting valuable time that the P&Z Commission would have had to review. The result of this defective process was that opposition parties were denied a fair and full opportunity to submit evidence and testimony explaining why the proposed zoning change, ZNCH-24-005, should be denied.

And why is this important? Because, according to the rules promulgated by the County Board, in any hearing before the Board, the only evidence that we can use is that which we presented in the December 10 P&Z Hearing. As Chair Meek stated in the January 31 memorandum: "Evidence will be limited to the record of the initial Planning and Zoning Commission hearing".

Our argument is simple: Mr. Beaman erred in denying our request to postpone the December 10 hearing; as a result, we were denied the ability to create an adequate record of evidence on the matter of ZNCH-24-005; which means that we are now substantially—and unfairly—disadvantaged when coming before the Board for the February 18, 2025, hearing.

Request Stay of Proceedings on ZNCH-24-005 to include the second group of 10 appeals pending the Board of County Commissioner decision at a Hearing on our first instant appeals addressing the abuse of discretion: Pursuant to County Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, Section 22E, Appeals, appellants TTRA and EMPAC hereby requests that the instant appeal shall stay all proceedings in the matter of ZNCH-24-005 by the Sandoval County Board of Commissioners, until such time as the instant appeal is considered by Sandoval County Board of Commission in a Public Hearing and a formal decision is taken on the merits of the instant appeal by the Sandoval County Board of Commission at said Public Hearing or reasonably thereafter.