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More Solar, Less Fossil Fuel

By Saraswati Khalsa 16 hrs ago

I want to publicly thank Rio Arriba County Commissioner Alex Naranjo and the other County commissioners for their Dec. 14 comments at the County commission meeting. They spoke regarding the future of energy development and their decision to hold public meetings about the Verde Transmission Line proposal. They want to hear all concerned and learn as much as possible before making a decision.

The idea of destroying our Valley's beauty and environmental ecosystem for the profit of fossil fuel millionaires in Texas is absurd. The Hunt Group represents the past, not the future, and is trying to push the development of infrastructure that belongs to the era of oil and coal.

If their transmission line is built, in 10 years it will already be a relic of the past and a stain on our landscape that has accomplished nothing. As Hunt representatives noted, solar power tends to be decentralized and does not require transmission lines of the size they are proposing.

Instead I hope that Rio Arriba County can take advantage of our beautiful sunshine and use all possible resources to encourage homeowners and businesses in the area to convert to solar energy. This is also a much bigger opportunity for jobs and economic development in our Valley.

With the decentralization of power, there will be many more opportunities for young people in New Mexico to train and get employment as solar installers and technicians. This is the key to the future of our economy and a bright future for our children.

Saraswati Khalsa

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