

Councilmember Marilyn Balcome,

Less than 6 months ago, most average people didn't know what a data center was. While we are all catching up, more concerning health risks have been linked to data centers, including a GMU study just released. The authors urge strong regulations to keep these impacts in check. Montgomery County needs to make sure we have these regulations in place before allowing 5 hyperscale data centers to draw up to 2 Million gallons from the Potomac per day. Please enact a moratorium as soon as possible and set about a transparent process to understand and regulate data centers here. The current ZTA 26-01 seems more concerned about fencing colors than protecting ratepayers and water drinkers by setting hard standards on water and energy use and emissions. We rely on you to protect us from over-consumptive industries - the ZTA must be stronger to do so. Please include my comments in the hearing record.

Alison Vo