

Testimony on ZTA 26-01 Data Center Commercial Uses - Data Center

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Carolyn Conlan

We are extremely concerned about the potential grave harm that large data centers will do to our environment and electrical infrastructure. Our primary concern regarding these facilities is their exorbitantly large demand for water, already a very fragile resource in this era of climate change. Our community is already in severe drought (per NOAA), so how can it possibly be a good idea to put further strains on our groundwater and other water sources??

These centers also cause intolerable noise pollution and disfigure and/or destroy agricultural land as well as rural, semi-rural, and suburban communities.

These centers put an unacceptable strain on our electrical grid and threaten the availability and affordability of electricity for us and your other constituents. Our electricity bills have already skyrocketed since last year, even though we keep the house at 60 degrees F in this frigid weather.

The State is just beginning a study of data centers. So what is the rush to jump in and allow large scale data centers in Montgomery County? There is every reason to wait, particularly with a project with unknown impacts speeding toward approval with no regulations. Please keep in mind the long-term viability of our way of life when making any further decisions on this matter. We will be voting accordingly.

Thank You,  
Carolyn Conlan