

To Whom it may Concern:

Data centers are entirely new, complex and increasingly controversial. This is a land use that we have no zoning code for. This proposed ZTA 26-01 is silent on the most impactful issues with data centers - namely the impact on our regional water, power supply and health. The scale of these projects is unlike anything else in the county and the zoning needs to acknowledge that. I've read the data centers will use the same energy as hundreds of thousands of houses and millions of gallons of the Potomac we can't afford to lose. Regulations that take stakeholders into account and balance data centers with climate goals and resource protection will take some time to get right. Not to mention the costs that are going to get passed down to consumers. This is unacceptable and no amount of money is worth this. Please put a moratorium into place quickly to allow the time to craft zoning that takes the real issues into account. We need to pause like several other Maryland jurisdictions have done. Please include my comments in the hearing record.