

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

March 3, 2026

Patricia Hermans
Poolesville, Maryland

Western Montgomery County has already grown to the point that the under ground water sources could be in jeopardy. After living here for over 30 years, I have seen a few years where water can be scarce in the summer. Plus, electricity is getting higher as it is. Living in this area should mean cleaner air. We are away from all of the city infrastructure that creates pollution. Our farms and the people who work them deserve the availability of clean air, water and electricity. Our residents that travel the distance to live here should have the same. Councilmembers need to understand that allowing a new land use that will use a Gigawatt (705,000 homes) of energy and run a gigawatt of backup diesel generators will single handedly end any hope the county had of reaching our climate goals. Hyperscale data centers, like the ones proposed in Dickerson, are simply not compatible with our values and hosting AI infrastructure to benefit huge tech companies on the backs of our water and grid security and public health is not a bargain our leaders should be making. Please add this message to the hearing record.

Thank You,

Patricia Hermans