

Dear Council President Fani-González, Council Vice-President Balcombe,
Councilmember Sayles, and members of the Montgomery County Planning Board:

Hello, my name is Stella and I am a resident of Rockville. I am writing about the Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 26-01, Commercial Uses – Data Center. I support requiring any data centers built in the county use 100% renewable energy.

There have recently been multiple reports of data centers having adverse impacts on the residents and environment surrounding them. The construction of data centers is directly responsible for higher electricity bills, as reported by CNN, Bloomberg, the New York Times, NPR and many other major news sources. This essentially forces individual residents to subsidize the actions of large corporations. I am one person, and I'm just trying to get by in what are pretty trying economic times; allowing large corporations to add an unwanted burden to each of us is ludicrous to me. Therefore, if more data centers are to be built, I want the strictest possible regulations in order to protect individual residents like myself from their impact.

In terms of environmental impact, there have also been many news reports by the BBC, CBS, NBC, and other news sources about data centers being linked to environmental damage that impacts the health and quality of life of individual residents. We are already experiencing environmental emergencies, such as the Potomac sewage spill; I strongly oppose any development that would increase threats to our already fragile environment.

Thank you for your consideration, and your commitment to protecting our community.

Sincerely,
Stella
Rockville MD