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

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We need to put a moratorium on all data centers while a regulatory framework is established. It's not right for big tech to take advantage of our Potomac River, and degrade the quality of our water and air.

Data centers need massive amounts of electricity, which either strains local electric grids or requires polluting diesel generators.

Policymakers must mitigate harms from data centers by enforcing strict environmental regulations, monitoring emissions, and mandating mitigation measures to protect surrounding communities. Transparency is essential. Residents have the right to know the risks associated with data centers and should be actively informed about industry practices.

Public input must guide decision-making do residents want them, and if so, under what conditions? Developers must adhere to clear design and operational safeguards, including renewable energy integration, water conservation, noise pollution control measures, and responsible land siting.

Please include my comments in the hearing record.

Thank You,

Susan Eskite