

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

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Data Centers will add to global warming. They are huge energy consumers. Residents affected by these behemoths have experienced large increases in their energy bills and are negatively affected by the noise they create. I am extremely concerned about the negative environmental effects data centers will create for the Potomac River. I have no doubt they will cause warming of the water which could lead to unknown damages to the environment. They do not belong in our Agricultural Reserve. I believe these centers are being pushed through with zero regard for the long-term consequences they will create. Please don't push these through. Montgomery County residents deserve better representation regarding this matter

If data centers are right for Montgomery County now, they will be right for the county in 6-12 months when a transparent public process has made a full accounting of where and how data centers can be sited to complement the county's goals - and the biggest question - who pays? Good leadership proceeds carefully and in collaboration. The idea I heard expressed that we can just have these facilities move in and then tax them heavily is backward thinking and won't cover the health and energy costs borne by regular residents. We don't owe this company a facility just because they applied. Please include my comments in the hearing record.

Regards,

Susan Petro

Thank You,

Susan Petro