
No data centers, please

From Dinah Davidson <dianewdavidson@gmail.com>

Date Sun 3/1/2026 12:53 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Cochise County lacks the water to support data centers, and such centers would increase local electric rates in an area where many residents struggle to put food on their tables. Winters are increasingly dry, and monsoon rains have failed in the Chiricahuas during 3 successive years. Meteorologists expect them to be increasingly undependable in the future due to build up of heat over the mountains. We no longer see the formerly predictable build up of clouds over the mountains in mid-to-late monsoon times. Clouds appear to the west of the range and can't get across. In whole areas of forest, many or most of the trees have succumbed to drought and present a severe threat of wildfire. Local wells are drying up, or have already dried up. Climate change is not a hoax, rather terrifyingly real and obvious to all who open their eyes.

Data centers are increasing utility rates everywhere, thus representing a giant transfer of wealth from residents just scraping by economically to wealthy corporations. Such subsidies are obscene.

Cochise County should reject data centers everywhere within its boundaries.

Sincerely,

Dr. Diane Davidson

Professor Emeritus, Univ. of Utah Biology Dept., where I taught climate change for 3 decades

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Data centers, lg-scale solar, SNRs - all high risk

From Dinah Davidson <dinahdavidson@gmail.com>

Date Sun 2/15/2026 8:23 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

I email to discourage development of data centers in our arid County. Closed-loop cooling systems are marketed as waterless solutions, designed to eliminate the evaporative losses that once plagued traditional data center operations. In arid regions, this transition is framed as a triumph of environmental stewardship. However, the reality is more complex. While closed-loop systems reduce direct water use at the data center site, they significantly increase electricity demand. That electricity is often generated by thermoelectric power plants, which are among the largest consumers of freshwater in the United States. The result is a hidden shift in the water burden from the data center to the power plant.

Additionally, data centers and AI are high risk investments that have yet to prove profitable and are currently funded precariously by circular funding networks (company A lends to company B, which lends to company C, which lends to A). (See article in The Atlantic last fall.) If a local data center were to fail, what would the County do to maintain the 600-800 acres of solar panels installed to support the center?

Finally, please see recent arguments for why small nuclear reactors. SNRs are yet unproven and potentially dangerous source of energy.

foodandwaterwatch.org

Please don't gamble our precious water and environment on such high-risk investments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Diane W. Davidson, Portal, AZ

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Fwd: Data centers opposition

From Taera Shuldberg <gypsy7woman@gmail.com>
Date Tue 3/3/2026 12:56 PM
To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Taera Shuldberg <gypsy7woman@gmail.com>
Date: March 3, 2026 at 12:55:47 PM MST
To: kgomez@cochise.az.gov, tcrosby@cochise.az.gov, fantenori@cochise.az.gov
Subject: Data centers opposition

I am categorically opposed to data centers being constructed in Cochise County. It is common knowledge that they are water and electricity hogs. The water issue itself should remove them from consideration for construction here. The rural residents are already suffering from unregulated agricultural use. If the county needs money, we should find less destructive ways to make it. Let's get real.

Taera Shuldberg
Sierra Vista
Sent from my iPad

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Data Centers

From armaghgirl@aol.com <armaghgirl@aol.com>

Date Mon 2/16/2026 8:32 AM

To Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

The very thought of building even a "small" data center in our desert community is a frightening proposal. A "small" one requires a huge amount of land - like Castle and Cook's poposed development that was discouraged and abandoned. We can't keep building without considering our lack of sustainable water!

Another issue - the use of solar power to operate. I'm all for solar but Arizona has discouraged homeowners from installing solar - even to the point of raising base rates for solar owners (over base rates for non-solar homes). It would take many acres of solar panels for a small center. The acreage for both the center and it's power source is enormous and the look - atrocious. Furthermore - how much staff would be in that complex 24/7? Those workers would use more water, power and travel to and from? We'd need more roads built at a time when our city, county and state roads are in poor condition.

I am really opposed to any data center being built anywhere near or in Cochise County or - anymore anywhere in Arizona.

Joan A. Murphy
Cochise Count Voter

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comments on Docket R-26-01, data centers

From Peter Waser <waserpm1245@gmail.com>

Date Sun 3/1/2026 9:34 AM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

| |
|---------------------------------|
| CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL* |
|---------------------------------|

Dear Ms. McLachlan,

I'm a Cochise County resident with serious concerns about data centers. The underlying driver for data centers is AI. AI is already in use by China and other repressive governments to monitor their citizens and stifle personal freedoms, and without strict regulation it can be used that way here as well – as anyone following recent news about FLOCK cameras is aware. On this basis alone I'd urge the county to OPPOSE data center development.

If the county feels it cannot prevent data center development, it must at least place STRICT limitations on their electricity and water use. I find it hard to believe claims that energy-intensive data centers can be built without extensive water use for cooling – you can't recycle water that has been evaporated. Cochise county has many resources but they don't include water.

Also, small nuclear reactors are pie in the sky. 75 years after nuclear power was first available we've still been unable to find a safe way to store nuclear waste. Do we want our county's open spaces to turn into a nuclear waste dump? Doesn't seem like much of a stretch to me, and I also urge the county NOT to support this idea.

Sincerely,

Peter Waser

PO Box 16157, Portal AZ 85632

waserpm1245@gmail.com

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Data Centers and power generators

From YOURKO SPRUILL <pthree00@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/18/2026 6:24 AM

To Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Tom Crosby,

As a voting and land-owning resident of Cochise County, I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the introduction of data centers and their associated power generators and energy draw into our county.

I am concerned about the negative impact these facilities will have on our local resources and community. Thank you for taking my perspective into account regarding this matter.

Best regards,

Deborah Spruill

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Data Centers and needed power generators

From YOURKO SPRUILL <pthree00@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/18/2026 6:24 AM

To Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Frank Antenori ,

As a voting and land-owning resident of Cochise County, I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the introduction of data centers and their associated power generators and energy draw into our county.

I am concerned about the negative impact these facilities will have on our local resources and community. Thank you for taking my perspective into account regarding this matter.

Best regards,

Deborah Spruill

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AZTC-Letter of Support for Data Centers and Solar Energy

From Cepand Alizadeh <CALizadeh@aztechcouncil.org>

Date Mon 2/16/2026 11:56 AM

To Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>

Cc Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

 1 attachment (517 KB)

Crosby-Letter on Solar Energy and Data Centers in Cochise County_.docx;

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good afternoon Supervisor Crosby,

My name is Cepand Alizadeh and I work for the Arizona Technology Council. **Attached to this email, please find a letter from our organization's President and CEO, Steven G. Zylstra, regarding the potential positive economic impacts of data center and solar energy development for Cochise County.**

We are very excited to learn about the county's enthusiasm for these types of projects. As was discussed at last week's work study session, such endeavors can unlock a variety of economic benefits for Cochise County. The Arizona Technology Council stands ready to support you all as more conversations take place.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to meet to learn more about [the Arizona Technology Council](#).

Sincerely,
Cepand Alizadeh

cepand alizadeh, esq.

government relations specialist



arizona technology council

2800 n. central ave • suite 1530 • phoenix, az 85004

c. 703.655.4258



Mission: To empower innovators who drive impact that positively transforms the world.

Vision: Advance Arizona as a preferred technology ecosystem for purpose-driven innovators globally.

Purpose: Catalyzing technology Innovators to accelerate Arizona's global impact.

Read the Council's 2026 Public Policy Guide



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February 16, 2026

Cochise County Board of Supervisors
Vice-Chairman Tom Crosby
1415 Melody Lane, Building G
Bisbee, AZ 85603

Re: Solar Energy Projects and Data Centers in Cochise County

Dear Supervisor Crosby,

As president and CEO of the Arizona Technology Council, the state's premier trade association representing more than 750 science and technology companies, I write to offer perspective on the economic opportunities presented by solar energy projects and data centers in Cochise County.

I appreciate the Board's February 11 joint work session with the Planning and Zoning Commission to examine these industries and their potential impact. As the County navigates demographic shifts such as slower population growth and an aging population, strategic economic diversification becomes increasingly important. Today, reliable energy and digital infrastructures are foundational to regional competitiveness.

The Council supports a balanced energy strategy that leverages clean, renewable and reliable resources. Additional generation and transmission capacity will be necessary to ensure grid reliability and resource adequacy as electricity demand driven by advanced manufacturing, aerospace and defense, semiconductors, data centers and other high-growth industries continues to rise statewide.

The County is already participating in this transition, with six solar facilities currently in operation and six additional projects granted special use permits. Utility-scale solar projects, particularly when paired with battery storage to enhance resilience, can help meet rising energy demand as legacy coal resources are retired.

These facilities represent significant private capital investment, support hundreds of construction jobs, and create permanent operations and maintenance positions once online. During their lifespan, they will generate millions of dollars in property tax revenues that support schools, public safety, roads and other essential county services without increasing the tax burden on residents. A modern, flexible electric grid is not simply an energy issue but also an economic development imperative.

Similarly, data centers have become the backbone of the 21st-century digital economy. Arizona has emerged as one of the nation's leading data center markets, with 164 facilities operating statewide in 2025 and many more planned or under construction. This growth reflects years of thoughtful, bipartisan policy decisions aimed at strengthening long-term economic competitiveness.

The digital economy underpins virtually every sector, including defense operations at Fort Huachuca, advanced manufacturing supply chains, health care, financial services, logistics and small businesses. Data centers provide the secure computing, storage and processing infrastructure that makes these activities possible.

In addition, a single data center project also can employ more than 1,000 construction workers during development and support up to 100 high-skilled positions once operational. According to a recent PwC analysis, Arizona's data centers supported more than 81,000 jobs statewide in 2023 and generated more than \$863 million

in state and local tax revenue. Modern facilities also are incorporating advanced water stewardship and energy-efficiency technologies as standard practice in new development.

This discussion is not solely about individual projects. It also is about positioning the County to participate in Arizona's broader economic transformation. Infrastructure investments made today will influence the region's competitiveness, tax base and job opportunities for decades to come.

Thoughtful planning, balanced policy and clear regulatory frameworks can enable Cochise County to attract investment, expand its economic base and create opportunities while preserving community priorities.

Thank you for your leadership and careful consideration of these matters. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of assistance.

Respectfully,

ARIZONA TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL & SCITECH INSTITUTE



Steven G. Zylstra
President & CEO

From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Cc: [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: opposition to data centers in Cochise County
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 10:27:17 AM
Attachments: [2.12.26 Yahoo Mail - clarification re legislature.pdf](#)
[2.18.26 Yahoo Mail - Data center solar SMRs - adjustment and legislative update.pdf](#)
[2.15.26 SVHR Antenori Thinks Solar-Powered Data Centers Might Save County.pdf](#)

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Ms. McLachlan,

I read through next week's P&Z agenda attachments and am wondering why more letters of opposition were not included in the PDF titled "Public Comment." I wrote a couple of emails (2/12/26 and 2/18/26, attached) and a friend shared with me the response she received from Sup. Gomez to an email she wrote in opposition to data centers. Here is part of that response:

*I am learning a lot about Data Centers, one fact is that **we cant deny them if they want to come to our county.***

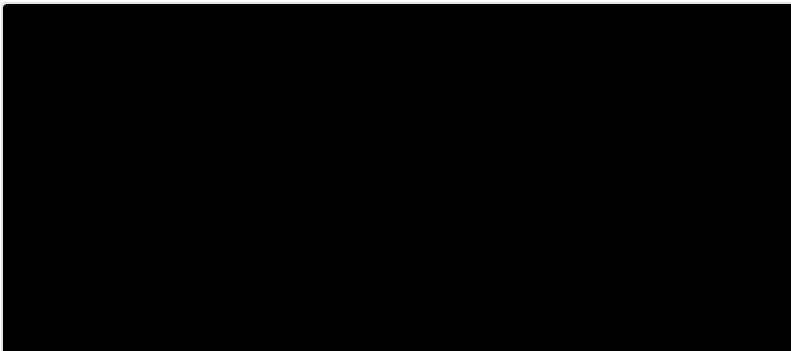
It is very distressing that misinformation is spreading, based on statements made by Sup. Antenori during a public meeting and a roundtable he had with the SV Herald's editor, Matt Hickman ([here](#) & attached).

A bill was introduced in the AZ legislature that infers this for counties of over 125,000 ([HB2452](#)) but it has **not yet been signed by the governor and the AZ County Supervisors' Association opposes it.** I mentioned this in both of my emails (2/12/26 and 2/18/26).

Please be sure to include ALL letters of opposition to data centers for next Wednesday's meeting. I expect there will be more coming and those who are voting on Docket R26-01 should be aware of how strongly their constituents are reacting to the idea of data centers being built in our county.

Respectfully,

Ali Morse



Cochise County Is Running Out of Money. Frank Antenori Thinks Solar-Powe...

Matt Hickman matt.hickman@myheraldreview.com

SIERRA VISTA - Frank Antenori does not mince words when he says Cochise County is at a fork in the road.

clarification re: legislature

From: Ali Morse (morseali2@yahoo.com)

To: kgomez@cochise.az.gov; fantenori@cochise.az.gov; tcrosby@cochise.az.gov

Cc: cmlachlan@cochise.az.gov; mtaylor@cochise.az.gov; sgilman@cochise.az.gov

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 07:15 PM MST

Good afternoon,

Early on during yesterday's work session, I heard Chair Antenori say that the legislature has *"prohibited counties from prohibiting solar fields and data centers."*

There are several bills currently moving through the legislature that have to do with data centers and nuclear power: [HB2388](#), [HB2452](#), [HB2456](#), [HB2457](#), [HB2795](#), [HB2795](#), and [SB1418](#), for example.

I think it's important to keep in mind that these bills are only making their way through committee now and are a long way from becoming law. If you consider public input, none of these bills are very popular. The RTS/Current Bill Positions for every one of these bills indicate a very small number (mostly less than 10) are FOR these bills and well over 200 are AGAINST most of the measures.

Of course, they have yet to be heard on the floor of the chambers and then await the Governor's approval or veto. As we've seen before, the Governor is not shy to use her veto pen.

It is my understanding that at this point, the legislature does not pose a threat on our county's decision to allow or restrict the construction of data centers. Please correct me if I am wrong.

Respectfully,

Ali Morse
Portal

Data center/solar/SMRs - adjustment and legislative update

From: Ali Morse (morseali2@yahoo.com)

To: kgomez@cochise.az.gov; fantenori@cochise.az.gov; tcrosby@cochise.az.gov

Cc: cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov; mtaylor@cochise.az.gov; sgilman@cochise.az.gov

Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 06:05 PM MST

Good afternoon,

Upon researching the subject further, I learned that I had grossly underestimated the acreage of solar panels needed to power data centers. Click here: [100-megawatt \(MW\) data center requires approximately 1,446 acres of solar panels to meet its energy needs](#)

That's a parcel of land about 2.3 square miles or almost 1,100 football fields. For a 150-megawatt data center, you'd need about 2,169 acres for solar panels or 3.4 square miles. I don't think Cochise County residents want to see the monstrosity of either of these. While I am in favor of rooftop and small-scale solar (or even larger parcels utilizing agrivoltaics), I am strongly opposed to this kind of development that is not consistent with our rural character and the high value we place on natural resources (water and viewsapes in particular).

As for SMRs, there are no working examples in the US so it seems clear that any discussion is premature before regulations are established. Even if they are smaller than traditional nuclear power plants, the concern of radiation leakage/exposure and waste removal remains high.

Regarding the bills I previously mentioned, I include below current bill positions registered as RTS (Request to Speak) on the AZ Legislature's website. Note that four of the six bills are formally OPPOSED by the County Supervisor Association of AZ. It's very likely that the Governor will VETO most, if not all of them. Please see attached as well.

[HB2388](#) - *Appropriates an unspecified dollar amount for the Arizona Dept. of Commerce to conduct a study on the economic benefits of data centers and small modular nuclear reactors for Arizona. No mention of nuclear hazards, waste removal, etc. Hard to justify a study when are no working small modular nuclear reactors sighted anywhere in the U.S.to use as an example.* **9 FOR, 292 AGAINST**

[HB2452](#) - *Would require counties with a population of 125,000+ to designate sufficient land for the construction and operation of data centers, data center facilities and small modular reactors. Arizonans of all political affiliations are pushing back hard against more data centers in our communities due to their excessive land, energy and water usage.* **7 FOR, 234 AGAINST** *****The County Supervisors Assoc.'s Legislative Policy Committee (CSA LPC) OPPOSES this bill**

[HB2456](#) - *Prohibits counties from doing anything to restrict or regulate small modular nuclear reactors if they are co-located with large energy users like data centers.* **4 FOR, 148 AGAINST** ***A similar bill was **VETOED by governor** last year and **CSA LPC OPPOSES this bill**

[HB2457](#) - *Loosens requirements for siting power plants as long as they are co-located with large electricity users, like data centers.* **5 FOR, 225 AGAINST**

[HB2795](#) - *Would ban counties from regulating the siting of small modular nuclear reactors in any way if*

*the reactors have been federally approved. **19 FOR, 222 AGAINST** *** **CSA LPC OPPOSES this bill***

SB1418 - *Preempts counties – except Maricopa and Pima – from regulating the location of these small modular nuclear reactors if they are co-located with a large industrial electricity user like data centers. **10 FOR, 252 AGAINST** *****CSA LPC OPPOSES this bill***

Respectfully,

Ali Morse
Portal



HB2388-RTS.pdf
91.6 kB



HB2452-RTS.pdf
89.4 kB



HB2456-RTS.pdf
94.5 kB



HB2457-RTS.pdf
87.8 kB



HB2795-RTS.pdf
99.9 kB



SB1418-RTS.pdf
100.4 kB

From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Cc: [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: opposition to data centers in Cochise County
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 10:27:17 AM
Attachments: [2.12.26 Yahoo Mail - clarification re legislature.pdf](#)
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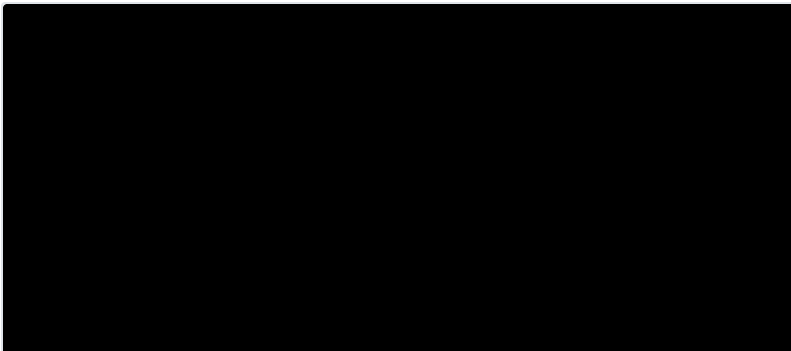
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Respectfully,

Ali Morse



Cochise County Is Running Out of Money. Frank Antenori Thinks Solar-Powe...

Matt Hickman matt.hickman@myheraldreview.com

SIERRA VISTA - Frank Antenori does not mince words when he says Cochise County is at a fork in the road.

solar-powered data centers?

From Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>

Date Sun 2/15/2026 2:38 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>; Matt Hickman <matt.hickman@myheraldreview.com>; Jennifer Sorenson <jennifer.sorenson@myheraldreview.com>

 1 attachment (86 KB)

2.15.26 SVHR Antenori Thinks Solar-Powered Data Centers Might Save County.pdf;

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good afternoon,

I just read the SV Herald's roundtable with Chair Antenori ([here](#) & attached) and was curious to see what the "smaller" data centers he was discussing looked like. **Below is a sampling of 50-150 megawatt data centers--they are all multistory.**

If solar is used to power these data centers (as the Chair suggested), an estimated 4 to 6 acres would be needed per MW of power. For 100 MW data centers, you'd need 400-600 acres of solar panels and for 150 MW you'd need 600-900 acres of solar panels. As a comparison, **500 acres is about 378 football fields.**



China Telecom-Inner Mongolia Information Park (Hohhot, China) is a **150 MW** facility and covers **over 230 acres**:



Lakeside Technology Center (Chicago, IL) is a 100 MW facility covering 25 acres.



Aerial view of Lakeside Technology Center



Yotta NM1 (Panvel, India) has the power capacity of only 50 MW and covers 19 acres.



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Please, keep data centers out of Cochise County

From Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>

Date Thu 3/5/2026 12:48 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Supervisors,

I understand the desire to create more jobs in our county, but the negative impact of data centers on our dwindling water supply, power infrastructure, and rural character would not be worth it. Our county is simply not an appropriate place for this type of industry.

All 150+ data centers in Arizona are located in suburban areas, with the majority in and around Phoenix. The relatively few jobs that data centers provide are all up front, during the initial construction phase. This is not a long-term solution to creating new jobs for our residents. The tax revenue may be attractive but the overall harm to our lives, precious resources, and rural character would be irreversible.

Respectfully,

Allison Morse
Portal

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From: [Pamela Thompson](#)
To: [Gomez, Kathleen](#); [Crosby, Tom](#); [Antenori, Frank](#)
Cc: [McLachlan, Christine](#); mtaylor@cochse.az.gov
Subject: opposition to data centers in Cochise county
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 2:54:36 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

I am writing to express my opposition to data centers in Cochise county. At the very least, I would like Cochise county supervisors to place a one-year moratorium on data centers to allow for greater research into the costs and benefits of these facilities.

I am concerned about data centers' water use in my county where there is already insufficient water for residents, especially in rural areas where residential wells have dried up. If, as scientists at the UofA now suspect, we are not in a drought but rather are experiencing the impacts of "aridification," we cannot allow heavy water users like data centers to demand more of our ever-shrinking water supplies.

(<https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-environment/2026/03/02/arizona-32-year-drought-may-now-be-aridification/87954422007/>)

Anyone who visits our sky islands has seen the shocking number of dead and dying trees, especially on the southwest side of the Huachucas and in the Chiricahuas, as well as the stream beds that once held reliable year-round water, but which have dried up in recent years. They may be flowing now from snowmelt, but that is temporary. How can we even entertain inviting industries to our county that will demand so much more water?

I am also opposed to data centers for economic reasons. Too many states, including Arizona, have offered tax incentives to data center companies, often including exemptions from sales taxes that can even include electricity use. In a county where poverty is increasing, we cannot afford such corporate handouts. Additionally, the number of permanent jobs necessary to operate data centers has proven to be much lower than companies have promised, and ultimately not worth the investments in infrastructure, the increased energy consumption or the loss of tax revenue.

For these reasons I am urging the BOS not to permit construction of data centers in Cochise county. If supervisors believe there may actually be benefits to data centers that haven't yet been revealed, then please implement a one-year moratorium on applications for data center construction so that when the dust settles, we can all see the truth for ourselves.

Respectfully,
Pamela Thompson
Bisbee resident

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From: [Arthur James Downer](#)
To: [Gomez, Kathleen](#); [Crosby, Tom](#); [Antenori, Frank](#); [McLachlan, Christine](#); mtaylor@cochse.az.gov
Subject: Data Centers
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 2:50:54 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Honorable Supervisors (and staff)

Please be aware that Southeast Arizona is in a drought. Wells are running dry. Residents need the water (what little is left) to survive on. We do not need data centers in the Desert Southwest. This will be a disaster and voters will show their wrath.....

Dr. Jim Downer
2484 South Old Canyon Road
Portal, Arizona,
805 825 9081.

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From: [Taera Shuldberg](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: Fwd: Data centers opposition
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 12:56:25 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Taera Shuldberg <gypsy7woman@gmail.com>
Date: March 3, 2026 at 12:55:47 PM MST
To: kgomez@cochise.az.gov, tcrosby@cochise.az.gov, fantenori@cochise.az.gov
Subject: Data centers opposition

I am categorically opposed to data centers being constructed in Cochise County. It is common knowledge that they are water and electricity hogs. The water issue itself should remove them from consideration for construction here. The rural residents are already suffering from unregulated agricultural use. If the county needs money, we should find less destructive ways to make it. Let's get real.

Taera Shuldberg
Sierra Vista
Sent from my iPad

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From: [Pamela Thompson](#)
To: [Gomez, Kathleen](#); [Crosby, Tom](#); [Antenori, Frank](#)
Cc: [McLachlan, Christine](#); mtaylor@cochse.az.gov
Subject: opposition to data centers in Cochise county
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 2:54:36 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

I am writing to express my opposition to data centers in Cochise county. At the very least, I would like Cochise county supervisors to place a one-year moratorium on data centers to allow for greater research into the costs and benefits of these facilities.

I am concerned about data centers' water use in my county where there is already insufficient water for residents, especially in rural areas where residential wells have dried up. If, as scientists at the UofA now suspect, we are not in a drought but rather are experiencing the impacts of "aridification," we cannot allow heavy water users like data centers to demand more of our ever-shrinking water supplies.

(<https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-environment/2026/03/02/arizona-32-year-drought-may-now-be-aridification/87954422007/>)

Anyone who visits our sky islands has seen the shocking number of dead and dying trees, especially on the southwest side of the Huachucas and in the Chiricahuas, as well as the stream beds that once held reliable year-round water, but which have dried up in recent years. They may be flowing now from snowmelt, but that is temporary. How can we even entertain inviting industries to our county that will demand so much more water?

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For these reasons I am urging the BOS not to permit construction of data centers in Cochise county. If supervisors believe there may actually be benefits to data centers that haven't yet been revealed, then please implement a one-year moratorium on applications for data center construction so that when the dust settles, we can all see the truth for ourselves.

Respectfully,
Pamela Thompson
Bisbee resident

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From: [Taera Shuldberg](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: Fwd: Data centers opposition
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 12:56:25 PM

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Date: March 3, 2026 at 12:55:47 PM MST
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Subject: Data centers opposition

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Sierra Vista
Sent from my iPad

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From: [Cepand Alizadeh](#)
To: [Antenori, Frank](#)
Cc: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Gilman, Sharon](#)
Subject: AZTC-Letter of Support for Data Centers and Solar Energy
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 11:56:31 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[Antenori-Letter on Solar Energy and Data Centers in Cochise County .docx](#)

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good afternoon Supervisor Antenori,

My name is Cepand Alizadeh and I work for the Arizona Technology Council.
Attached to this email, please find a letter from our organization's President and CEO, Steven G. Zylstra, regarding the potential positive economic impacts of data center and solar energy development for Cochise County.

We are very excited to learn about the county's enthusiasm for these types of projects. As was discussed at last week's work study session, such endeavors can unlock a variety of economic benefits for Cochise County. The Arizona Technology Council stands ready to support you all as more conversations take place.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to meet to learn more about [the Arizona Technology Council](#).

Sincerely,
Cepand Alizadeh

cepand alizadeh, esq.
government relations specialist



arizona technology council
2800 n. central ave • suite 1530 • phoenix, az 85004
c. 703.655.4258



Mission: To empower innovators who drive impact that positively transforms the world.

Vision: Advance Arizona as a preferred technology ecosystem for purpose-driven innovators globally.

Purpose: Catalyzing technology Innovators to accelerate Arizona’s global impact.

Read the Council's 2026 Public Policy Guide



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From: [Cepand Alizadeh](#)
To: [Gomez, Kathleen](#)
Cc: [Gilman, Sharon](#); [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: AZTC-Letter of Support for Data Centers and Solar Energy
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 11:56:58 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[Gomez-Letter on Solar Energy and Data Centers in Cochise County .docx](#)

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good afternoon Supervisor Gomez,

My name is Cepand Alizadeh and I work for the Arizona Technology Council.
Attached to this email, please find a letter from our organization's President and CEO, Steven G. Zylstra, regarding the potential positive economic impacts of data center and solar energy development for Cochise County.

We are very excited to learn about the county's enthusiasm for these types of projects. As was discussed at last week's work study session, such endeavors can unlock a variety of economic benefits for Cochise County. The Arizona Technology Council stands ready to support you all as more conversations take place.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to meet to learn more about [the Arizona Technology Council](#).

Sincerely,
Cepand Alizadeh

cepand alizadeh, esq.
government relations specialist



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From: [Cepand Alizadeh](#)
To: [Crosby, Tom](#)
Cc: [Gilman, Sharon](#); [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: AZTC-Letter of Support for Data Centers and Solar Energy
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 11:56:44 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[Crosby-Letter on Solar Energy and Data Centers in Cochise County .docx](#)

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good afternoon Supervisor Crosby,

My name is Cepand Alizadeh and I work for the Arizona Technology Council.
Attached to this email, please find a letter from our organization's President and CEO, Steven G. Zylstra, regarding the potential positive economic impacts of data center and solar energy development for Cochise County.

We are very excited to learn about the county's enthusiasm for these types of projects. As was discussed at last week's work study session, such endeavors can unlock a variety of economic benefits for Cochise County. The Arizona Technology Council stands ready to support you all as more conversations take place.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to meet to learn more about [the Arizona Technology Council](#).

Sincerely,
Cepand Alizadeh

cepand alizadeh, esq.
government relations specialist



arizona **tech**nology council
2800 n. central ave • suite 1530 • phoenix, az 85004
c. 703.655.4258



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From: [Tracy Caras](#)
To: [Crosby, Tom](#); [Gomez, Kathleen](#); [Antenori, Frank](#)
Cc: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Comprehensive Plan for Cochise County
Date: Monday, February 16, 2026 5:49:14 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Supervisors,

I am a resident and registered voter of Cochise County and have been following the ideas put forward for the Comprehensive Plan. For the record, I completely oppose both the solar powered data centers and small modular nuclear reactors. I feel that both of these would be disastrous for our county - both environmentally and economically. Please weigh the opinions of all your constituents (whom you are meant to represent) before deciding on either of these projects.

Thank you,

Tracy Caras
Dragoon, AZ

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From: [Caleb Blaschke](#)
To: [Gilman, Sharon](#); [Antenori, Frank](#)
Cc: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Robert Kirschmann](#)
Subject: City of Willcox Letter Regarding Solar and Data Centers
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 4:07:36 PM
Attachments: [Mayor Hancock Support Letter for Data Centers and Pre Annexation.docx](#)

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good afternoon Supervisor Antenori,

Please see the attached letter from Mayor Hancock regarding solar farms and data centers in Cochise County. We appreciate your leadership on this important issue and look forward to partnering with Cochise County to support thoughtful economic development. The City of Willcox would welcome the opportunity to collaborate on incorporating pre-annexation agreements as part of the conditional use permit process, which would help ensure both the County and our municipalities benefit from long-term economic growth.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Caleb Blaschke
City Manager
City of Willcox

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February 9, 2026

Dear Supervisor Antenori and Ms. Gilman,

On behalf of the City of Willcox, I would like to express our appreciation for Cochise County's ongoing efforts to review and evaluate opportunities related to data centers and solar energy development throughout the region. The City recognizes that many property owners in and around Willcox possess large tracts of land that may be attractive for these types of projects, and we understand the potential economic benefits they can bring to Cochise County as a whole.

At the same time, the city has concerns regarding environmental stewardship and long-term community impacts, including water use by these industries. Willcox's economy is also closely tied to eco-tourism, including the internationally recognized Sandhill Crane migration that brings visitors to Willcox each year. As discussions continue, we encourage careful consideration of how large-scale solar and data center development may affect our natural resources, the Willcox water basin, viewsheds, and tourism-based economy.

In conversations with County leadership, the City supports the concept of requiring a financial assurance or bond to ensure proper cleanup, reclamation, and responsible management of these sites over time. We also acknowledge that these developments could significantly increase property tax revenues. Much of the land surrounding Willcox is currently zoned for agriculture and generates low property tax contributions. In contrast, data centers and solar facilities could produce millions of dollars in assessed value, benefiting our local school districts, Cochise College, healthcare providers, and Cochise County services.

However, while these revenues provide regional benefit, cities often serve as the epicenters of long-term growth and service delivery. Public safety, infrastructure, and quality-of-life amenities that support nearby developments are largely provided by municipalities. For this reason, the City respectfully requests that, in addition to any required bonding, approval of large-scale solar or data center projects include a requirement for a pre-annexation agreement with the nearest municipality, whether that be the City of Willcox or the City of Benson. Such agreements would ensure that these projects remain invested in the communities where they operate and help support the municipal services that contribute to their success.

We appreciate your leadership, Supervisor Antenori, and recognize the importance of encouraging responsible economic development and job creation throughout Cochise County. These emerging industries represent a step forward, and the secondary businesses that follow such investments have the potential to strengthen our regional economy. The City looks forward to working alongside the County as these policies and projects move forward.

Sincerely,

City of Willcox
Mayor Greg Hancock

Data Centers and power generators

From YOURKO SPRUILL <pthree00@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/18/2026 6:24 AM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Kathleen Gomez,

As a voting and land-owning resident of Cochise County, I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the introduction of data centers and their associated power generators and energy draw into our county.

I am concerned about the negative impact these facilities will have on our local resources and community. Thank you for taking my perspective into account regarding this matter.

Best regards,

Deborah Spruill

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:49:38 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Laura |
| Last Name | White |
| Physical Address | 1144 South Lee Street |
| City | Saint David |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85630 |
| Email | w.laura5@gmail.com |
| Phone | 5204718064 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Cochise county does not need to jump on the data center bandwagon. Data centers use far too much water to be appropriate in a desert where we are already using our groundwater much faster than it is being recharged. A data center may use 1 – 5 million gallons of water daily for cooling, equivalent to a town of 10,000 – 50,000. Pumping in the Sulpher Springs Valley is quickly putting the water table out of reach of most ordinary residents who cannot afford to deepen their wells. |

The same thing will happen in other parts of the county, given time, due to the rate of pumping that supports existing agriculture, businesses, Fort Huachuca and residential development. The San Pedro River is threatened by current levels of water use and is barely being sustained by recharge projects at the southern end of the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area, and yet the cone of depression under Sierra Vista continues to grow and will eventually drain the river. Our river is the last remaining migration corridor of it's kind for hundreds of bird species that would not be able to complete their annual migration without it.

Additionally, in the USA, we are already increasing power usage more quickly than can be compensated for by renewable energy development. This means that the amount of carbon being produced by fossil fuel dependent energy generation is not decreasing. All the additional energy we are producing with renewables is being used up by increased usage. Data centers will use so much energy using fossil fuels primarily produced by fracking that our other energy consumption will need to decrease by 60% to meet any reasonable nation-wide climate goals. In Cochise County, any additional renewable energy produced would be sucked up by data centers, if they are allowed here, and would not benefit existing businesses, agriculture or residents. Indeed, their energy costs would likely go up due to the higher energy demands on the grid. I do not support data center development in Cochise County.

Conduct Guidelines

All speakers are expected to observe common standards of decorum and courtesy.

Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, including profanity, are prohibited, as is any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting. Any conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting will be grounds, at the discretion of the Chair, for ending a speaker's time.

I agree to adhere to the Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:47:53 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

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| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | Call to the Public (Planning & Zoning Commission) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Lacey |
| Last Name | Gregory |
| Physical Address | 8172 E Larson Road |
| City | Hereford |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85615 |
| Email | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | <i>Field not completed.</i> |

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:28:44 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

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| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Julie |
| Last Name | Gamez |
| Physical Address | 1707 S Moon Shadow Dr |
| City | Benson |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85602 |
| Email | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | I oppose a data center in Cochise County |

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 1:22:25 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Brenda

Last Name Saavedra

Physical Address 6667 N. Kings Hwy.

City Douglas

State Arizona

Zip Code 85607

Email bksaavedra47@gmail.com

Phone 520-456-7428

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments What madness. Our livelihood destroyed for the almighty dollar sign. Have the Cochise County board of supervisors lost touch with their communities? Families and our businesses will relocate. What a huge loss for the people of Cochise County, and how deceptive of our representatives to give such short notice to the public regarding this. Shameful

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 1:10:22 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

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| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | Call to the Public (Planning & Zoning Commission) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Violet |
| Last Name | Burr |
| Physical Address | 3845 Paseo De Cardo |
| City | Sierra Vista |
| State | az |
| Zip Code | 85650 |
| Email | violetbrn@gmail.com |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | I oppose a data center in Cochise County. |

Conduct Guidelines

All speakers are expected to observe common standards of decorum and courtesy. Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, including profanity, are prohibited, as is any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting. Any conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting will be grounds, at the discretion

of the Chair, for ending a speaker's time.

I agree to adhere to the Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:53:34 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Jim |
| Last Name | Campbell |
| Physical Address | 2806 w skyline rd |
| City | Benson |
| State | Az |
| Zip Code | 85602 |
| Email | Campbelljim65@yahoo.com |
| Phone | 5204299083 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Water is a needed resource for our community. We (elected officials) need to realize we live in the desert and act as such. Projects that bring few jobs and drain resources are not what Cochise county needs. Once our water is gone, it is gone. The idea of our local government officials that this is a limitless resource is not only delusional and stupid, it is dangerous. I oppose this project. How many communities in the county and across the state are already suffering water shortages or no |

water.

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:48:07 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | Call to the Public (Planning & Zoning Commission) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Daisy |
| Last Name | Pierce |
| Physical Address | 1028 El Sonoro Drive |
| City | Sierra Vista |
| State | Arizona |
| Zip Code | 85635 |
| Email | daisypierce.jun@gmail.com |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Oppose a data center being built in Cochise County |

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Public Hearings - Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:45:55 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Public Hearings - Public Comment Form

Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: Comment Only

Explanation

1. Mandatory water impact assessments before any special use permit is issued
Require applicants to demonstrate the source of their water supply, projected daily and annual consumption, and the impact on existing private wells and the regional aquifer. Cochise County's groundwater is already in a documented decline. Any applicant should be required to quantify their draw and prove it won't accelerate that.
2. Require industrial water users to recharge what they consume
Point out the loophole directly: Arizona law requires housing developers to replenish groundwater they pump, but exempts industrial users. The commission should close this gap locally by making aquifer recharge or water offset a condition of any special use permit, not a voluntary pledge.
3. Prohibit connection to municipal potable water supplies
Several Arizona municipalities — including Marana — have already passed ordinances prohibiting data centers from accessing potable water. Marana adopted an ordinance requiring data centers to find alternative sources and file an application estimating annual water consumption. (Cochise County) Cochise County should model similar language.
4. Independent fire and emergency services review
The county's own board members requested this — inviting rural fire chiefs to assess local response capabilities before any facility is approved. (AZ Big Media) Battery storage systems present serious fire risks that rural volunteer fire departments are not equipped to handle. Any ordinance should require a fire impact study and adequate mitigation as a condition of approval.
5. No NDAs between developers and county officials
This is a crucial transparency protection. As noted earlier, 80% of Virginia municipalities signed non-disclosure agreements with data center developers — agreements that prevented residents from knowing basic facts about projects affecting their water, power, and land. The Cochise County ordinance should explicitly prohibit this.
6. Energy infrastructure cost responsibility

The county should require developers to demonstrate how grid upgrades will be funded — and by whom. Rural residents should not bear the cost of transmission line upgrades needed to serve a large industrial facility. This should be a condition of approval, not an afterthought.

7. Enforceable commitments, not promises

Tucson's council rejected Project Blue in part because, as one council member noted, the city lacked confidence in its ability to enforce developer commitments on water and energy.

(Zoneomics) Any ordinance Cochise County adopts should include bonding requirements, annual reporting on actual resource consumption, and defined penalties for non-compliance — not just operating narratives filed at the permit stage.

8. Cooling technology requirements

The ordinance should distinguish between evaporative (water-consuming) and air or closed-loop cooling systems, and either prohibit or heavily condition evaporative cooling given the county's water constraint

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Name | Dirk Sigler President Chiricahua Regional Council |
| Email Address | dirkdsigler@gmail.com |
| Address | 2293 S Prairie Rd |
| City | Portal |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85632 |
| Phone Number | 5052046689 |
| Your Tax Parcel Number | 402-22-014J5 |
| File Upload | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Electronic Signature Agreement | I agree. |
| Electronic Signature | Dirk Sigler |

Your comments will be made available to the public board responsible for reviewing them. Submission of this form or any other correspondence becomes part of the public record and is available for review by the Applicant or other members of the public.

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:43:08 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Windy |
| Last Name | Wise |
| Physical Address | 1423 S Wolf Run |
| City | Benson |
| State | Arizona |
| Zip Code | 85602 |
| Email | azwindywise@gmail.com |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Our county should be progressively conserving water, not allowing data centers and secondary smelters to drain it all. When someone builds in Sierra Vista you have to do a hot water test to show that you won't waste water while waiting on it to get hot! And then the county wants to do this! It's outrageous and the county planner should be ashamed. |

Conduct Guidelines

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I agree to adhere to the Conduct Guidelines

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From: m.barbara14@icloud.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Cc: [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Fwd: Stricter regulations for data centers
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:38:20 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Ms. McLachlan,

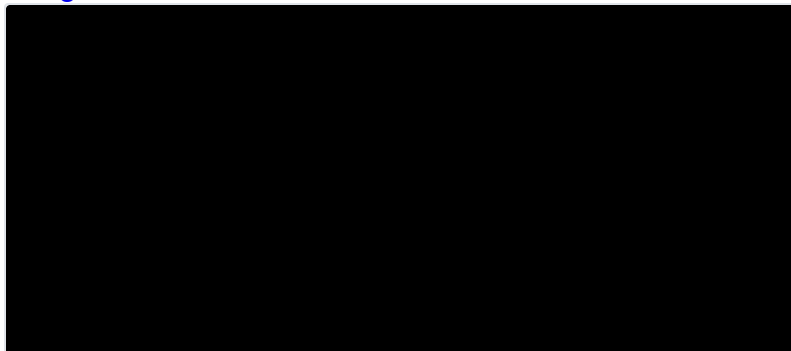
This is in regards to the data center regulations that will be discussed today (Docket R26-01). I am very much against the construction of a data center anywhere near private homes or businesses.

We are now worrying about water with several local residences losing their wells. Property owners are dealing with the rising expense of normal cost of living. These people cannot afford to drill a new well or move to another location. AI uses water, lots of water. Then power companies raise their costs

Visually, the negative impacts will be inconsistent with the rural character of our county, both by night and by day. Cochise County is not a high-tech center and we don't want to look like one.

Sound, too, will contribute to the negative factors. The whining of power generators, cooling fans, etc. can reach 85-100 decibels. Have you seen this article in Politico titled "[A data center opened next door-then came the high-pitched whine](#)"?

Air pollution is also a concern. This article talks about [higher air pollution for people living within one mile of a data center](#)



Communities Close to EPA-Regulated Data Centers Face Heightened Air Poll...

October 28, 2025 By Lelia Marie Hampton and Eric Nost Key Points Data centers are booming right now due to climb...

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:13:28 PM

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Allison

Last Name Morse

Physical Address 2454 S. Old Canyon Road

City Portal

State Arizona

Zip Code 85632

Email morseali2@yahoo.com

Phone 4152993109

Please select an option: I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time

Comments *Field not completed.*

Conduct Guidelines

All speakers are expected to observe common standards of decorum and courtesy. Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, including profanity, are prohibited, as is any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting. Any conduct

that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting will be grounds, at the discretion of the Chair, for ending a speaker's time.

I agree to adhere to the Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:12:19 PM

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| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | Call to the Public (Planning & Zoning Commission) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Allison |
| Last Name | Morse |
| Physical Address | 2454 S. Old Canyon Road |
| City | Portal |
| State | Arizona |
| Zip Code | 85632 |
| Email | morseali2@yahoo.com |
| Phone | 4152993109 |
| Please select an option: | I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time |
| Comments | <i>Field not completed.</i> |

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 11:15:04 AM

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Alexis

Last Name Ellsworth-Kopkowski

Physical Address 1361 W Kartchner Trail

City Benson

State AZ

Zip Code 85602

Email alexiskop24@gmail.com

Phone 5204510754

Please select an option: I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time

Comments *Field not completed.*

Conduct Guidelines

All speakers are expected to observe common standards of decorum and courtesy. Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, including profanity, are prohibited, as is any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting. Any conduct

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 10:59:58 AM

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| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Diana |
| Last Name | LaMar |
| Physical Address | 1303 F Avenue |
| City | Douglas |
| State | Arizona |
| Zip Code | 85607 |
| Email | dianalamar@me.com |
| Phone | 6462343419 |
| Please select an option: | I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time |
| Comments | If I have any conflict and cannot be present electronically, I would like my comments saved to the record: Data centers represent an attractive economic opportunity to rural counties like ours in terms of development. However, the promises that organizations like Google, Amazon, and Microsoft make with regards to negotiations for these centers, rarely bear |

the promised fruit and often result in long term shortfalls to the counties where they are built.

*Enact transparency and accountability standards, including a prohibition on non-disclosure agreements and requirements for transparent disclosure of relevant information to the public

- Limit tax incentives and require data centers to pay the full cost of their power and water usage, as well as the cost of additional infrastructure required by their activities

* develop thoughtful and strict regulations regarding data centers re noise, water usage, energy usage, safety precautions/fire hazards and assurances that any data center will not be left for the county to dismantle. Also, be leery of closed loop system being the answer.

*I ask that we not be hasty in making decisions or pressured, but take the necessary time to investigate thoroughly and put a moratorium on data centers until that time.

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 10:45:48 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Miranda |
| Last Name | Worthington |
| Physical Address | 151 Quarry Canyon |
| City | Bisbee |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85603 |
| Email | wormiranda@gmail.com |
| Phone | +15204094375 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | All who call the desert our home should be opposed to data center development. We simply do not have the water resources to support such corporate endeavors. To allow such resource siphoning, we surely seal our own demise. As a science and art driven community, with dark skies already implemented, and popular, this would be inherently against everything we want. The weight of the cons of such a decision, far outway any positive pitch. For the sake of continuing all life in the desert, I |

implore you to not allow any data center development.

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 10:41:06 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Ingrid |
| Last Name | Hall-Bidegain |
| Physical Address | 2798 w trails end rd |
| City | Benson |
| State | Az |
| Zip Code | 85602 |
| Email | ingid83@msn.com |
| Phone | 5209010031 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Data centers are dangerous for Cochise County and surrounding rural areas, primarily due to their immense resource consumption in a water-scarce environment. Key concerns include: Water Scarcity: Facilities use millions of gallons daily for cooling. In rural areas with minimal groundwater protection, this strains limited aquifers. Grid Instability: Massive electricity demands can triple regional |

power needs, overwhelming existing infrastructure. This leads to higher utility rates for local residents as they shoulder the cost of needed upgrades.

Environmental Impact: Land development for data centers consume vast acreage, potentially displacing ranching or farmland. Additionally, backup diesel generators contribute to local air pollution.

Noise Pollution: The constant, 24/7 humming from cooling fans creates a persistent "drone" that disturbs residents and impact property values.

Limited Economic Return: These "unpeopled" hubs provide few long-term local jobs relative to the resources they consume.

A temporary increase in tax revenue does not outweigh the negative impacts on our region.

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 10:33:20 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

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Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Linde |
| Last Name | Mohr |
| Physical Address | 1802 Sagewood |
| City | Sierra Vista |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85635-6324 |
| Email | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Data Centers do not provide an increase in long term employment. During building, yes, but once completed the data centers employ a few security guards and a janitor. This is not a solution to our economic woes. If data centers were so beneficial, why aren't the tech bros advocating for their construction in their backyard? |

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 10:32:36 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Beatrice

Last Name Harvison

Physical Address 440 S Taylors Trail

City Sierra Vista

State AZ

Zip Code 85635

Email bharviso@sbcglobal.net

Phone 8165106896

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments The employment from center would not have a large positive impact on our county BUT the impact on our environment would be massive. These centers use massive amounts of WATER, which we have in very limited supply, and electricity. Please think about the physical health of our county. A data center would be a bad neighbor and horrible for our county. If these centers are so great let them be built in the owners back yard!!

Conduct Guidelines

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I agree to adhere to the Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 8:57:07 AM

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Development Services Speaker Request Form

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: Neither, I would just like to comment

First Name Donna

Last Name Quisenberry

Physical Address 5362 N Cascabel Rd

City Benson

State Arizona

Zip Code 85602

Email dqrobbins@gmail.com

Phone 520-212-5362

Please select an option: I will be present at the meeting and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time

Comments *Field not completed.*

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 8:38:37 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Joan |
| Last Name | Murphy |
| Physical Address | 1132 Quail Hollow Dr. |
| City | Sierra Vista |
| State | Arizona |
| Zip Code | 85635 |
| Email | armaghgirl@aol.com |
| Phone | 5204591082 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | I am against Data Centers because they require a lot of water and we have been in a drought situation for many years. I also am against them because they will increase our utility bills which already have been rising. I also am against them because they are used for the promotion of AI which is a somewhat new industry with great potential for good and bad outcomes that does not have enough regulatory rules yet. |

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 8:37:20 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Natasha |
| Last Name | Watson |
| Physical Address | 6770 West De Vaca Circle |
| City | St. David |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85630 |
| Email | Natashawatson333@gmail.com |
| Phone | 860-985-9220 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed data center projects in Cochise County. The potential negative impacts on our rural landscape, coupled with the noise and water demands, are too high. I urge the commission to stop treating this as a quick, easy fix for tax revenue and do their due diligence. We need independent studies on how the constant noise from generators and cooling units will affect neighbors and wildlife, along with how the aquifers will be affected. Furthermore, |

placing these large-scale industrial buildings near homes is irresponsible. I ask the commission to protect the residents, the air quality, and the water supply of Cochise County by rejecting these proposals until proper, long-term impact investigations are completed.

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 8:24:37 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Megan |
| Last Name | Robinson |
| Physical Address | 670 E Third Ave |
| City | St David |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85630 |
| Email | lizndill@hotmail.com |
| Phone | 9739753675 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | I am writing as a resident of St David, Cochise County to formally express my opposition to the proposed data center development in our rural desert county. My primary concern is water availability and long-term community well-being. Our county already faces significant water constraints due to arid conditions, declining groundwater levels, and increasing uncertainty related to long-term water supplies. Approving a large industrial user whose operations depend on |

substantial and continuous water and energy inputs places existing residents, agriculture, and future generations at risk. While data centers are often described as “clean” or “low-impact,” they are not water-neutral, particularly in desert environments. In rural areas outside major Active Management Areas, groundwater is often the only available supply, and once depleted, it cannot be easily replaced. The potential for well interference, increased pumping, and irreversible aquifer damage should be a serious concern for this Board.

In addition to water use, I am concerned about:

Long-term noise and air impacts from cooling systems and backup diesel generators

Increased industrialization inconsistent with our rural land-use plans

Limited permanent local employment compared to the scale of resource use

The precedent this approval would set for future large water-intensive developments

I respectfully urge the Board to deny this proposal.

Growth should not come at the expense of the basic sustainability of our community. Once groundwater is depleted, the harm cannot be undone. I ask you to prioritize the long-term health, safety, and resilience over short-term economic promises. And furthermore, what happens to these giant data centers when technology advances and they are no longer needed?

Thank you for your time and for considering the voices of the residents you serve.

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 8:14:49 AM

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Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Tandi |
| Last Name | Hoffman |
| Physical Address | 1006 S Limestone St |
| City | Benson |
| State | Az |
| Zip Code | 85602 |
| Email | tandi.pyeatt@gmail.com |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Absolutely not. Save our water! Take a lesson from all the other towns/cities where these have been built. |

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 8:11:04 AM

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Development Services Speaker Request Form

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Samuella

Last Name Dyer

Physical Address 1230 E Butterfield Lane

City Benson

State Arizona

Zip Code 85602

Email Samdyer93@gmail.com

Phone 520-481-3032

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments We do not need a data center that uses millions of gallons of water a year in the small town of Benson.

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 8:09:31 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

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| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Andrea |
| Last Name | Cross |
| Physical Address | 467 Santa Cruz Dr |
| City | Bisbee |
| State | Az |
| Zip Code | 85603 |
| Email | Scooter.hooloigan@protonmail.com |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | We have neither the water, electricity, nor need for data centers. Our ground is already collapsing because of the overpumping of our aquifers for the industrial dairy farms that shouldnt even be here. I didn't see anything about that before it happened, either. |

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 7:43:16 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Janelle

Last Name Dobash

Physical Address 8223 W Briden Ln

City Peoria

State AZ

Zip Code 85383

Email *Field not completed.*

Phone *Field not completed.*

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments I am opposed to data centers locating in Cochise County, AZ. The County does not have the water resources to spare that data centers require. They do not bring many jobs compared to the water and electricity they use. Studies need to be done to determine what, if any, damage they might do to the land and environment.

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 7:20:16 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Mary

Last Name Moran

Physical Address 5668 East cochise trail

City St david

State Az

Zip Code 85630

Email marymoran777@yahoo.com

Phone 5202168701

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments I do not support data centers in our county.

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 3:29:34 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Dianne

Last Name Siers

Physical Address 421 M St

City Bisbee

State Arizona

Zip Code 85603

Email bisbeelady@hotmail.com

Phone 5202490129

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments Public Comment: Data Centers Do Not Belong in Cochise County

Members of the Planning and Zoning Commission,

I urge you to recognize that no set of “guardrails” can make large industrial data centers compatible with Cochise County. These facilities may appear to be modern economic development, but in

a rural desert county like ours they pose serious and lasting risks to our water, our land, and the economic foundation that already sustains this region.

Cochise County is not an empty industrial zone waiting to be filled with server warehouses. It is a working rural landscape. Our ranches, vineyards, farms, and small communities depend directly on groundwater, open land, and a stable environment. Agriculture here is not theoretical; it is cattle operations, family ranches, and a growing wine industry that has become one of the most promising economic sectors in the county. These livelihoods depend on water security and the preservation of the land itself.

Data centers are among the most resource-intensive industrial facilities being built today. They require enormous electrical loads and large cooling systems that consume substantial amounts of water, especially in hot climates like southern Arizona. In a county already facing long-term groundwater concerns, committing large quantities of water to cool computer servers owned by global technology corporations is a dangerous precedent. Once industrial demand is established, it becomes extremely difficult to reverse.

The economic argument is also misleading. While construction creates temporary activity, data centers employ relatively few permanent workers once operational. These are typically specialized technical positions that are often filled by workers brought in from outside the area. Meanwhile, the community absorbs the long-term impacts: strain on infrastructure, increased industrial power demand, and pressure on limited water resources. The return to local residents is minimal compared to what is put at risk.

Equally important is the character of Cochise County itself. People live here because it remains rural, quiet, and connected to the land. Ranching operations, vineyards, wildlife habitat, and open desert landscapes define this county. Massive industrial server complexes running 24 hours a day with constant cooling systems, electrical infrastructure, and industrial noise simply do not belong in this environment. Once such facilities are approved, they fundamentally change the character of the surrounding area.

This is not a question of better regulations or stronger guardrails. The scale and resource demands of modern data centers make them fundamentally incompatible with a rural desert county whose economy depends on agriculture, ranching, and natural landscapes.

Cochise County has something far more valuable than short-term

industrial development: land, water, agriculture, and a rural quality of life that people actively choose to protect. Those assets support real communities and real long-term economic activity.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Commission to reject the introduction of large-scale data centers in Cochise County. Protect the water, protect the land, and protect the rural economy that already exists here.

Once these facilities are allowed in, the consequences cannot easily be undone. The time to protect Cochise County is now.

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 8:43:21 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

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| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Christine |
| Last Name | Atchison |
| Physical Address | 4440 W Prince Rd |
| City | McNeal |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85617 |
| Email | catchison0213@gmail.com |
| Phone | 520-255-6771 |
| Please select an option: | I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time |
| Comments | <i>Field not completed.</i> |

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 8:40:57 PM

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Development Services Speaker Request Form

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| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Dan |
| Last Name | Baker |
| Physical Address | 4440 W Prince Rd |
| City | McNeal |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85617 |
| Email | info@etusa.org |
| Phone | 520-366-4041 |
| Please select an option: | I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time |
| Comments | <i>Field not completed.</i> |

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I agree to adhere to the Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 7:44:39 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Chris

Last Name Belton

Physical Address 9339 N EE Ranch Rd

City Mc Neal

State Arizona

Zip Code 85617

Email cmr_belton@yahoo.com

Phone 2106011171

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments Howdy,

I am a resident in Cochise county. I am opposed to data centers being built in the community. I do believe they have a place but not here. The risk they pose is out weighs their limited benefit for the community. Resources are too limited, research and planning has been more than lacking on the matter. Data center construction brings few jobs in the area as most employ people

from out of the community. The construction employment is short term, then gone. Maintenance for a center requires few personnel. The energy needed to reduce the heat generated is high. Data centers have turned to water cooling to reduce electrical cost, but for a community that already has issues with water wells drying up would only further exacerbate that issue. In addition what measures would be taken for unplanned hazard gas if batteries or nuclear power were used as power sources? Who would pay for fire department training, certification and equipment to handle such unplanned events? What would those cost be? How often would recertification be required? What additional road, utility infrastructure would be needed? Again who pays for it, as well as the ongoing maintenance? What light & noise pollution would be generated? Who would be effected by it?

Conduct Guidelines

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I agree to adhere to the Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 5:06:38 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: Neither, I would just like to comment

First Name Cheryl

Last Name Knott

Physical Address PO Box 192

City Pearce

State Arizona

Zip Code 85625

Email cherylannKnott@gmail.com

Phone *Field not completed.*

Please select an option: I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time

Comments *Field not completed.*

Conduct Guidelines

All speakers are expected to observe common standards of decorum and courtesy. Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, including profanity, are prohibited, as is any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting. Any conduct

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 3:53:34 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Kelly |
| Last Name | Overacker |
| Physical Address | 32 San Jose Dr |
| City | Bisbee |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85603 |
| Email | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Please note my objection to a data Center in Cochise County. |

Conduct Guidelines

All speakers are expected to observe common standards of decorum and courtesy. Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, including profanity, are prohibited, as is any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting. Any conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting will be grounds, at the discretion

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 3:53:34 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

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| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Kelly |
| Last Name | Overacker |
| Physical Address | 32 San Jose Dr |
| City | Bisbee |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85603 |
| Email | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Please note my objection to a data Center in Cochise County. |

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 3:54:24 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Sara |
| Last Name | Ray |
| Physical Address | 6667 N. Kings Hwy |
| City | Douglas |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85607 |
| Email | sarajewellray@gmail.com |
| Phone | 5205086476 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Data centers are wasteful and use resources excessively, especially water. But I want to take a moment to talk about inaudible infrasound and its impacts on physical health, which are also well-documented but not as often associated with the impacts of data centers. Elevated levels of infrasound are associated with symptoms that not only result in spiked cortisol levels, which cause stress and hypertension, but also cause other physical symptoms, including |

nausea, headaches, dizziness, and increased risk of cardiovascular disease. Methane turbines used to operate data centers emit nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides, and even carbon monoxide, which are known to poison anyone and anything nearby.

According to Pew polling, a majority of Americans say they are more concerned than excited about the use of AI, which is what the data centers are built to operate. So why invest in the kind of technology that a data center in Cochise County would fuel if people do not even have confidence in its utility? I implore the County to spend more time reviewing the data and collecting the opinions of constituents.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/11833738/>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/20206673/>

<https://www.pewresearch.org/science/2025/09/17/how-americans-view-ai-and-its-impact-on-people-and-society/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_bP80DEAbuo&t=146s

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 3:56:10 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Brad |
| Last Name | Overacker |
| Physical Address | 32 San Jose Dr |
| City | Bisbee |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85603 |
| Email | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Please note that I oppose data centers in Cochise County! |

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 3:58:38 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Pennie |
| Last Name | Reed |
| Physical Address | 719 W Rainbow Trail |
| City | Saint David |
| State | Az |
| Zip Code | 85630 |
| Email | Penniehls@gmail.com |
| Phone | 602-317-7188 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | I am opposed to data centers moving into Cochise County. Last I checked, the desert is dry and hot, what water we have is needed for the residents and businesses that live and operate here, and not drained dry by an unnecessary data center. The amount of electric usage by a data center will drive up costs to residents and the pollution of ground water that will happen due to the products used in the cooling process that eventually reaches ground water in no way serves our community long |

term. It's a slippery slope that will not end well if we allow data centers in our beautiful desert.

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 4:01:55 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I support the request |
| First Name | Tobias |
| Last Name | West |
| Physical Address | 608 South Dragoon Street |
| City | Benson |
| State | Arizona |
| Zip Code | 85602 |
| Email | tobiasalexanderwest@gmail.com |
| Phone | 5202557537 |
| Please select an option: | I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time |
| Comments | The county does not need a project that uses excess water. Data centers require excess water usage for cooling. |

Conduct Guidelines

All speakers are expected to observe common standards of decorum and courtesy. Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, including profanity, are prohibited, as is any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting. Any conduct

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 4:01:55 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

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| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I support the request |
| First Name | Tobias |
| Last Name | West |
| Physical Address | 608 South Dragoon Street |
| City | Benson |
| State | Arizona |
| Zip Code | 85602 |
| Email | tobiasalexanderwest@gmail.com |
| Phone | 5202557537 |
| Please select an option: | I will be present for the meeting online (via the Microsoft Team app) and wish to address the board/commission at the appropriate time |
| Comments | The county does not need a project that uses excess water. Data centers require excess water usage for cooling. |

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 4:07:02 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Richell

Last Name Sahm

Physical Address 109 C street

City Bisbee

State Arizona

Zip Code 85603

Email *Field not completed.*

Phone *Field not completed.*

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments *Field not completed.*

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 7:20:50 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Allison |
| Last Name | Shelton |
| Physical Address | 543b Tombstone Canyon |
| City | Bisbee |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85603 |
| Email | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Phone | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Stop stealing resources. We don't have enough water, the Sierra Vista Aquifer is draining and data centers do not serve the community. Stop turning our home into wasteland. |

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 7:28:29 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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Docket Number R-26-01 (Data Centers)

Select one of the following: I oppose the request

First Name Jenny

Last Name Walston

Physical Address 4075 S Chiricahua Court

City Sierra Vista

State AZ

Zip Code 85650

Email Jenny.walston@yahoo.com

Phone 5202661566

Please select an option: I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record

Comments No Data Center in Cochise County. They use too much water. They are bad for our environment.

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 7:37:49 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Marc |
| Last Name | Walston |
| Physical Address | 4075 S Chiricahua Court |
| City | Sierra Vista |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85650 |
| Email | Jenny.walston@yahoo.com |
| Phone | 5202662034 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | Cochise County cannot afford to lose water to a data center. Remember when they tried to shut down Ft. Huachuca over their water usage? I do. |

Conduct Guidelines

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 1:49:21 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

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| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | I oppose the request |
| First Name | Thomas |
| Last Name | Betivas |
| Physical Address | 1217 East Forrest Lane |
| City | Benson |
| State | Arizona |
| Zip Code | 85602 |
| Email | tom.betivas@gmail.com |
| Phone | 3303270568 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | I'm in Benson and don't agree with all the industrial already taking over because of local City greed and no care of what these will do to this area with health, property values, water, electric, road traffic, road maintenance, etc. Please do not support Data Centers which is another drain on resources and excessive noise. Thank you! Tom Betivas |

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Data Centers

A Free Market Model for the Digital Future

JANUARY 28, 2026

Jen Springman and William Beard

Goldwater Institute

The Unseen Engine of the Digital Age

The future is already here. Movies stream instantly. Video calls span continents. Artificial intelligence (AI) answers questions in fractions of a second. Yet the physical components that make this digital life possible remain largely unseen. That machinery is the global network of data centers—the industrial backbone of the modern economy. As new technology hits the market to make our lives easier, the volume of data generated and processed grows rapidly, driving demand for ever-greater computing capacity.^[1] Arizona should embrace the free-market principles that will allow this new digital future to take root.

The Greater Phoenix metropolitan area has emerged as one of the most significant data center hubs in North America, making our state a hotbed for large-scale digital infrastructure development. For Arizona residents, the scale and speed of this transformation have been striking. Industry rankings consistently place Phoenix among the top U.S. data center markets, often second nationwide in planned development. Current projections estimate a 553% increase in capacity, reaching roughly 5,340 megawatts of IT capacity, with more than a gigawatt already under construction.^[2]

This growth is part of a broader national competition. The United States leads the world in data center capacity, and states actively court these facilities through regulatory certainty, recognizing their role as economic engines. The result has been the emergence of “data center alley” regions in states such as Virginia, Texas, and Oregon. Virginia alone hosts nearly 600 facilities, leveraging its proximity to federal institutions and core internet infrastructure.^[3]

The stakes could not be higher. Data centers will underpin the future of the United States, providing economic strength and national security, driving economic growth, creating thousands of high-paying jobs, and securing the foundation for American technological leadership. As of March 2025, there were 5,426 data centers in the United States. Some industry projections anticipate a doubling or tripling of that number within a few years.^[4] McKinsey estimates that “by 2030, companies will invest almost \$7 trillion in capital expenditures on data center infrastructure globally,” with over 40% of that invested in the United States.^[5]

Artificial intelligence has dramatically accelerated these trends. Demand for data has increased exponentially. How communities, businesses, and policymakers respond to this transformation will shape economic competitiveness for decades to come.

History offers a clear lesson: Innovation sometimes provokes fear, particularly from established interests who often work to trigger anxieties in the population about scale, speed, and control. Caution has a role in policymaking, but fear is not a substitute for good decision-making. The digital age is not a hypothetical future. Public policy must be grounded in economic reality and the protection of private property, not in reflexive opposition or manufactured controversy. Ignoring technological change does not stop it. Instead, it simply guarantees that opportunity will migrate elsewhere.

There’s an easy choice for Arizona leaders: It’s time to choose to embrace the future, not run away from it.

What Are Data Centers, and What Do They Really Do?

Every search query, cloud backup, financial transaction, and AI-generated response relies on massive computing power that rarely lives on a personal device. Instead, it is housed in purpose-built facilities where data is continuously stored, retrieved, and analyzed. We often refer to this system as “the cloud,” but the cloud is not a mere abstraction—it refers to physical infrastructure. Like a traditional library, data centers contain vast shelves of digital information, managed by automated systems that function as digital librarians, ensuring

constant access for commerce, research, and communication.[6] Every time a user opens a mobile app, runs a search, or backs up a device, a data center is doing the work.

Data centers cannot be placed just anywhere. Their viability depends on access to key resources, including robust power capacity, dense fiber-optic lines, and geographic proximity to end users to minimize latency. Unlike the electric grid, fiber infrastructure is unevenly distributed across the country, making location a strategic constraint rather than a preference. Low latency is not a luxury. A study by Amazon showed that an additional 100 milliseconds of delay can significantly reduce e-commerce conversions, translating directly into lost revenue.[7]

The proliferation of data centers mirrors the exponential growth of data itself. This infrastructure is a critical enabler of economic growth, underwriting the shift to a digital-first economy. Companies no longer need to build and manage their own extensive IT infrastructure. Instead, they lease capacity or rely on cloud services, lowering startup costs and driving innovation. This has been a major factor in the rise of the “gig economy,” e-commerce, and software-as-a-service (SaaS) business models. At the same time, the data center sector generates high-paying jobs in construction, engineering, and advanced IT operations.

The advent of AI has intensified and concentrated this demand. AI models require immense computational power to train and operate, placing unprecedented strain on existing infrastructure and driving the construction of more powerful data centers. These facilities, equipped with specialized hardware such as graphics processing units (GPUs), are not a niche adjunct to the next technological era. Rather, they are the backbone. The Arizona boom is fueled by a convergence of strategic, geographic, and economic advantages:

Safety and Stability: The state’s location is highly desirable because it falls outside major hurricane, tornado, and earthquake zones, offering operational stability that critical infrastructure demands.

Favorable Economics: Arizona provides a competitive a pro-business, low tax structure, affordable land for large campus developments, and an environment that promotes free enterprise, which together make the state a promising place to lay down roots.

Strategic Position: Phoenix serves as a vital low-latency nexus on national fiber routes, linking major economic centers across the Southwest.

Common sense and market logic dictate that supply follows demand. In the case of data centers, that means locating infrastructure as close as possible to end users. The market did not choose Arizona by accident; it chose our state because policy aligned with demand and natural constraints.[8]

The Regulatory Crisis: When Politics Overrides Prosperity

The success of data centers has prompted a growing regulatory backlash in communities across Arizona, including Phoenix, Mesa, Chandler, and Tucson. Much of this response is driven not by evidence, but by persistent myths—particularly surrounding electricity and water usage—that mischaracterize how modern data centers actually operate. In response, some cities have moved to retroactively restrict or block development. This approach substitutes misconception for market signals, undermines property rights, and departs from the free-market principles that allow economic growth and technological innovation to flourish.

Many communities with access to essential inputs for data centers—power, fiber-optic connectivity, and non-potable water sources—have begun restricting access to one or to all of these resources in the name of public safety. These decisions are often shaped less by demonstrable risk than by a tendency to take digital services for granted while treating the physical infrastructure that enables them as a nuisance rather than a necessity. In practice, cities have moved to retroactively limit or even preclude the siting of data centers, citing concerns over aesthetics, consumer utility costs, and, at times, a general unease with modern technology itself. But reality is unavoidable: Supply and demand will assert themselves regardless. Regulatory obstacles and political interference do not eliminate costs—they redistribute and often amplify them, distorting markets, raising prices for consumers, and ultimately failing to achieve the policy objectives they claim to serve.

Data is not an exotic exception to economics or public safety. Rather, it is a commodity governed by the same supply-and-demand dynamics as energy, transportation, housing, or any other necessary good. As demand for data increases, pressure to expand capacity inevitably follow. Someone will step up to build a better mousetrap, offering capital, bearing risk, and investing for long-term returns. Industry forecasts indicate that global AI capabilities are now doubling roughly every six months.[9]

Expensive Utilities Is a Policy Choice, Not a Data Center Problem

Energy affordability has emerged as a front-line economic concern for American families. Nearly three-quarters of Americans say they are worried about rising electricity and gas bills this year, and four in five report feeling powerless over what utilities charge. Those concerns are justified. Since 2021, electricity prices in the United States have risen roughly 27%, including a sharp increase in 2025 alone.^[10]

That burden is not evenly distributed. Under federal law, states largely control their electricity systems—deciding which fuels supply the grid, which plants are permitted or retired, and whether utilities must comply with renewable mandates, emissions caps, or cost-shifting subsidies. Those policy decisions flow directly into ratepayer bills.

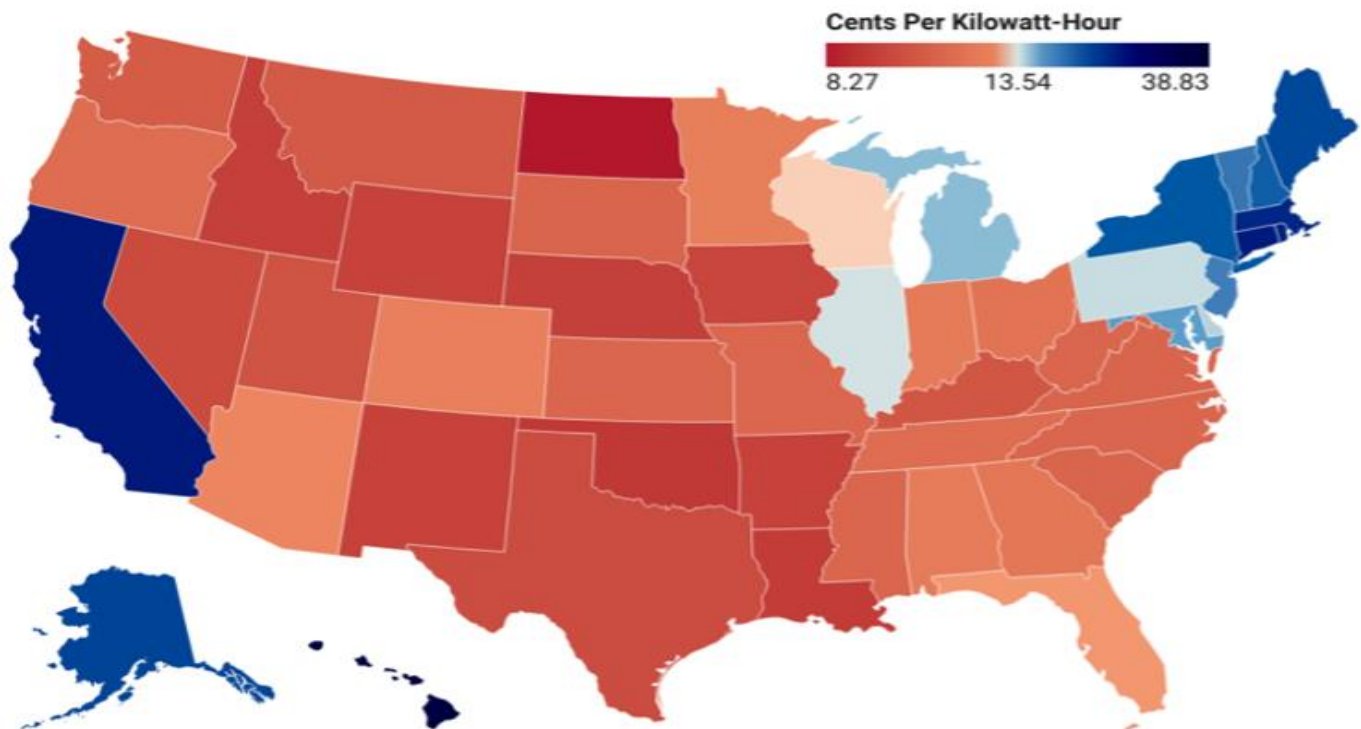
States with electricity prices above the national average are overwhelmingly those that have prioritized aggressive renewable mandates, 100% “carbon-free” targets, restrictions on natural gas infrastructure, net-metering subsidies, and premature coal and nuclear closures. New York and California are the clearest examples. Both have combined shrinking supplies of reliable power with rising demand, driving price increases that now far exceed national trends. New York’s electricity prices have surged more than 30% since 2019, prompting even Democratic leaders to delay parts of their own climate agenda after conceding it would impose “extraordinary and damaging costs” on residents.

California’s rates, now roughly double the national average, are not the product of scarcity but of deliberate policy choices that prioritize emissions targets over affordability. Virginia, by contrast, maintains below-average rates despite hosting one of the world’s largest concentrations of data centers.

The conclusion is straightforward: Electricity prices reflect state policy choices, not geography or the number of data centers. Large data centers do not drive up residential rates any more than many other kinds of industry. Instead, they often provide steady, predictable demand that supports investment in new power generation and grid upgrades, creating economies of scale that can lower costs system wide.^[11] Where problems arise, they are almost always policy-made.

FIGURE 1: STATE ELECTRICITY PRICES VS. U.S. AVERAGE

Blue colors indicate electricity costs are above the national average, red colors show costs are below the national average.



All-Sectors Electricity Prices from the U.S. EIA January 2025 - August 2025

Map: Always On Energy Research and Institute for Energy Research • Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration • Created with Datawrapper

Figure 1. Liberal states tend to have higher electricity rates than conservative states, largely due to state energy policies.

In Arizona, regulations that limit innovations such as collocated generation and microgrids require data centers to rely exclusively on the shared grid, reducing flexibility and constraining investment options that could otherwise complement broader grid upgrades. The same dynamic applies to water, where market-driven innovation—closed-loop cooling, air-cooled designs, and reclaimed water—has already reduced or eliminated potable water use. Building data centers is not what’s pushing up electricity costs. The real pressure comes from energy mandates and regulatory regimes that sideline reliable power and discourage infrastructure expansion. Arizona can attract investment without rates rising by allowing dispatchable generation, on-site power, and market solutions, or it can repeat California’s mistakes by choosing ideology over affordability and reliability.

The Defense of Property Rights: Arizona Law Versus the Bubble Wrap Mentality

The future of Arizona’s data center industry ultimately turns on whether sound policy or short-term fears will prevail. The desire for safety and security can transform into a stifling “bubble wrap mentality,” in which layer upon layer of restrictions and prohibitions are imposed until productive activity becomes effectively impossible. Economic history is unambiguous: Individuals and businesses thrive when regulations are disciplined, limited, or removed, not when arbitrary hurdles are erected to quell unfounded fears.

The sheer physical size of a data center is no more legally or economically suspect than that of a manufacturing plant. These property owners retain the same fundamental right to use and develop their land as any other private actor. In Arizona, this is not just a policy argument; it is a legal one. Arizona voters approved the Private Property Rights Protection Act (Proposition 207) in 2006, requiring the government to compensate property owners when regulations diminish the value or viable use of their property.^[12] Municipal efforts to retroactively restrict or prohibit new data center construction through zoning changes violate both the spirit and the plain language of the law, exposing cities to significant and avoidable litigation risk.

The Arizona Way: Building Future Prosperity Through Freedom

Metropolitan Phoenix has become the second-largest data-center hub in the United States, driven by affordable electricity, a pro-business, low tax structure, relatively lax regulations, predictable weather, and its location along a major fiber-optic corridor. Companies such as Google, Microsoft, and Iron Mountain now operate facilities totaling roughly 707 megawatts of IT capacity.^[13]

Arizona’s success reflects deliberate policy choices. In 2013, the state enacted a law providing tax incentives for data-center development, which were expanded again in 2016 to reinforce Arizona’s competitive position. Under the statute, businesses investing up to \$250 million in qualifying improvements became eligible for tax relief. A later amendment barred receipt of the credit if a developer collocated a dedicated power-generation facility alongside the data center. Even with this constraint, the incentive framework contributed to the state’s accelerating data-center investment, reshaping Arizona’s industrial and technological landscape.

The result has been capital inflows for data centers, high-wage technical jobs, and a more diversified economy. This growth, however, has also forced serious engagement with sustainability concerns, especially water use in a desert climate. Arizona data centers have responded by pioneering water-efficient cooling technologies, with many new facilities adopting air-cooled or closed-loop systems, demonstrating that economic expansion and environmental stewardship are not mutually exclusive.

This experience illustrates how states can pursue growth while managing legitimate resource constraints, offering a replicable model rather than a cautionary tale.

Falling to Fear: Abandoning What Has Made Arizona Succeed

Many Arizona communities have taken a disciplined, free-market approach to data-center policy, recognizing that clear rules and predictable access to infrastructure and resources are prerequisites for long-term investment and expansion. Others, however, have yielded to short-term political pressure and unwarranted fearmongering, adopting restrictions that not only undermine Arizona’s historically successful pro-growth model but increasingly conflict with state law.

As cities attempt to retrofit legacy zoning frameworks to address data centers, distinct patterns of policy failure have emerged. The responses of Arizona municipalities now offer a clear case study in how local decision-making can either preserve—or erode—the conditions that made growth possible:

- **Mesa** engaged stakeholders and took the legally prudent step of grandfathering properties already under consideration for data-center development, thereby limiting immediate exposure to Proposition 207 claims. However, by requiring subsequent waivers for future data centers, city officials added an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy and unpredictability to the market.
- **Phoenix** exemplified reactive, non-market governance, driven by political fear rather than legal constraint. The city passed an ordinance that effectively funnels new data centers into areas with inadequate access to critical infrastructure, a decision that has already drawn multiple Prop 207 claims.
- **Tucson** attempted to restrict data center development by repurposing water-use ordinances as a de facto zoning tool, a strategy that conflates resource management with land-use control and leaves the city particularly vulnerable to litigation.

Securing the Digital Future

Arizona can lead the country by resisting reactionary policies rooted in anxiety rather than evidence. Data centers are not some exotic experiment—they are core infrastructure for modern life, much like transportation networks, agricultural supply chains, or energy systems scaled to meet the demands of the 21st century. Modern living comes with tradeoffs. Rejecting data centers means rejecting the physical foundation of the digital economy itself.

The future should be met with freedom, not restrictions. State government should streamline zoning and permitting so investment can move forward predictably and efficiently. A low-touch regulatory environment—one that respects property rights and allows the market to allocate resources—will address sustainability challenges better than fear-driven local obstruction. Government's role is not to micromanage outcomes, but to set clear rules and then step aside.

The tradeoff is equally clear. Local restrictions do not eliminate demand; they merely raise costs. Efforts to block or constrain data centers result in reduced access and higher prices for the very consumers such policies claim to protect. History testifies to the consequences of this pattern. Every major infrastructure expansion—from railroads to electrification to modern logistics—faced local resistance rooted in disruption and uncertainty. Demand persisted regardless, and investment simply relocated. Communities that said no paid more later. That adaptation is already underway. Data-center developers continuously improve site selection, facility design, construction, and operations because inefficiency is a direct financial liability and innovation a competitive necessity. Cooling systems, power architecture, and water use are no longer peripheral concerns—they are central business decisions shaped by cost, reliability, and customer demand. In arid regions such as Arizona, this has driven air-cooled and closed-loop designs, reduced reliance on potable water, and lowered overall resource intensity. When customers demand greater efficiency and sustainability, developers respond by innovating and eliminating many costs from their business models.

The same market dynamic governs the cost of energy. Large users like data centers work to be efficient and do not inherently drive electricity prices higher. Policy mandates do. States with aggressive renewable-energy mandates and restrictive generation policies consistently charge electricity rates well above the national average, while states that allow energy production to develop through market signals routinely deliver power at significantly lower per-kilowatt-hour costs—often by a wide margin. Virginia again illustrates the point: It hosts one of the nation's densest data-center clusters while maintaining comparatively affordable electricity.

Data centers are not a passing trend. They are a durable component of the modern economy, and Arizona's choices will determine whether it benefits from hosting that infrastructure or pays a premium to rely on it from elsewhere. The evidence is consistent: Markets innovate to conserve resources, electricity prices are heavily impacted by policy decisions, and attempts to suppress demand by constraining large users only raise costs and shift investment across borders. Arizona's success has never come from fear-driven regulation, but from predictable rules, respect for property rights, and a willingness to let innovation work within an economic environment that supports free enterprise. The question is not whether data centers will exist, but whether Arizona will continue to lead—or retreat in the face of the future.

End Notes

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- [12] "An Initiative Measure Amending Title 12, Chapter 8, Arizona Revised Statutes, by Adding Article 2.1; Relating to the Private Property Rights Protection Act," accessed January 17, 2026, [https://apps.azsos.gov/election/2006/General/BallotMeasureText/PROP%2020X%20\(1-21-2006\).htm](https://apps.azsos.gov/election/2006/General/BallotMeasureText/PROP%2020X%20(1-21-2006).htm).
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data centers

From Cheryl Knott <cherylannknott@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/6/2026 2:59 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

 1 attachment (82 KB)

data center letter to supervisors.pdf;

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Supervisors Gomez, Antenori, and Crosby,

I respectfully urge you to protect the future of Cochise County by rejecting any and all proposals for data centers. We simply don't have enough water to meet the needs of even one data center.

I live in Pearce, in the Willcox groundwater basin. The Willcox and Douglas basins, just like all of Cochise County, cannot support the high level of groundwater extraction that a data center requires. Department of Water Resources Director Tom Buschatzke's order to create the Willcox Active Management Area noted significant and recently accelerating declines in the water table levels as well as extensive land subsidence and earth fissuring as the levels have dropped. The largest groundwater user in the Sulphur Springs Valley, Riverview, LLP, just committed \$5.5 million to help local residents whose wells have gone dry and decided to fallow some of its irrigated acres. These are obvious signs that the last thing we need is another industrial user of massive amounts of groundwater.

All water is local. Those are the words of the director of program innovation at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. (<https://www.lincolninst.edu/publications/land-lines-magazine/articles/land-water-impacts-data-centers/>) A data center located in Cochise County will be using local water for AI activities taking place all over the world. Letting a data center take water from our local aquifer means we'll have to reduce our local demand for water. Most of our water is used by farmers. Cochise County farmers should not have to compete with data centers for the local water they rely on to grow food.

In addition to reducing our local demand for water, we'd have to find a way to recharge our aquifers. Water can't move through areas of land subsidence and so it can't be absorbed back into the aquifer. We can't recharge our way out of the severe declines our aquifers are already experiencing. Even worse, data centers use evaporative cooling; the water used evaporates and isn't available for recharging the aquifer at all.

You are no doubt hearing a lot of pro-data-center statements from private entities who stand to profit off our cheap land and free water. They make it sound like things that are still experimental and speculative already exist to solve all the problems that data centers present. Others make it sound like they are proposing a relatively small project that will have no negative impact, when in fact that may be just a way for Google or Amazon to secretly get a foot in the door and expand the operation later. Don't believe the outsiders who want to extract our water for profits they will make and spend elsewhere.

The county has wasted a lot of money in the past few years on lawsuits and settlements involving the activities of elected officials. I respectfully ask that you not make matters worse by inviting in a water guzzling multinational corporation. In the desert, groundwater is a finite resource. There are lots of possible land uses that don't involve destroying our aquifers.

Respectfully,
Cheryl Knott, Pearce, AZ, CC District 3
(This letter is also attached in case you prefer a pdf.)

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Opposed to data centers

From AL ANDERSON <itisalanderson@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 3:14 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

I urge you to oppose data centers in our county. They use too much water which we do not have and electricity which our utility infrastructure cannot handle. Data centers are better adapted to cooler climates than this county can provide.

Al Anderson

POB 561

Bisbee AZ

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FW: No data centers in Cochise County!

From Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>
Date Mon 3/9/2026 8:37 AM
To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

FYI below.

From: Lynn Gray <shunahoyah@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 7, 2026 9:55 AM
To: Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>
Subject: No data centers in Cochise County!

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Mr. Taylor:

We at Friends (Quaker) Southwest Center wish to voice our opposition to data centers in Cochise County (or anywhere, for that matter). The water tables in our county are already being depleted by corporate agricultural, and there's no way residing in the county will remain sustainable if there's yet another powerful draw on our groundwater. We are not a sacrifice zone! Please protect us from data centers!

Sincerely, Lynn Gray for Friends Southwest Center

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Data centers

From Shar Porier <bcn2shar@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 2:13 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Hi, Christine!

I am in favor of the 120 day moratorium on data centers until all questions are answered.

While I understand the need for "homes" to store all the data being produced now and in the future, I'm hesitant to support a data center here in Cochise County.

The most important issue to resolve is the groundwater situation. Even though the Upper San Pedro basin is not protected, it does feed the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area which is protected by the federal government's court ruling to maintain a certain amount of river flow at specific reaches along the river. I would suspect there would be a considerable rumble from the people and organizations that have worked to save groundwater.

The data center proposed in the Willcox groundwater basin also sounds alarms. Sulphur Springs Valley holds the Douglas and Willcox basins which are under AMA designations.

As much as the county could use the possible employment opportunities, they would come at a cost greater than the majority of us can afford if groundwater is further depleted. Recycling water in the system is a good idea, but new water still has to be used.

There is also the issue of noise, which has been a problem at other data centers built near developments and residential areas. That is a concern as sound travels a great distance.

Then there's the light pollution. I know the county has dark skies regulations, but how would you work with the company that builds it?

Then there's the issue with providing power to the data center. Are the local power companies prepared to take on the costs without shifting it to customers?

I know the county's revenue streams aren't as healthy as they used to be. Perhaps it would be better to cover all the bases before allowing data centers.

As for losing revenue, which is a county-wide problem for the cities as well, maybe people should have considered the cons of voting for a liar, a rapist and a thief.

Thank you for your time.

Shar Porier

5013 W. Rogers Trl.

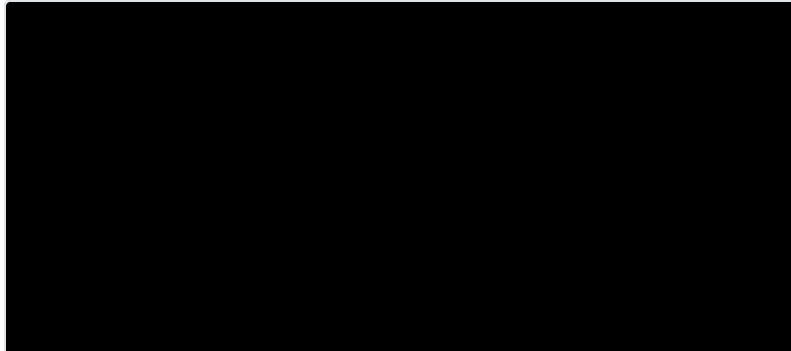
McNeal, AZ

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Cc: [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Re: important news about data centers
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 8:37:18 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

This is a very comprehensive article, published just a few days ago, after did the research to uncover the info below: [Temporarily banning data centers draws more interest from state, local officials • Stateline](#)



Temporarily banning data centers draws more interest from state, local o...

Madyson Fitzgerald

As communities' concerns grow over rising electricity prices and the environmental effects of data centers, some...

Here is just a **sampling** of counties and townships that have have 90-day to 1-year moratoriums--there are many others. Those underlined in blue have links to articles.

Georgia counties

[Bulloch](#) (90-day pause) *...pause is intended to allow time for research and evaluation before establishing potential zoning standards or regulatory requirements. Questions about water consumption, power grid reliability, noise levels, facility size, and long-term infrastructure impact.*

[Clayton](#) (120-day pause) *...stops the county commission from accepting applications for various permits and licenses related to the construction and expansion of data centers.*

[DeKalb](#) (180-day pause) *allow more time to gather information on the impact of data centers on communities. Residents expressed concern that data centers could negatively affect their health, the environment, utility bills and quality of life.*

[GA State legislature considering 1-year DC moratorium](#)

Indiana counties

[Starke](#) (1-year) *Residents cited issues such as light pollution, environmental effects, and infrastructure strain. Some urged county leaders to wait and observe the effects of large data center projects already under construction in nearby communities, including New Carlisle and Hobart, before allowing similar development in Starke County.*

Wisconsin counties

[Manitowoc](#) (1-year) *"I think the sooner you enter fact-finding and putting in place safeguards for your community, the better you are."*

Ohio townships

[Muhlenberg](#) (1-year) *"They're forming a committee to review data centers. Nothing will be able to be done in the township until February 3rd of next year when the moratorium runs out."*

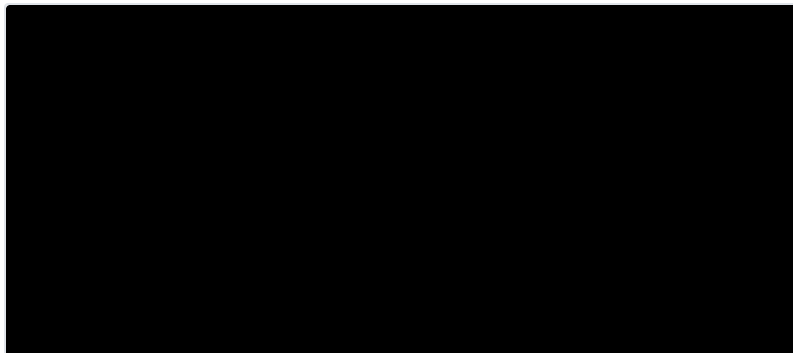
[Washington](#) (90-day) *Township leaders say the temporary pause will give them time to review fire safety and emergency preparedness related to these facilities. The moratorium allows officials to take a closer look at potential risks and ensure first responders are adequately prepared. Township trustees also have asked the legal department to review the possibility of a more permanent ban on data centers.*

[OH State legislature considering DC moratorium](#)

Michigan

[At least 27 communities](#)

[State legislature seeking 1-year DC moratorium](#)



Data center moratorium bills reflect public sentiment, says Michigan law...

Brian Allnutt

Michigan lawmakers introduce one-year moratorium on data centers to address power grid, water usage, and ratepay...

On Monday, March 9, 2026 at 09:20:03 AM MDT, McLachlan, Christine <cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

Thank you for forwarding, I think there's a lot we can learn from other parts of the country - most of which had to respond to data center applications prior to the development of specific regulations.

Christine McLachlan, AICP

Director

Cochise County, Development Services

1415 Melody Lane, Building F

Bisbee, AZ 85603

520-432-9266

cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov

Public Programs...Personal Service

www.cochise.az.gov

GIS Online: [INFOMap](#)

Apply for a permit online: [CITIZEN SERVE](#)

From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 7, 2026 8:49 AM

To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

Cc: Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

Subject: important news about data centers

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Hello again,

Not sure if either of you have seen these two articles but the message is pretty clear:

[Facing Its Third Data Center, an Iowa County Rolls Out Extensive Zoning Rules - Inside Climate News](#)

[Facing Its Third Data Center, an Iowa County Rolls Out Extensive Zoning ...](#)

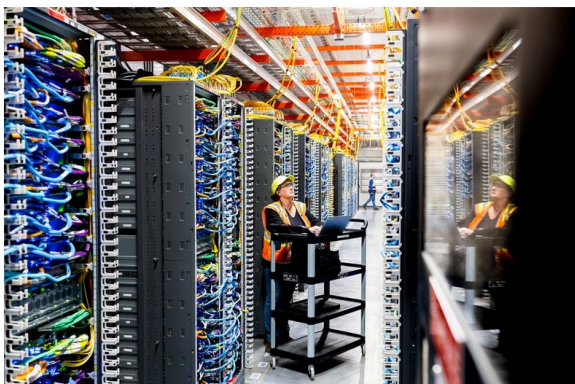
By [Anika Jane Beamer](#)

[Linn County has adopted some of the nation's strictest data center zoning rules. Residents say the protections a...](#)

<https://www.politico.com/news/2026/03/02/gop-trump-loyalties-rural-america-data-centers-00795708>

Trump's AI drive is running headlong into his most reliable voters

Republican candidates are bucking Trump to push back against efforts to turn agricultural land into places to grow artificial intelligence.



A technician works in a data center. | Noah Berger/Getty Images via Amazon Web Services

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Data Center Regulations

From jo ann caruthers <joanncaruthers@cox.net>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 2:04 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

BLUF: Locating data centers in Cochise County is a really bad idea.

Please, I urge you to support the 120 day moratorium as approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

A couple of additional points—data centers should under no circumstances be located within 2 miles of a residential area and should absolutely not use evaporative cooling or water-cooled systems.

What's it all about?

WATER, WATER, WATER! We—Cochise County—are almost totally dependent on fossil water in our aquifers. When it's gone it's gone and water is life. I like living here. I'd like to continue to do so. Without adequate water, the future will be bleak. We should be researching how to conserve it; not opening it up to heavy users.

POWER, POWER, POWER. As you are aware, power consumption is a huge issue and nuclear power is NOT a viable solution.

Data centers have a reputation of depleting resources while expecting residents to subsidize their costs. They do not contribute to residents' quality of life, nor do they improve the environment or protect it.

PLEASE, PLEASE—Let's take more time to really think about this before we invite disaster chasing what will likely turn out to be short term gains; that is if there is any gain at all for the majority of us.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jo Ann Caruthers
4968 Marble Drive
Hereford, AZ 85615

Sent from my iPad

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using the Phish Alert Button at the top of the email, or forward to cochise.az.gov@missedspam.com <<mailto:cochise.az.gov@missedspam.com>> or contact IT support at 520-432-8301.

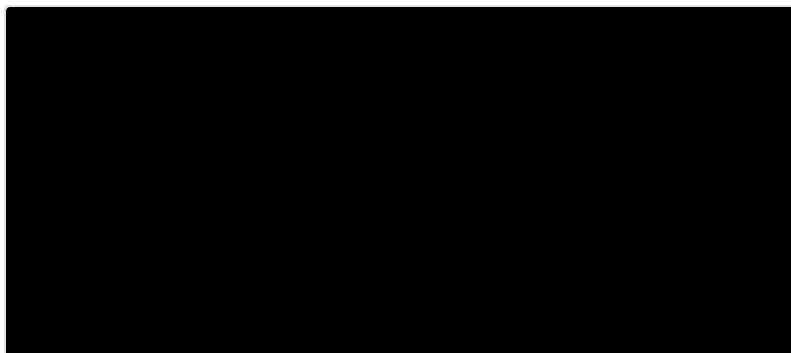
From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Cc: [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: important news about data centers
Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026 8:50:05 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Hello again,

Not sure if either of you have seen these two articles but the message is pretty clear:

[Facing Its Third Data Center, an Iowa County Rolls Out Extensive Zoning Rules - Inside Climate News](#)



Facing Its Third Data Center, an Iowa County
Rolls Out Extensive Zoning ...

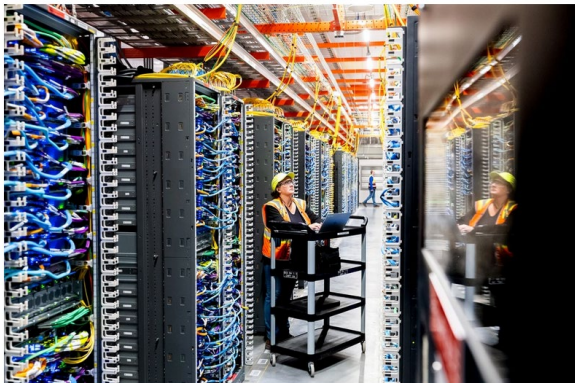
By Anika Jane Beamer

Linn County has adopted some of the nation's strictest data
center zoning rules. Residents say the protections a...

<https://www.politico.com/news/2026/03/02/gop-trump-loyalties-rural-america-data-centers-00795708>

Trump's AI drive is running headlong into his most reliable voters

Republican candidates are bucking Trump to push back against efforts to turn agricultural land into places to grow artificial intelligence.



A technician works in a data center. | Noah Berger/Getty Images via Amazon Web Services

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Data Centers meeting

From X 0 <hickorysanctuary@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 1:48 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

 1 attachment (22 KB)

To the Cochise County Board of supervisors 3.pdf;

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Hello Supervisors,

I have attached a document for the upcoming meeting regarding the data centers. I am a concerned and interested citizen who will be closely following this process and to see how things evolve with planning and zoning in our beautiful county.

Thank you,

Lara Buckley
San Simon, AZ

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March 6, 2026

Dear Supervisors Gomez, Antenori, and Crosby:

I respectfully urge you to protect the future of Cochise County by rejecting any and all proposals for data centers. We simply don't have enough water to meet the needs of even one data center.

I live in Pearce, in the Willcox groundwater basin. The Willcox and Douglas basins, just like all of Cochise County, cannot support the high level of groundwater extraction that a data center requires. Department of Water Resources Director Tom Buschatzke's order to create the Willcox Active Management Area noted significant and recently accelerating declines in the water table levels as well as extensive land subsidence and earth fissuring as the levels have dropped. The largest groundwater user in the Sulphur Springs Valley, Riverview, LLP, just committed \$5.5 million to help local residents whose wells have gone dry and decided to fallow some of its irrigated acres. These are obvious signs that the last thing we need is another industrial user of massive amounts of groundwater.

All water is local. Those are the words of the director of program innovation at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.(<https://www.lincolninst.edu/publications/land-lines-magazine/articles/land-water-impacts-data-centers/>) A data center located in Cochise County will be using local water for AI activities taking place all over the world. Letting a data center take water from our local aquifer means we'll have to reduce our local demand for water. Most of our water is used by farmers. Cochise County farmers should not have to compete with data centers for the local water they rely on to grow food.

In addition to reducing our local demand for water, we'd have to find a way to recharge our aquifers. Water can't move through areas of land subsidence and so it can't be absorbed back into the aquifer. We can't recharge our way out of the severe declines our aquifers are already experiencing. Even worse, data centers use evaporative cooling; the water used evaporates and isn't available for recharging the aquifer at all.

You are no doubt hearing a lot of pro-data-center statements from private entities who stand to profit off our cheap land and free water. They make it sound like things that are still experimental and speculative already exist to solve all the problems that data centers present. Others make it sound like they are proposing a relatively small project that will have no negative impact, when in fact that may be just a way for Google or Amazon to secretly get a foot in the door and expand the operation later. Don't believe the outsiders who want to extract our water for profits they will make and spend elsewhere.

The county has wasted a lot of money in the past few years on lawsuits and settlements involving the activities of elected officials. I respectfully ask that you not make matters worse by inviting in a water guzzling multinational corporation. In the desert, groundwater is a finite resource. There are lots of possible land uses that don't involve destroying our aquifers.

Respectfully,
Cheryl Knott, Pearce, AZ, CC District 3

Opposed to data centers

From AL ANDERSON <itisalanderson@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 3:14 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

I urge you to oppose data centers in our county. They use too much water which we do not have and electricity which our utility infrastructure cannot handle. Data centers are better adapted to cooler climates than this county can provide.

Al Anderson

POB 561

Bisbee AZ

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Data Centers

From Diana LaMar <dianalamar@me.com>

Date Tue 3/10/2026 9:09 AM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Loewenheim, Lara <LLoewenheim@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Everything I have read re data centers leads me to conclude that the BOS and P&Z should do nothing to encourage or support their development in our county at this time.

Diana LaMar
1303 F Ave
Douglas, AZ 85607

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Proposed Data Center Ordinance

From Louis Manuta <inlouof@verizon.net>

Date Sun 3/22/2026 1:00 PM

To Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

Cc Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

| |
|---------------------------------|
| CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL* |
|---------------------------------|

Dear Ms. Gilman:

I am writing to you today regarding the data center ordinance being proposed in Cochise County.

While it is perfectly appropriate for the County to consider special use permits for new industries from an economic development perspective, it should outright reject any development if by definition it's enactment would negatively affect our fragile aquifers. While there are several important issues that do impact our community, none come close to the need to protect our water. Without water, there would be no cattle, no crops, and no people. Water is life.

My wife and I moved to Pearce in 2020 and live off-grid on 11 acres in the Willcox Groundwater Basin. In addition to active rainwater harvesting, we also have our own well. Our well is vitally important to us and have regularly had the water tested and the level monitored.

In recent weeks, several wells have stopped working in the Village of Sunsites and in Richland. It appears that while these wells have not gone dry, their pumps have become inoperable due to a sediment surge as a result of over-pumping. When attempts are made to replace the pumps, the well casings are often damaged and the wells become inoperable.

The delicate nature of our groundwater is also reflected in our Basin being placed in an AMA. Also, earlier this year the Arizona Attorney General reached an \$11 million settlement with Riverview to cover the costs of well replacement. The problem is real and is getting worse. Proper management is key to protecting this life sustaining water supply.

While the addition of data centers into the Willcox Basin may result in both construction jobs and on-going employment positions, it is well-known that data centers require hundreds of thousands of water daily to cool their equipment (see this January 2026 article in Forbes: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/kensilverstein/2026/01/11/americas-ai-boom-is-running-into-an-unplanned-water-problem/>). Even though there are new data centers being proposed across the country which are designed to use less water, there must be stringent requirements in the County's special use permit approval process about water usage.

Moreover, data centers in the Phoenix area are apparently warming surrounding neighborhoods by several degrees (see this March 18, 2026 article from the CBS station in Phoenix <https://www.azfamily.com/2026/03/18/arizona-data-centers-warming-neighboring-communities-by-several-degrees/>)

An area in the midst of a drought with dwindling water resources such as the Willcox Groundwater Basin is no place for water intensive buildings from heat inducing industries. Economic development is worthless if there are no people living in the area able to benefit from it.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Lou Manuta
Pearce, AZ
inlouof@verizon.net

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Development Services Speaker Request Form
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 10:07:04 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Development Services Speaker Request Form

Instructions

Complete and submit this form to request to speak or comment about an agenda item or call to the public (anything not on the agenda). If you want to speak, the Chair will call your name when it is your turn. **You will have three minutes and can speak only once. Questions will not be answered during your time to speak and may not be addressed.** Required fields are denoted by an asterisk (*).

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Docket Number | R-26-01 (Data Centers) |
| Select one of the following: | Neither, I would just like to comment |
| First Name | Ronnie |
| Last Name | Maestas-Condos |
| Physical Address | 8300 E Quail Call Ln |
| City | Hereford |
| State | AZ |
| Zip Code | 85615 |
| Email | remc.6seis@gmail.com |
| Phone | 5205086651 |
| Please select an option: | I will not be present either online or in person but I would like my comments saved to the record |
| Comments | As our elected representatives you are entrusted with ensuring the common good of the people in our county. Upon reviewing the comments made concerning the establishment of "data centers" in Cochise County it seems more people are either outright opposed or quite skeptical of their locating here than people who have expressed support or acceptance of them. Please stop doing what you deem is best for your constituents and really start listening what we are saying....No Data Centers. |

Period. Full Stop!

Conduct Guidelines

All speakers are expected to observe common standards of decorum and courtesy.

Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, including profanity, are prohibited, as is any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting. Any conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the meeting will be grounds, at the discretion of the Chair, for ending a speaker's time.

I agree to adhere to the Conduct Guidelines

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [Gilman, Sharon](#); [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Cc: [Gomez, Kathleen](#); [Crosby, Tom](#); [Antenori, Frank](#)
Subject: Data center ordinance and 3/23 meeting
Date: Saturday, March 21, 2026 1:10:58 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good afternoon,

I am writing to share my concerns and offer input on the county's proposed data center ordinance that the P&Z Commission discussed at their last meeting. Please note that all underlined phrases in blue font are direct links to articles or recordings that you are able to read or listen to.

As the P&Z Commission agreed, a [120-day moratorium](#) should definitely be enacted to allow time to learn more about the issue and its impact to humans and the environment. Here is the moratorium language from White County, Indiana: [in.gov](#)

There are many other concerns, as you already know, related to water usage, emissions, noise, light pollution, security, hazmat and emergency management.

Aside from the immediate moratorium, I urge you to [prohibit any water-cooled systems](#) for data centers in Cochise County. They are simply inappropriate for our drought-stricken desert. Here in Portal, like in the Willcox area, many people have had to drill deeper because their wells have already gone dry. Temperatures have soared upwards and the earth is increasingly parched. We cannot afford to lose more groundwater to large-scale industry.

Finally, data centers should [not be allowed in areas zoned residential](#) (page 21) and [should be located at least 2 miles from residences](#). (start about minute 58)

My other concern is the [closed meeting on March 23](#) to which the public was not invited. It appears that those attending will be hearing from major power companies and presumably a discussion of data centers will also come up. It is important for county residents (*all* of your constituents) to have the opportunity learn as much as possible about these major new developments. We should not be shut out of informational sessions--this only breeds distrust. Similarly, we should *all* be hearing from hydrologists ([water issue](#)), healthcare professionals ([miscarriages/rare cancer rates](#)) and [industrial hygienists](#). (start about minute 1:28:45)

We are counting on you to protect the lives of Cochise County residents and the place we all love as you move forward with any proposed development.

Sincerely,

Allison Morse
Portal



Oversight: Subcommittee on Corporate
Subsidies and State Investments - 2...

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Re: public comments

From Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>

Date Wed 3/11/2026 2:30 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Thank you very much. Will there be a tabulation of those opposed and those for the data centers? That would seem to be important.

On Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 03:27:42 PM MDT, McLachlan, Christine <cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

I've gotten many responses since the posting of the agenda, and I will probably continue to get them until the meeting time. The late responses will be printed for the chair. We will save them in the project file and attach them to the board memo, along with any responses we receive prior to the next public hearing. I will also summarize the comments in my presentation.

Christine McLachlan, AICP

Director

Cochise County, Development Services

1415 Melody Lane, Building F

Bisbee, AZ 85603

520-432-9266

cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov

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www.cochise.az.gov

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From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:19 PM

To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

Subject: public comments

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Ms. McLachlan,

It does not appear that the 39-page document labeled "Public Comments" has been updated since last Friday. I am pretty sure there have been more since then but have no idea how many. Can you please ensure that the P&Z Commission has access to all comments submitted for the data center issue before they vote on the regulations today?

Thank you,

Ali

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Opposition to Data Centers in Cochise County and Comments on Proposed Ordinance

From Jennie Towne <jennietowne1@msn.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 4:10 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my opposition to data centers in Cochise County and my support for the a 120-day moratorium that the Planning & Zoning Commission passed, but the BOS has yet to vote on at the next meeting.

The Board and the public need to hear from professionals like hydrogeologists, environmental health experts, industry hygienists, etc., when considering data centers, and there must be stronger safeguards to the proposed ordinance, including but not limited to the following:

- no water-cooled or evaporative systems or other water-thirsty methods of cooling,
- no data centers in areas zoned as residential, and
- specific criteria to objectively establish and effectively manage adverse effects from:
 - * water usage
 - * power demands on residents and businesses
 - * toxic emissions and hazmat into the groundwater, atmosphere, and earth.
 - * fire and other emergency management
 - * noise pollution that exceeds tolerable levels
 - * light pollution that affects wildlife and our dark skies
 - * visual appearance--blight on otherwise rural landscape

I also want to express my disapproval of closed meetings with power companies and the data center industry, as they should be open to the public. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennie Towne
Paradise, AZ

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using the Phish Alert Button at the top of the email, or forward to cochise.az.gov@missedspam.com <<mailto:cochise.az.gov@missedspam.com>> or contact IT support at 520-432-8301.

From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: public comments
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:19:41 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Ms. McLachlan,

It does not appear that the 39-page document labeled "Public Comments" has been updated since last Friday. I am pretty sure there have been more since then but have no idea how many. Can you please ensure that the P&Z Commission has access to all comments submitted for the data center issue before they vote on the regulations today?

Thank you,

Ali

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No Data Centers

From Tracy Caras <tracycaras@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 3:58 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Supervisors,

As a registered voter in Cochise County, I would like to go on the record that I am completely opposed to data centers. Given the dire condition of our water supply, the substantial acreage that would be filled with solar panels, and the likelihood that if we happen to own property anywhere near them, the value of our real estate would plummet.

Between the corporate farms and dairy, the new Gunnison mine opening up, and the possibility of data centers, this beautiful natural desert will certainly become a wasteland in no time.

Sincerely,

Tracy Caras
Dragoon, AZ

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: Re: Questions re: Exhibit A
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:18:05 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Thank you for this, Ms. McLachlan. I still have concerns but I'm grateful for your response.

Appreciatively,

Ali

On Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 02:34:31 PM MDT, McLachlan, Christine <cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

Hi Ali, because you took the time to do such a thorough and thoughtful review to the exhibit, I wanted to respond in kind. My responses are in yellow, below:

First, there does not appear to be any limits on the physical size or maximum megawatt/gigawatt requirements of data center. Will that come up in discussion and will limits be established? Sup. Antenori mentioned 100-150 megawatts and those facilities are huge, as you know. It would seem there should be a size/power limit in place.

The ordinance does not set a maximum size or power limit because data centers vary widely. Instead, projects would be evaluated case-by-case through the Special Use Authorization process, which allows the County to review scale, utility demand, and site impacts before approval. If a proposal were determined to be too large or incompatible with the site, it could be denied through that review process.

Under 2.51.040 Data Centers:

2c - will the approval of transmission facilities, substation, or other off-site infrastructures also go through the SUP process or be determined by you?

Transmission lines and substations are reviewed separately because they may serve multiple users and can change over time - they are not approved as part of the data center Special Use Authorization.

3 - ... "may" include but not limited to...makes it sound like those requirements are not necessarily required. It would seem clearer (in my opinion), if the word "must" was used, perhaps with the words "when applicable." After all, the text is referring to "additional SUA requirements."

"May include" is used so studies are required when relevant to the site and its project impacts, rather than mandating unnecessary studies for every application.

3g - "Any additional studies..." What about soil and groundwater testing prior to construction, to determine a baseline? What if the soil and/or groundwater is contaminated if/when the data center is decommissioned and removed from the site? It seems that this should be a requirement, no

matter where it may be located

A baseline study is most useful where there is a likely contamination risk — for example, substantial fuel storage, known hazardous material storage, sensitive groundwater conditions, or a site history that raises concern — but it can be unnecessary where those risk factors are not present. A middle ground is to require baseline soil and groundwater testing when hazardous materials, backup fuel systems, or other site conditions indicate a higher potential contamination risk.

5bii - "*Data centers adjacent to residentially-used parcels*"... This is unacceptable--I believe Sup. Antenori said proposed data centers would be located at least two miles from residences. There should be NO data centers adjacent to residential properties and at least two miles from residences on rurally zoned parcels.

Because homes in rural Cochise County are so widely dispersed, a fixed distance like two miles could function as a blanket prohibition. Instead, the ordinance allows the County to evaluate proximity to residences through the Special Use process and require additional setbacks, buffering, screening, or other mitigation based on the specific site and surrounding uses. If an application is found to be incompatible with nearby residences, it may be conditioned or denied

6a - "...*minimize noise impacts beyond property boundary.*" How will the noise be measured objectively? What level (in decibels) is considered acceptable and how will impact(s) to wildlife be gauged?

Noise can be measured objectively using a decibel reader at the property line. If impacts are anticipated, the County may require an acoustic study and impose mitigation measures or operational limits. Also, routine generator testing is limited to daytime hours. Wildlife impacts are evaluated during Special Use review - applications are transmitted to Arizona Game and Fish for review and input prior to the commission hearing.

7a - "...*minimizing glare, light spillover, and sky glow.*" Similar to noise, how will this be measured--with light meters? What is considered acceptable? This, like noise, should include numbers, not broadly interpreted terms like "minimize."

Light illuminating from data centers can be significant (see below)--it would seem the this and other regulations should be tighter and more specific to our rural, dark, and quiet communities.

Lighting would be reviewed for compliance with the County's lighting standards in the Zoning Regulations, which govern glare, light spillover, and related impacts. If needed, compliance can be evaluated through a lighting plan and photometric data.

8 - "*Traffic and access*" See #5bii. Data centers should NOT be located adjacent to residential properties and should be positioned at least two miles from any residence — on a rural property.

Traffic, access, and proximity to nearby residences would be evaluated through the Special Use review process, which allows the County to impose site-specific conditions—such as access controls, delivery hour limits, setbacks, buffering, or other mitigation—to address potential impacts.

9 - Utilities and Infrastructure

9a - "...*without adversely impacting existing users.*" What does this mean exactly? This is very broad.

What is the measure of "adverse" and how far is the reach of the impact? When electricity rates go up for nearby communities, will the data center be held responsible? Will they be required to independently generate their own power, off our shared grid? What about local impacts and/or interruptions to internet service--will they be held liable for that to, and to what degree?

Utility rates, grid operations, and service liability are determined by the utility provider and applicable regulators, rather than county zoning. The County's role, in this case, is to require documentation of service availability and capacity as part of the Special Use review.

9b - "Applicant demonstrates through Water Use Plan, that non-potable or reclaimed water is not reasonably available or feasible" This concerns our most precious resource in Cochise County and one that is disappearing rapidly. There needs to be fortified safeguards in place for this regulation.

Agreed. The ordinance prioritizes water conservation by prohibiting routine use of potable water for cooling unless the applicant demonstrates that non-potable or reclaimed water is not reasonably available or feasible. The County may also require non-potable water use, metering, and periodic reporting as conditions of approval through the Special Use process.

A professional water analysis should be conducted by independent water experts whose history does not include greenlighting water-thirsty industries in other desert areas. Hydrologists and other experts from the U of A, for example, NOT a commercial firm like [West Water Research](#), a subsidiary of [Western Water Market](#) (who have already made inquiries in our county)

The ordinance does not specify particular firms or experts -applicants are responsible for hiring professionals, and the County evaluates the adequacy of the information provided during the Special Use review process.

10 - Security

a & b - Will this include audible alarms as well? If so, what decibel is acceptable and will residences be far enough away so as not to be impacted? What about impacts to wildlife?

Audible alarms may be used, but potential impacts would be evaluated during the Special Use review, and the County could require mitigation or operational limits if needed, including input from Arizona Game and Fish where appropriate.

13 - Decommissioning and Site Management

Will soil and groundwater tests be conducted after the data center is decommissioned to ensure that the quality/biota has not been impaired? Will the company be held liable to ensure toxicity levels do not exceed those prior to construction? How will it restore pre-construction groundwater levels?

Not necessarily. The ordinance does not require automatic post-closure soil or groundwater testing in every case; a more proportional approach is to require it where site-specific risk, hazardous materials, or evidence of contamination warrants it. Regarding pre-construction groundwater, groundwater levels are influenced by regional aquifer conditions and withdrawals by many users.

Thank you for taking the time to review the exhibit in detail,

Christine McLachlan, AICP

Director

Cochise County, Development Services

1415 Melody Lane, Building F

Bisbee, AZ 85603

520-432-9266

cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov

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From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 10:07 AM
To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>
Subject: Questions re: Exhibit A

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good morning, Ms. McLachlan,

Thank you for answering my earlier question about data centers. I have a few questions about Exhibit A for today's meeting:

First, there does not appear to be any limits on the physical size or maximum megawatt/gigawatt requirements of data center. Will that come up in discussion and will limits be established? Sup. Antenori mentioned 100-150 megawatts and those facilities are huge, as you know. It would seem there should be a size/power limit in place.

Under 2.51.040 Data Centers:

2c - will the approval of transmission facilities, substation, or other off-site infrastructures also go through the SUP process or be determined by you?

3 - ... *"may" include but not limited to...* makes it sound like those requirements are not necessarily required. It would seem clearer (in my opinion), if the word "must" was used, perhaps with the words "when applicable." After all, the text is referring to "additional SUA requirements."

3g - *"Any additional studies..."* What about soil and groundwater testing prior to construction, to determine a baseline? What if the soil and/or groundwater is contaminated if/when the data center is decommissioned and removed from the site? It seems that this should be a requirement, no matter where it may be located

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9 - *Utilities and Infrastructure*

9a - "*...without adversely impacting existing users.*" What does this mean exactly? This is very broad. What is the measure of "adverse" and how far is the reach of the impact? When electricity rates go up for nearby communities, will the data center be held responsible? Will they be required to independently generate their own power, off our shared grid? What about local impacts and/or interruptions to internet service--will they be held liable for that to, and to what degree?

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10 - *Security*

a & b - Will this include audible alarms as well? If so, what decibel is acceptable and will residences be far enough away so as not to be impacted? What about impacts to wildlife?

13 - *Decommissioning and Site Management*

Will soil and groundwater tests be conducted after the data center is decommissioned to ensure that the quality/biota has not been impaired? Will the company be held liable to ensure toxicity levels do not exceed those prior to construction? How will it restore pre-construction groundwater levels?

Respectfully,

Ali Morse
Portal





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Data center regulation comments

From Whitney Meilan <whitneymeilan@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 4:20 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am a Cochise County resident (85632) with serious concerns about the data center proposals. I am writing to express my opposition to data centers in Cochise County to support a 120-day moratorium as was approved by the P&Z Commission. Data centers should not be located in residential areas (2-mile minimum from any residence) nor use evaporative cooling or water-cooled systems.

As you know we the community is very concerned about the environmental and human impact of data centers in our county. We are already facing drought, water shortages, and climate change. Data centers will only exacerbate these issues and make lives for residents more difficult and unsustainable.

Thank you for your attention.

Kind regards,
Whitney Yang

Cochise County Resident

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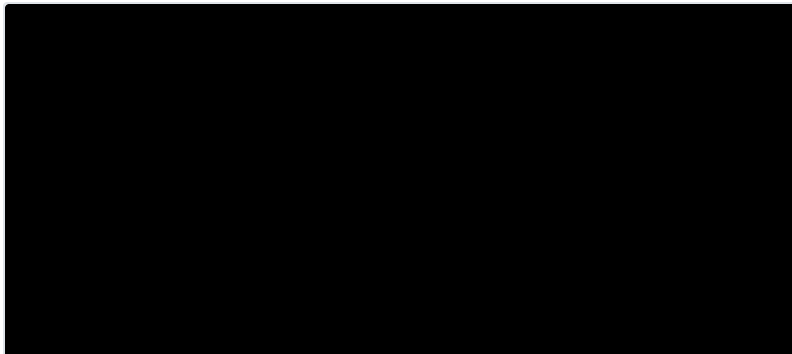
From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: 2-mile requirement for data centers
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 1:11:14 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Sorry to bother you again but was trying to remember where I heard the 2-mile requirement regarding data centers and it was here, at the Sunsites Community Assoc. annual meeting. I don't see this in the data center regulations but it certainly should be.

About minute 58:50

[2026 Sunsites Community Association Annual Meeting](#)



2026 Sunsites Community Association Annual Meeting

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Put a moratorium on data centers

From Michael Gregory <aztoxics@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 7:19 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Duchon, Daniel <DDuchon@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Data Center technology is evolving far too rapidly, and our knowledge about concomitant human and environmental health too slowly for the County to be moving toward permitting data centers at the pace it has been. Neither County personnel nor the public is being given time needed to consider potential hazards or potential mitigation measures.

Supervisor Antenori has repeatedly said that his aggressive promotion of Data Centers is based on what he sees as potential income, especially tax income, for the County, but the promotion is remarkably vague about potential health and environment risks, including effects on groundwater. The only reasonable course of action at this point is for the Supervisors and P&Z to declare a renewable 6-9 month moratorium on permitting, siting and related County actions and to put on hold the recent Supervisor-approved Data Center Ordinance, which is a regulatory swiss cheese of loopholes and vague criteria.

Given time, I will be glad to expand on these points.

--

Michael Gregory

www.michaelgregory.org

www.postsovietdepression.com

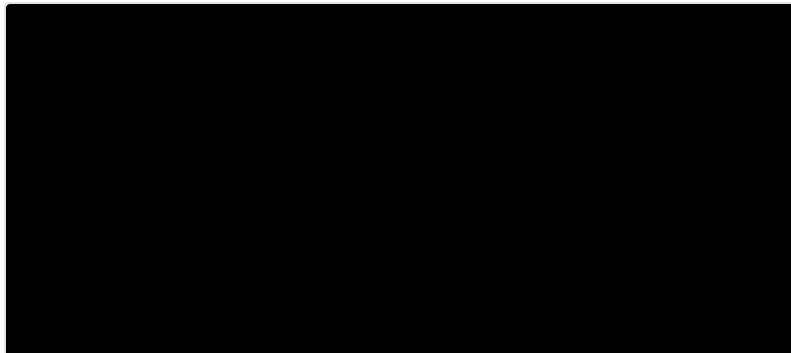
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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: another issue re: data center regulations
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 11:51:04 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

[Health impact assessments](#) should also be required for all prospective data centers and similar industries (like the aluminum processing plant in Benson which I know is not part of your jurisdiction).

Please see this article on how [data centers are associated with lung disease](#) and this one [from UC Riverside](#).



California data center health impacts tripled in 4 years

Researchers from the University of California, Riverside, found that health impacts from pollution associated wi...

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FW: Data Centers

From Lee, Deborah S <DLee@cochise.az.gov>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 8:09 AM

To Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

Cc Larsala, Sharon <SLarsala@cochise.az.gov>

This was in the P & Z inbox. Thank you.

Debbie Lee

Senior Planning Technician

Development Services

1415 Melody Lane, Building F

Bisbee, AZ 85603

520-432-9300

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www.cochise.az.gov

From: betty king <zenpeace17@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 8:16 PM

To: Development Services <DevelopmentServices@cochise.az.gov>

Cc: Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>

Subject: Data Centers

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Hello,

I respectfully request a moratorium on data centers in Cochise County. We need more time to understand the true costs in terms of energy and water to maximize benefits to the county.

Thank you,

Betty King

I gratefully acknowledge my life on the ancestral lands of the 22 indigenous sovereign nations in Arizona including the O'odham and Yaqui (Yoeme) peoples in the Tucson area and the four tribes of Cochise County: Sobaipuri, Jocomo, Opata and Chiricahua

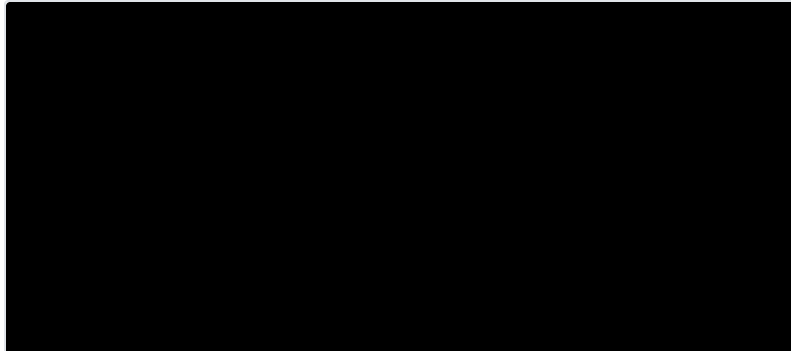
For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it
If only we are brave enough to be it. Amanda Gorman

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Cc: [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Subject: Re: important news about data centers
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 8:37:18 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

This is a very comprehensive article, published just a few days ago, after I did the research to uncover the info below: [Temporarily banning data centers draws more interest from state, local officials • Stateline](#)



Temporarily banning data centers draws more interest from state, local o...

Madyson Fitzgerald

As communities' concerns grow over rising electricity prices and the environmental effects of data centers, some...

Here is just a **sampling** of counties and townships that have have 90-day to 1-year moratoriums--there are many others. Those underlined in blue have links to articles.

Georgia counties

[Bulloch](#) (90-day pause) *...pause is intended to allow time for research and evaluation before establishing potential zoning standards or regulatory requirements. Questions about water consumption, power grid reliability, noise levels, facility size, and long-term infrastructure impact.*

[Clayton](#) (120-day pause) *...stops the county commission from accepting applications for various permits and licenses related to the construction and expansion of data centers.*

[DeKalb](#) (180-day pause) *allow more time to gather information on the impact of data centers on communities. Residents expressed concern that data centers could negatively affect their health, the environment, utility bills and quality of life.*

[GA State legislature considering 1-year DC moratorium](#)

Indiana counties

[Starke](#) (1-year) *Residents cited issues such as light pollution, environmental effects, and infrastructure strain. Some urged county leaders to wait and observe the effects of large data center projects already under construction in nearby communities, including New Carlisle and Hobart, before allowing similar development in Starke County.*

Wisconsin counties

[Manitowoc](#) (1-year) *"I think the sooner you enter fact-finding and putting in place safeguards for your community, the better you are."*

Ohio townships

[Muhlenberg](#) (1-year) *"They're forming a committee to review data centers. Nothing will be able to be done in the township until February 3rd of next year when the moratorium runs out."*

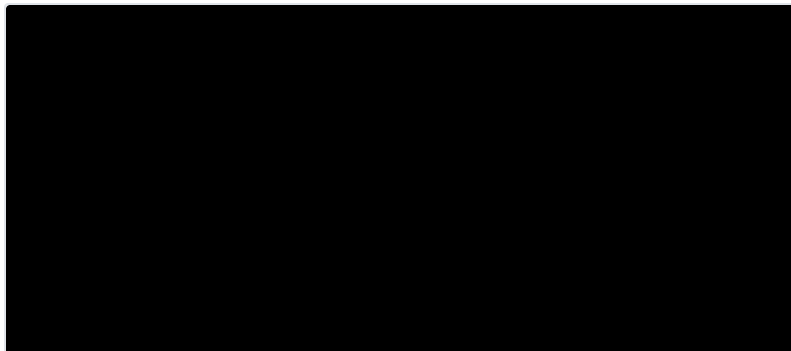
[Washington](#) (90-day) *Township leaders say the temporary pause will give them time to review fire safety and emergency preparedness related to these facilities. The moratorium allows officials to take a closer look at potential risks and ensure first responders are adequately prepared. Township trustees also have asked the legal department to review the possibility of a more permanent ban on data centers.*

[OH State legislature considering DC moratorium](#)

Michigan

[At least 27 communities](#)

[State legislature seeking 1-year DC moratorium](#)



Data center moratorium bills reflect public sentiment, says Michigan law...

Brian Allnutt

Michigan lawmakers introduce one-year moratorium on data centers to address power grid, water usage, and ratepay...

On Monday, March 9, 2026 at 09:20:03 AM MDT, McLachlan, Christine <cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

Thank you for forwarding, I think there's a lot we can learn from other parts of the country - most of which had to respond to data center applications prior to the development of specific regulations.

Christine McLachlan, AICP

Director

Cochise County, Development Services

1415 Melody Lane, Building F

Bisbee, AZ 85603

520-432-9266

cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov

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From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 7, 2026 8:49 AM

To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

Cc: Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

Subject: important news about data centers

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Hello again,

Not sure if either of you have seen these two articles but the message is pretty clear:

[Facing Its Third Data Center, an Iowa County Rolls Out Extensive Zoning Rules - Inside Climate News](#)

[Facing Its Third Data Center, an Iowa County Rolls Out Extensive Zoning ...](#)

By [Anika Jane Beamer](#)

[Linn County has adopted some of the nation's strictest data center zoning rules. Residents say the protections a...](#)

<https://www.politico.com/news/2026/03/02/gop-trump-loyalties-rural-america-data-centers-00795708>

Trump's AI drive is running headlong into his most reliable voters

Republican candidates are bucking Trump to push back against efforts to turn agricultural land into places to grow artificial intelligence.



A technician works in a data center. | Noah Berger/Getty Images via Amazon Web Services

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Reasons to be skeptical about data centers

From Peter Waser <waserpm1245@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 8:17 AM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMclachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

To my county supervisors:

This article came out today in Consumer Reports. It summarizes why many of your constituents are skeptical about benefits of data centers to Cochise County.

Note especially the information about job creation.

[consumerreports.org](https://www.consumerreports.org)

Peter Waser
PO Box 16157, Portal, AZ

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Cc: [Gomez, Kathleen](#); [Antenori, Frank](#); [Crosby, Tom](#)
Subject: Additional comments for data center regs
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 6:55:54 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Greetings,

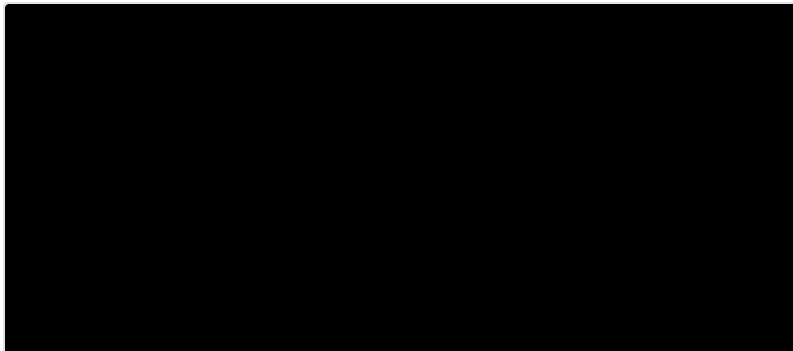
I was unable to continue my speech tonight so want to be sure you all receive my final comments. Please share with the P&Z Commission.

At the Sunsites Community Center Annual Meeting, Sup. Antenori spoke about data centers and mentioned the following:

- 1) A 2-mile distance between data centers and residences [I did not see this in the proposed regs]
- 2) Use existing wells on farmland [there is concern about groundwater overdraw]
- 3) Due to AMA restrictions, drill on the San Pedro or San Simon sides of the Willcox AMA
- 4) A "sustainable" data center near Reno. [I asked hm about this but did not get a reply]

I think you should all take a look at the number of townships, counties, and state that have established moratoriums of varying lengths (90 days to 2 years) to pause long enough to better understand the impacts on communities. Please note the list below as well.

[Temporarily banning data centers draws more interest from state, local officials • Stateline](#)



Temporarily banning data centers draws more interest from state, local o...

Madyson Fitzgerald

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[GA State legislature considering 1-year DC moratorium](#)

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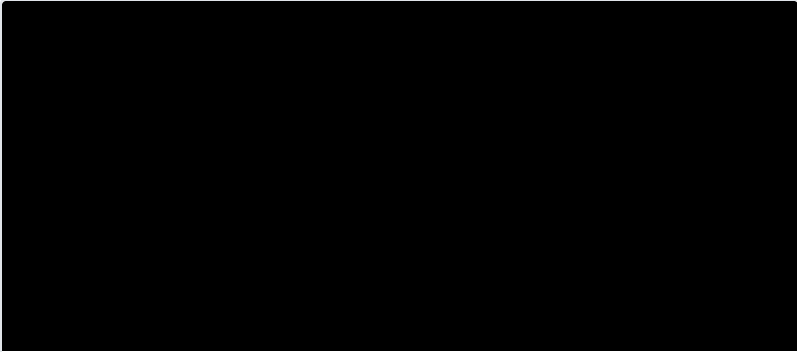




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Brian Allnutt

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Brian Allnutt

Michigan lawmakers introduce one-year moratorium on data centers to address power grid, water usage, and ratepay...

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Moratorium on Data Centers

From Cado Daily <cadomexico@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 8:31 AM

To Board <Board@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Greetings Supervisors,

I am asking you to support a 120 day moratorium on data centers in Cochise County. This is such a monumental decision, with enormous potential impacts (positive and negative) that time needs to be spent analyzing how this decision to allow data centers will affect your constituents. In the big picture, 120 days is a short time to consider all the impacts a data center near neighborhoods and the impacts the water and power use will have on county residents.

Thank you for your service,

Kathryn Daily
District 1 resident

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#); [Taylor, Matthew](#)
Cc: [Gomez, Kathleen](#); [Antenori, Frank](#); [Crosby, Tom](#)
Subject: 6 months for planning?
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 7:18:39 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

This was another comment Mr. Antenori made at the Sunsites Community Center meeting. What is the rush??

If any of you are interested in the recording of that meeting, please let me know.

Allison

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We need a moratorium on data centers!

From Lynn Gray <shunahoyah@yahoo.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 8:49 AM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

We need a moratorium on data centers to allow more time to assess their environmental impact on our county.

Sincerely,

Lynn Gray for Friends Southwest Center (McNeal, AZ)

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: Re: link to MS Teams not working
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 7:56:58 PM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Thank you--I hope the link works in the future.

On Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 06:28:08 PM MDT, McLachlan, Christine <cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

I just sent you a direct teams meeting invite, hopefully that works for you.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 4:14:16 PM
To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>
Cc: Loewenheim, Lara <LLoewenheim@cochise.az.gov>; Wright, Melissa A <MAWright@cochise.az.gov>; Leksen, Lisa <LLeksen@cochise.az.gov>
Subject: link to MS Teams not working

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

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Cochise County Planning Commission

**Cochise County Complex
Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room
1415 W. Melody Lane, Building G
Bisbee, Arizona 85603
and virtually**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 265 376 095 595 94

Passcode: EL2at2xs

(Microsoft Team App)

Or call in (audio only)

(888) 680-6714, Phone Conference ID 469807396#

Regular Meeting

March 11, 2026

4:00 p.m.

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[Learn more...](#)



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Correction

From Michael Gregory <aztoxics@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 8:54 AM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Duchon, Daniel <DDuchon@cochise.az.gov>; Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Just clarify error in my email last night: of course, as you know, the data center ordinance was not approved by the BOS (and hopefully won't be) but by the P&Z Commission

* * * *

the most practical and important thing about a man . . . is his view of tne universe
- G.K. Chesterton

There is no reason why here and not there.
- Blaise Pascal

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.
- Dwight D. Eisenhower

www.michaelgregoryaz.net

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: Re: link to MS Teams not working
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 9:11:03 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

I will try that next time. I've recently had the problem where I call in, am called to speak, press *6 and then I am told I've been muted. This repeats several times and so cuts into my speaking time.

On Mar 12, 2026, at 10:03 AM, McLachlan, Christine
<CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

Have you tried using the teams app on your phone? That seems to work the best for me.

Christine McLachlan, AICP
Director
Cochise County, Development Services
1415 Melody Lane, Building F
Bisbee, AZ 85603
520-432-9266
cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov

Public Programs...Personal Service

www.cochise.az.gov

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Apply for a permit online: [CITIZEN SERVE](#)

From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2026 9:01 AM
To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>
Subject: Re: link to MS Teams not working

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

I wonder if it was because I joined a little late? It was strange—I tried multiple times from the link in the agenda with two different browsers.

On Mar 12, 2026, at 9:43 AM, McLachlan, Christine
<CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

I'm glad you were able to join. I have not heard from anyone else

that there were issues joining the meeting – we had over 30 online participants. The meeting video will be posted today.

Christine McLachlan, AICP
Director
Cochise County, Development Services
1415 Melody Lane, Building F
Bisbee, AZ 85603
520-432-9266
cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov

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From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 7:57 PM
To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>
Subject: Re: link to MS Teams not working

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Thank you--I hope the link works in the future.

On Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 06:28:08 PM MDT, McLachlan, Christine <cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

I just sent you a direct teams meeting invite, hopefully that works for you.

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From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 4:14:16 PM
To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>
Cc: Loewenheim, Lara <LLoewenheim@cochise.az.gov>; Wright, Melissa A <MAWright@cochise.az.gov>; Leksen, Lisa <LLeksen@cochise.az.gov>
Subject: link to MS Teams not working

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

I am on the phone but the website link does not appear to be functioning (Click here to join the meeting), I have never had this problem. have tried with Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome Neither is working

<image001.png>
<image002.png>
<image003.png>

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From: [Ali Morse](#)
To: [McLachlan, Christine](#)
Subject: Re: public comments
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 9:08:47 AM

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Thank you for the explanation. If the packets need to be completed a week prior to the meeting but the agenda is only posted a few sets before, it is challenging for the public to get up to speed and comment.

So when does the board approve the regs—March 27?

On Mar 12, 2026, at 10:00 AM, McLachlan, Christine
<CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

Good morning, thank you for your comments, my responses are in highlight.

When you say "attach to the board memo" does that mean it will be publicly posted to the agenda item for the next BOS mtg? **Yes – all comments received prior to the publishing deadline will be attached.**

I was disappointed that the P&Z Commissioners only received a fraction of letters that your office received. Was it not possible to update the list on Monday or yesterday, prior to the meeting? **Public comments often continue arriving right up to and during the meeting, so materials must be compiled at a specific cutoff time in order to prepare packets for the Commission. The version provided to P&Z reflected the comments received before the packet deadline – typically one week prior to the meeting. In this case I extended it to the Friday before. Additional comments that came in later were printed and provided to the Chair and summarized during the presentation. All comments received, including those after the packet deadline, will be included in the Board of Supervisors memo and made part of the public record for their consideration.**

Will the Public Comments document for yesterday's meeting be updated for the public and P&Z Commissioners to read in full? **All comments received prior to the cut-off date for the BOS memo (10-days prior to the meeting) will be attached for the Board's consideration, including everything I have received in connection to the commission hearing.**

When does the board vote on the moratorium--at their 3/24 mtg or their 4/7 mtg? **This will need to be discussed internally before the item is scheduled. Once the item is placed on a Board of Supervisors agenda, the meeting date will be posted publicly with the agenda materials.**

What happens to the input residents have made to adjust the language of the bill? I know the Chiricahua Regional Council submitted some suggestions. **All public comments received are part of the public record and are provided to the**

Board of Supervisors for consideration. The Board may choose to adopt the ordinance as drafted, modify the language, or provide direction for additional revisions based on public input and policy considerations.

Is this process not like the Comprehensive Plan, for which public comment was welcome and considered? Public comment is welcomed and accepted as part of the zoning amendment hearing process.

Christine McLachlan, AICP
Director
Cochise County, Development Services
1415 Melody Lane, Building F
Bisbee, AZ 85603
520-432-9266
cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov

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From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2026 6:07 AM
To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>
Subject: Re: public comments

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good morning,

When you say "attach to the board memo" does that mean it will be publicly posted to the agenda item for the next BOS mtg?

I was disappointed that the P&Z Commissioners only received a fraction of letters that your office received. Was it not possible to update the list on Monday or yesterday, prior to the meeting?

Will the Public Comments document for yesterday's meeting be updated for the public and P&Z Commissioners to read in full?

When does the board vote on the moratorium--at their 3/24 mtg or their 4/7 mtg?

What happens to the input residents have made to adjust the language of the bill? I know the Chiricahua Regional Council submitted some suggestions.

Is this process not like the Comprehensive Plan, for which public comment

was welcome and considered?

Thank you in advance for your time,

Ali

On Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 03:27:42 PM MDT, McLachlan, Christine <cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov> wrote:

I've gotten many responses since the posting of the agenda, and I will probably continue to get them until the meeting time. The late responses will be printed for the chair. We will save them in the project file and attach them to the board memo, along with any responses we receive prior to the next public hearing. I will also summarize the comments in my presentation.

Christine McLachlan, AICP

Director

Cochise County, Development Services
1415 Melody Lane, Building F
Bisbee, AZ 85603
520-432-9266
cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov

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From: Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:19 PM
To: McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>
Subject: public comments

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Ms. McLachlan,

It does not appear that the 39-page document labeled "Public Comments" has been updated since last Friday. I am pretty sure there have been more since then but have no idea how many. Can you please ensure that the P&Z Commission has access to all comments submitted for the data center issue before they vote on the regulations today?

Thank you,

Ali



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No on Data Centers

From Anne Carl <anneecarl@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 12:28 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>

Cc Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Unless or until Cochise County's critical water needs are addressed, we urge you to oppose data centers here. At the very least, we need a 120-day moratorium on all new applications, a revised pending ordinance that provides sufficient "guard rails," and greater transparency with your providing more timely and accurate information.

Thank you,

Anne Carl (full-time Bisbee resident)

P.O. Box 561

Bisbee, AZ 85603

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Data Centers: NO!

From AL ANDERSON <itisalanderson@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 12:35 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

| |
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NO for all the obvious reasons, especially water. Wishful thinking does not hold water.

Sincerely, Al Anderson
West Blvd., Bisbee

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AI centers in Cochise County

From Peter Waser <waserpm1245@gmail.com>

Date Wed 3/25/2026 3:48 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

| |
|---------------------------------|
| CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL* |
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To my county supervisors:

The apparent rush to approve development of data centers is deeply concerning for many reasons, in particular their water and energy requirements. Cochise County has the potential for generating lots of solar power, but it does NOT have lots of water. Data centers that use water for cooling should be subject to strong, explicit and enforceable restrictions on water use. Those restrictions should be developed by INDEPENDENT experts.

Even more concerning is the expected use of data centers to support development of AI. AI takes many forms and many of them involve surveillance and violation of personal privacy. I cannot understand how our County, which prides itself as a bastion of freedom from government, is apparently championing the development of such technology.

Please consider what benefits, if any, county residents will gain to offset the obvious, serious negatives associated with data centers. How many jobs will data centers create? How much will they lower electricity costs or tax rates? Cochise County may be hoping for an economic boost if our National Monument is converted to a National Park, but how eager will tourists be to visit it if the approach is next to data centers and industrial-sized solar arrays?

For all of these reasons, I urge the County to OPPOSE data center development. If it's not willing to do that, I urge you to approve them only after establishing STRICT regulations regarding energy and water use.

Sincerely,

Peter Waser

2414 S Rock House Road, Portal AZ 85632

Professor of Biological Sciences (retired), Purdue University

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Data Centers

From Marjorie Murphey <murpheyacamacho@sbcglobal.net>

Date Thu 3/26/2026 1:15 PM

To Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Supervisor Antenori:

We live in Portal, AZ, and daily conserve our well water as the drought continues and worsens. We limit showers and clothes/dish washing as we are very concerned about losing our well. We've even installed a 5000 gallon tank to hold water, just in case. The well drilling company has had to drill new wells for some neighbors who've lost their water.

That's pretty stark reality for folks that live rurally: please vote NO on water hungry data centers!

Respectfully,
Marjorie Murphey
H. Vaughn Camacho

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Data Centers and lack of transparency in permitting

From Susan Dalby <dalbysusan@gmail.com>

Date Thu 3/19/2026 4:22 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

Cc Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

To all concerned with current data center proposals

I am amazed and very disappointed that there has been no effort to educate the stakeholders (residents) about these projects.

At minimum there should be a public meeting with full and accurate impacts discussed.

So I have had to do my own research, which has made me very apprehensive.

After some reading I have become concerned about the following:

Water use in proposed aquifer

Increased ambient temperature in neighboring areas (already pretty hot)

Source of massive energy required

(our current power source is unreliable and inadequate as it is)

Cost to taxpayers (passed on via utility companies)

Noise pollution

E-waste disposal

Loss of land for agriculture, ranching

Increased likelihood of cyberattack

I would assume you have reviewed all this information at length.

If so, you should share it with your constituents.

If not, you shouldn't be issuing permits.

And why is there a secret meeting scheduled for March 23?

Avoiding public disclosures leads to distrust among your constituents.

Respectfully,

Susan Dalby

Cochise County resident

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Data Centers

From armaghgirl@aol.com <armaghgirl@aol.com>

Date Fri 3/20/2026 8:49 AM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>;
sgiman@cochise.az.gov <sgiman@cochise.az.gov>

Cc Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank
<FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

On any upcoming meetings regarding Data Centers, I'd like to register my opinion that Cochise County should not be allowing any such enterprises be established here. They will devastate us in that they will suck up our precious water which is not being replenished, they will in effect, lead to our demise. Furthermore they are used for AI which is not regulated as enough in that it's potential is as of now not totally known. Can it be used for good? Yes but it also has great potential for harm, only some of which has already come to light.

Please don't jump headlong into something that can totally ruin us.

Joan A. Murphy
Voter, Cochise County

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Data Centers

From armaghgirl@aol.com <armaghgirl@aol.com>

Date Sat 3/21/2026 12:17 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Introducing a new industry into an area with little infrastructure and extremely limited water resources poses problems and should not be jumped into. I believe a somewhat lengthy moratorium should be put on any data center plans to work out all the logistics.

I also think that considering the fact that Cochise County has been under a draught situation for many years and normally does not have much rain that NO Water Cooled data centers should be allowed here. Furthermore, no data centers should be erected in or near residential centers.

Joan A. Murphy
Sierra Vista Voter

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Data Centers and Water Concerns

From Lizann Michaud <lizann314@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 11:42 AM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good morning all,

Thank you for serving us all.

I'm writing to oppose water-cooled data centers in Cochise County. This is for obvious reasons in our already water-challenged home county. Other cooling methods could work.

I'd also like to request that while data centers be located far enough from residences not to create quality of life issues, that they're carefully placed to avoid our sensitive landscapes and ecosystems.

Many thanks for your kind consideration,

Ms. Lizann Michaud

Residence: 50 Zacatecas Canyon

Mail: PO Box 593

Bisbee, AZ 85603-0593

520-249-9071

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Additional concerns re: data center ordinance

From Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 11:06 AM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>

Cc Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>

 1 attachment (95 KB)

3.21.26 Data center ordinance and 3_23 meeting.pdf;

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed data center ordinance for Cochise County. I appreciate the time you all have put into this effort.

I have already submitted several comments (the last email dated 3.21.26, attached), which discussed my reasons for supporting the 120-day moratorium, prohibiting the use of water-cooled (and evaporative) systems, and disallowing the development of data centers in residential areas, with a 2-mile minimum radius required. See attached.

With all due respect, I believe the language in the ordinance is not specific enough to establish robust guardrails that will withstand the accelerating pressure from the AI and data center industries. Cochise County should pause and reconsider subjective terms such as "may" and "minimize." The regulations for this kind of industrial development need to be more objective, measurable, and enforceable.

While the potential for an increase in tax revenue is tempting, let us not shortcut the thoughtful, deliberative process that should precede any approval of a proposed ordinance. I urge you to consider the well-documented adverse effects of data centers on humans (cancer, respiratory problems, cardiovascular diseases, sleep disruption & quality of life) our environment (water, air, land & ecosystems) and our pocketbooks (increased electric bills). It is critical to incorporate language that protects Cochise County residents and our natural resources.

Please establish an immediate moratorium on any plans for data center development. I urge you to take the necessary time to fully understand what is at stake and the irreversible consequences of your actions. I would also encourage you to promote future opportunities for the public to learn from industry representative as well as from professional experts in the fields of environmental science, hydrology, healthcare, workplace hazards, and emergency services.

Respectfully,

Allison Morse
Portal, AZ

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Data center ordinance and 3/23 meeting

From: Ali Morse (morseali2@yahoo.com)

To: sgilman@cochise.az.gov; cmclachlan@cochise.az.gov; mtaylor@cochise.az.gov

Cc: kgomez@cochise.az.gov; tcrosby@cochise.az.gov; fantenori@cochise.az.gov

Bcc: morseali2@yahoo.com

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2026 at 02:10 PM MDT

Good afternoon,

I am writing to share my concerns and offer input on the county's proposed data center ordinance that the P&Z Commission discussed at their last meeting. Please note that all underlined phrases in blue font are direct links to articles or recordings that you are able to read or listen to.

As the P&Z Commission agreed, a [120-day moratorium](#) should definitely be enacted to allow time to learn more about the issue and its impact to humans and the environment. Here is the moratorium language from White County, Indiana:

<https://www.in.gov/counties/white/files/6-Month-Moratorium-102025.pdf>

There are many other concerns, as you already know, related to water usage, emissions, noise, light pollution, security, hazmat and emergency management.

Aside from the immediate moratorium, I urge you to [prohibit any water-cooled systems](#) for data centers in Cochise County. They are simply inappropriate for our drought-stricken desert. Here in Portal, like in the Willcox area, many people have had to drill deeper because their wells have already gone dry. Temperatures have soared upwards and the earth is increasingly parched. We cannot afford to lose more groundwater to large-scale industry.

Finally, data centers should [not be allowed in areas zoned residential](#) (page 21) and [should be located at least 2 miles from residences](#). (start about minute 58)

My other concern is the [closed meeting on March 23](#) to which the public was not invited. It appears that those attending will be hearing from major power companies and presumably a discussion of data centers will also come up. It is important for county residents (*all* of your constituents) to have the opportunity learn as much as possible about these major new developments. We should not be shut out of informational sessions--this only breeds distrust. Similarly, we should *all* be hearing from hydrologists ([water issue](#)), healthcare professionals ([miscarriages/rare cancer rates](#)) and [industrial hygienists](#). (start about minute 1:28:45)

We are counting on you to protect the lives of Cochise County residents and the place we all love as you move forward with any proposed development.

Sincerely,

Allison Morse
Portal

Data centers

From Lauralea S <mrsbusdriver5@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 12:39 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

Cc Ali Morse <morseali2@yahoo.com>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

We need to take more time evaluating data centers!!! Our water, quality of life, desert habits are way more important than money!!! Please put a 120 day moratorium on the data centers issue!!! Thank you
Laura Lea Scorzelli

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Fwd: Please vote for moratorium on data centers

From Dinah Davidson <dianewdavidson@gmail.com>
Date Fri 3/27/2026 12:23 PM
To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dinah Davidson** <dianewdavidson@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Mar 27, 2026 at 12:21
Subject: Please vote for moratorium on data centers
To: kgomez@cochise.az.gov <kgomez@cochise.az.gov>

Supervisors:

I understand that you are under intense pressure from AI to approve siting of power facilities for data centers quickly, because corporations need to satisfy requirements of contracts. However, I agree with P&Z that more investigation is warranted before decisions are made that could affect habitability of individual residences and even entire communities. As pressure falls increasingly on poor rural areas with cheaper land and limited zoning, this pressure puts the cart before the horse. Lobbyists and executives are already documented to be providing misleading information. The contracts of corporations are their problem, not ours. We need to slow things down and put safety first. Your main job is to protect public welfare.

Usually, and appropriately, concerns about siting of data centers and their electrical facilities focus on our dwindling water supplies. As yet, there is currently no such thing as adequately closed systems to prevent overuse and contamination of water, but there are many other concerns. For example, a thorough review should involve environmental health experts who can evaluate how electromagnetic fields, not intense but constant, especially affect pregnant women and also children, with still developing nervous systems. Effects of this environmental noise are typically evaluated over populations as a whole, rather than with respect to these most vulnerable populations.

Further, the construction of data centers is still evolving. In Europe (and also Chicago?), centers are located underground, and China is developing facilities on seabeds. These and other solutions may ameliorate some harmful effects, like increasing ambient temperatures by several degrees in already (and increasingly) hot desert environments. Heat generated by underground facilities could also be harvested and used as a thermal energy source. Newly engineered (e.g., dielectric) cooling systems would not utilize water.

Centers will likely be located in space eventually. Thus, prior to build-out, consideration should be given to problems related to abandonment, including such problems as soil remediation. Who would

be responsible for clean up? Contracts should be written to require that corporations be responsible for every expense related to data centers over time, their water and energy supplies, and their abandonment.

Superpacs (e.g., Leading the Future, the American Technology Excellence Project, Elon Musk's Fair Shake and META, California) have infinite resources and the goal of winning the AI race with China, but they are driven entirely by profit motives, rather than by a desire to put public welfare first. The latter should be your only concern. These are moral and ethical issues that potentially affect county residents deeply and personally.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Dr. Diane W. Davidson

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Data Center

From Mary Sue Waser <mswaser@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 3:08 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Please approve a moratorium to allow time for professional study of the impact on our already lowering water table and on energy use/prices.

We need realistic restrictions to be placed on any data center in our county.

Thank you, Mary S. Waser

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Data Centers in Cochise County

From Lloyd Glenn <llglenn@vtc.net>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 3:15 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>

| |
|---------------------------------|
| CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL* |
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Dear Cochise County Supervisors,

The County Planning and Zoning Commission had it right when they recommended a 120-day moratorium on implementing any regulations on Data Centers in Cochise County! The rush to bring Data Centers into existence throughout the country has already lead to harms not envisioned beforehand and almost impossible to fully mitigate after the fact. From sky-rocketing energy use and costs to residents, heat and noise pollution, emissions of harmful metals and chemicals, to the terrible cost to the availability of future water, particularly in regions of aridification and draught, there has been little effort to first solve the problems that make Data Centers such an issue in the first place!

Good leaders always have the complete factual data from all viewpoints and considerations, then ask further questions, such as "What if the Data Center takes a lot more water than anticipated?" Will the County have a fund to help drill deeper wells, money to buy a homeowner out, compensate the farmers? "What if the energy prices rises for ordinary county residents"? How do you prevent that/handle that? "What regulations have you in place to absolutely prevent Data Centers from using any groundwater"? As it is now, it appears to be that they can claim they cannot get all their needed water from other sources, so may use groundwater. In a closed basin like the Willcox Basin with finite water rapidly declining, the very contemplation is outrageous! No Data Center in Cochise County should be allowed to use a water-cooled or water evaporation system, ever! PERIOD!

I urge you to take the necessary time to understand all ramifications of Data Centers in Cochise County, and demand complete data with documented plans for mitigation and remediation. With the understanding that, first and foremost, we must protect all that makes our county a special place to live and thrive, we can move into the future. But, please remember, the rewards of the future should never be a trade-off for destruction in the present!

Please vote for the 120-day moratorium!

Sincerely,

Lisa Glenn
Willcox

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Data Centers

From Michael Gregory <aztoxics@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 3:25 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Duchon, Daniel <DDuchon@cochise.az.gov>; Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Finding a few moments I thought I wouldn't have, I'm writing to add a few comments to my previous email.

The draft ordinance reminds me of our old reasonable and proper speed limits to be determined on a case-by-case basis through discussion (cf. arbitration) between operators and oversight agencies.

While this libertarian approach has its place in some regulatory schemes, it's inappropriate for data centers. It leaves open too many potential impacts on human and environmental health.

Rather than such loose rules, industrial sites like data centers should be regulated by specific objective criteria, numerical when available, so agency inspectors (who should visit sites on a regular schedule) do not have to guess about levels of risk.

In cases where agency personnel do have to determine compliance by subjective rather than objective criteria, they should be provided with a range of acceptable objective performance parameters within which to make their decisions - which may include criteria like highest current industry standards, Best Available Technology (BAT), Best Available Control Technology (BACT), etc. The County should require nothing but the highest, least-risk standards, and should require periodic upgrading to improved technologies as they become available.

Many areas of concern do not require subjective decisions. For these, explicit blanket requirements should be set. For instance: no water-based cooling systems, no data centers in residential areas, periodic monitoring at permittee expense for potential health effects in surrounding areas (including, for instance adverse vibration and other sound effects).

In addition, data centers should not be allowed in areas that do not have adequate existing emergency response capabilities. Where such capability does not currently exist, permittees should be required to provide it, either through funding of existing response programs or by providing their own private (County-approved) response teams.

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Data centers

From Keasha Marie <keasha63@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 3:33 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>; Taylor, Matthew <MTaylor@cochise.az.gov>; Gilman, Sharon <SGilman@cochise.az.gov>; McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

To whom it may concern:

I oppose data centers in Cochise County, especially in the city of Benson, near 4th Street, Easy St or Ocotillo. I am also in support of a 120-day moratorium as was approved by the P&Z Commission. Data centers should not be located in residential areas (2-mile minimum from ANY residence) nor should they use evaporative cooling or water-cooled systems.

Thank you,

Keasha Morse

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comments on Data Center regulations

From Cheryl Knott <cherylannknott@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 3:38 PM

To McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>

 1 attachment (141 KB)

CommentsDataCentersKnottMar27.pdf;

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Ms. McLachlan, Supervisor Antenori, Supervisor Gomez, and Supervisor Crosby:

My comments on the proposed amendment to the County Regulations are attached as a pdf. I'm also pasting them in this email, in case that is more convenient.

(I especially like the suggestion at the very end, and hope you will too.)

Thank you,
Cheryl

March 27, 2026

Comments on amendment to the Cochise County Zoning Regulations regarding Data Centers

Cheryl Knott, resident, Pearce

The data center industry is undergoing rapid change, and the proposed regulations and my own suggested changes feel like trying to hit a moving target. I respectfully urge that the County implement a 120-day moratorium on data center proposals and on finalization of the new regulations. A moratorium will give the County time to monitor technological advancements and gather more information about the true advantages and disadvantages of siting data centers here. There's no harm in such a short pause. Refusing to put a moratorium in place suggests that a proposal is waiting in the wings and will be submitted soon after the Board meeting. That may or may not be the case, but it certainly would give that impression.

After careful reading of the proposed regulations, and with the new Comprehensive Plan still fresh on my mind, here are my suggestions, which I submit with respect and appreciation.

2.51.040 2a. Remove RU.

I'm suggesting this because allowing special use authorization in HI, LI, and GB Zoning Districts gives data center operators sufficient options. Including RU is at odds with the desire to protect our rural landscapes so clearly expressed in the recently adopted Comprehensive Plan. In the Plan's Land Use Designation section, item 6 RURAL RESIDENTIAL states that "High-density rezonings or non-residential uses not directly serving residents are generally not appropriate." Although item 7 RURAL

states this designation “May accommodate intensive industrial uses that cannot be placed in other growth areas,” there are obviously available sites in the county’s HI, LI, and GB areas that make it unnecessary to allow them in RURAL.

2.51.040

3.b. Change *summarizing* to *detailing*.

Summaries can be misleading in their brevity. Deciding to issue a SUA for a data center has profound consequences and the county and its residents need to understand in detail what’s being proposed.

3.c. Change the *or other correspondence* to *and other correspondence*.

By using *and* here, the County strengthens its ability to have fuller corroboration for statements about source, capacity, and demand.

Also change *and/or* to *and*. Both service availability and capacity should be stated in the proposal for SUA.

3.d. Delete *if requested by the county*.

No matter where the proposed site is, a noise impact analysis should be included in the proposal.

3.e. Change to:

Water use plan, including estimated average and peak demand, annual use, proposed water source(s), conservation measures, and an evaluation of non-potable or reclaimed water feasibility. Data Centers that use water-based cooling, humidification, evaporative cooling, or other forms of routine operational water use are prohibited.

Add The water use plan must include a description of the method used to measure all water use of whatever type. The water use plan must also include a statement committing to at least annual reporting of water use to the County and to the public.

Add the following sections:

Provide a plan to work with the Arizona Department of Water Resources to install an index well on the site of the proposed data center, at the expense of the data center developer/owner.

Provide an analysis from the Arizona Geological Survey regarding the existence and extent of land subsidence and earth fissures on the site and in the surrounding area. The analysis must include all roadways that will be used during construction and operation of the data center.

Provide an analysis from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality of the surface and groundwater on, under, and near the proposed site. Include a plan for gathering data on surface and groundwater cleanliness and a statement committing to at least annual reporting of water quality data to the County and the public.

8.b. Delete *in residential or rural zoning*.

9.b. Put a period after *humidification* and delete the rest of this section.

This is justified by and consistent with the statements about water conservation and protection in the Comprehensive Plan, which is used to guide policy. Some data centers have already begun using only reclaimed water, and the County should not become a refuge for those that are using drinking water to cool equipment.

12.a. After *address* add *structure removal*,

12.b. Delete

12.c. Change wording to: *In the event of a Data Center closure or decommissioning, either through the owners’ decision or the County’s declaration of abandonment, the owner will restore the site to its original condition by removing all structures, site-specific infrastructure, and equipment, and by stabilizing the site to prevent hazards, erosion, and nuisance conditions. All restoration activities will be done at the owners’ expense and completed within one year of decommissioning.*

Add the following section:

If a Data Center’s owners decide to cease operations at the site, the owners will give the County formal notice at least six months in advance of closure.

Add the following section:

Direct Community Benefit Plan: Include a plan describing the direct community benefits that the Data Center owners/developers will provide, such as recreational spaces; educational programs, including such things as support for science fairs and library STEAM programming, internships, and training; substantial contributions to community organizations and events; and other possibilities suited to the resources and expertise of the owners/developers as they relate to community needs and interests.

Thank you again for all you are doing on behalf of our county.

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March 27, 2026

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After careful reading of the proposed regulations, and with the new Comprehensive Plan still fresh on my mind, here are my suggestions, which I submit with respect and appreciation.

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Also change *and/or* to *and*. Both service availability and capacity should be stated in the proposal for SUA.

3.d. Delete *if requested by the county*.

No matter where the proposed site is, a noise impact analysis should be included in the proposal.

3.e. Change to:

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Add the following sections:

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Provide an analysis from the Arizona Geological Survey regarding the existence and extent of land subsidence and earth fissures on the site and in the surrounding area. The analysis must include all roadways that will be used during construction and operation of the data center.

Provide an analysis from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality of the surface and groundwater on, under, and near the proposed site. Include a plan for gathering data on surface and groundwater cleanliness and a statement committing to at least annual reporting of water quality data to the County and the public.

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Thank you again for all you are doing on behalf of our county.

120 day Data Center Moratorium

From Ronnie Maestas-Condos <remc.6seis@gmail.com>

Date Fri 3/27/2026 4:56 PM

To Gomez, Kathleen <KGomez@cochise.az.gov>; Antenori, Frank <FAntenori@cochise.az.gov>; Crosby, Tom <TCrosby@cochise.az.gov>

Cc McLachlan, Christine <CMcLachlan@cochise.az.gov>

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL*

Dear Supervisors I am writing to voice my concern over the seeming hastiness and urgency being pursued by our Board over giving data centers the go ahead for development. As you are aware data center technology and related AI technology are moving ahead at warp speed. That is not a reason to pursue that same pace when contemplating the possible impacts and consequences data center development will have on a community, physically and socially.

My understanding is the P&Z department has approved a 120 day moratorium to allow more essential research and input to be considered before moving ahead with actual implementation. This seems like a wise and moderate course to proceed, after all what exactly is the rush about?

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Sincerely

Ronnie Maestas-Condos

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