



Another Data Center Water Retention Pond Run-off Yesterday

From Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com>

Date Thu 10/9/2025 5:04 PM

To Glotfelty, Barry (Health/EH) <BGlotfelty@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Brookmyer, Barbara (Health/Administration) <bbrookmyer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Jeremy Baker -MDE- <jeremy.baker@maryland.gov>; Alex Lima -MDE- <alex.lima@maryland.gov>; EJ MDE -MDE- <ej.mde@maryland.gov>

Cc Folden, William Senator <william.folden@senate.maryland.gov>; Lewis Young, Karen Senator <karen.young@senate.maryland.gov>; Hope Green <hope.green76@yahoo.com>; Patty Thompson <pattythompson125@gmail.com>; rollbackfarmer@comcast.net <rollbackfarmer@comcast.net>; firefighterdeb53@aol.com <firefighterdeb53@aol.com>; strawder6101@verizon.net <strawder6101@verizon.net>; Paula damico-Hollewa <pdhollewa@yahoo.com>; FRANK HOLLEWA <fjhollewa@gmail.com>; Linda Everett <linda@edgedesigngroupllc.com>; Elizabeth Bauer <smartergrowthfc@gmail.com>; Steve Black <Steveblack2313@gmail.com>; STEVE MCKAY <stevemckay@comcast.net>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carpenter, Deborah <DCarpenter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

7 attachments (9 MB)

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good afternoon, Barry and Jeremy,

Instead of sending two separate emails, I will use this correspondence to reply to Barry and relay messages to Jeremy:

Barry, I appreciate you letting me know this. Patty did not mention that you finally contacted her yesterday. Her most recent email to me is from this week.

Unfortunately, even though you are now attempting to help them, these people—whom I am currently trying to help—told me they have a lack of faith and trust in your department. Sadly, this is due to the numerous months they spent sending communications to your organization without receiving help. The senior citizens in this group are the ones who have been reaching out the longest. The majority are in their late 70s and 80s. It makes it seem like age discrimination.

The citizens/constituents are the ones who needed your help and support! The “actors” at the Data Center and at Catellus have a conflict of interest, and Rowan Data Center has been making promises for months to Gene Butler and never keeps their promises. Gene Butler has made public statements about needing this at Frederick County Council Meetings and has reached out to the Frederick Health Department multiple times. I shared with you, Barry, months ago the video of the Data Center water overflow, which should be considered urgent. Yet nothing was done until your email today, when you are finally reaching out—only after we had to get two Senators and the MDE involved.

I understand that your and Barbara Brookmyer's boss is Jessica Fitzwater. I have proof in writing from a Senator that Jessica Fitzwater discouraged both of you from attending the meeting. In addition to the email you sent on the day of the meeting saying you did not have "clearance to attend," we were made aware that this clearance was the choice of Jessica Fitzwater. The over 200 people who came to the September 18th meeting—which included two Senators, the County Sheriff, and three Frederick County Council members—were all shocked. Jessica Fitzwater did not want you all to attend because there were a large number of residents who would complain that you have not helped them or resolved any of their water issues.

In addition, we also corresponded via email on August 28th regarding a man who works for you named Kane Stoner. He stated directly on public record to the Frederick County Council that he works for the Environmental Health Department. In his testimony on August 26th, Kane Stoner said that the distance of the Data Centers from the nearby school and churches is 1.5 to 2 miles, and that due to this distance, there are no environmental factors that could affect the elementary school. Since this information was so inaccurate, and Kane Stoner gave everyone at the Council meeting the impression he was speaking on behalf of the Environmental Health Department, some members of the Council took that as fact prior to their vote, and it gave the townspeople false information. I asked Barry Glotfelty to have this information stricken from the record and to inform the Council that it was incorrect. Two miles is 10,560 feet. Carroll Manor Elementary School is only 1,000 feet away from a large group of Data Centers that are still being built. Barry only emailed me back saying that Kane Stoner did not speak for his department (even though he works directly for Barry) and would not agree to remove this false information that was said to be from his own department to the County Council.

Jeremy, feel free to get the transcription of the August 26th Frederick Council meeting of Kane Stoner as proof that Barry would not even ask to have this false information from his employee stricken from the record.

Barry, due to the lack of due diligence by your department, your refusal to remove false testimony from your employee who used his work status to appear credible, your team saying you had "no clearance" to attend the September 18th meeting to speak to the citizens of Adamstown and Frederick, and your ignoring of my emails with video and photo evidence of the Data Center overflows—if you were us, would you trust the Frederick Health Department? Plus, now, due to proof that Jessica Fitzwater ordered this, we no longer trust her either.

In addition, Michael Kuykendall with Catellus was aware of how bad Hope Green's well is, since she shared the results with him from Fredericktowne Water, and he reimbursed her for her UV light.

Yesterday, there was another Data Center Water Retention Pond Overflow! There was no big rainstorm yesterday! I had my husband, who works from home, immediately drive by and take pictures of the Water Retention Pond Overflow from the Data Centers before Rowan or Aligned rushed to clean it up again so they wouldn't get caught by the MDE and the EPA. We have people on these streets now who will text me as soon as they see something, since the MDE has been unable to catch them in the act yet. The Data Centers are being sneaky and devious, so the MDE won't catch the continued violations. This proves that once-a-month visits by the MDE Sewer and Water Division to the site are ineffective due to the cover-up going on by the actors.

Jeremy Baker kindly agreed to have the MDE do personal visits with residents to conduct more thorough investigations—not only on the damage to the residents, but also into the East Alcoa Brownfield, which everyone knows the construction workers have violated numerous times. The EAST

ALCOA site is a SUPERFUND/CERCLA site; as such, a normal cleanup does not identify the damage that has been done to the below-ground area of the Brownfield.

The Data Centers have purchased huge street sweeper trucks so they can hide what they are doing.

These pictures attached are from YESTERDAY!

The Data Center last year was temporarily shut down due to this overflow, which has never stopped. We have been emailing about this for months, and we have been completely ignored—including myself. We have sent the MDE and Frederick Health Department videos and pictures of proof for many months now.

The only thing the Data Center learned from the temporary shutdown is how to hide it better, but they have no clue how to fix the issue.

I appreciate Jeremy's honesty in acknowledging that the MDE bureaucracy has been an issue in helping the residents, since previously, for residents, all that has been done is paper-pushing.

Jeremy Baker, now seeing what the residents are dealing with regarding poisoning and contamination of wells and some county water issues, has agreed to start having MDE do formal investigations for the residents—investigations that should have started a year ago.

I should not have to tell people how to do their jobs. I do realize the bureaucracy has caused this problem, so Jeremy Baker should directly speak to his boss, Governor Wes Moore, about this problem, since we know he created the Environmental Justice group a few months ago to help communities with water and other environmental issues. Is the Governor aware that residents of Adamstown and Frederick with wells have been reaching out for at least a year since the first violation shutdown of the Water Retention Pond Overflows—because they never stopped?

This is what was supposed be done right away per MDE Guidelines:

- **Immediate site control and stop-work:** Ensure construction halts, secure the area, and control dust and runoff. Establish exclusion zones and prevent public access. (Only done once and Frederick County Health Dept ignored the reports of Residences the Water Overflow)
- NEVER STOPPED!! CATELLUS, ROWAN AND ALIGNED DATA CENTERS DO NOT KNOW HOW TO CONTAIN THE WATER OVERFLOW! THEY ONLY KNOW HOW TO HIDE IT.

Incident notification:

- **Notify EPA Region 3 (lead agency for CERCLA oversight), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Frederick County Health Department promptly.**
- If contaminants may reach surface water or sewers, notify local utilities and the National Response Center if there's a release that meets reportable quantity thresholds.

- **Review site remedies and institutional controls:**

- Check the **Record of Decision (ROD)**, **consent decrees**, **institutional controls** (e.g., deed restrictions, construction soil management plans), and **Health & Safety Plans** applicable to East Alcoa.
- Determine exactly which restrictions were violated and the engineering controls affected.

- **Exposure assessment and environmental monitoring:**

- Conduct rapid air monitoring for dusts/vapors and **soil sampling** where excavation occurred.
- If groundwater could be impacted, perform **dewatering assessments** and sample as needed.
- Use conservative action levels to guide immediate protective measures.

- **Public health protection measures:**

- Implement **dust suppression**, cover or containerize excavated soils, and ensure proper stormwater controls.
- Provide **interim relocation or shelter-in-place guidance** if monitoring indicates potential exposure.
- Offer **health risk communication** in plain language, including what was disturbed, potential contaminants of concern, symptoms to watch for, and how residents can get assistance.

- **Medical and community support:**

- Set up a **community hotline** and clinics for symptom evaluation if warranted.
- Coordinate with local healthcare providers for **biomonitoring** only if specific contaminant exposure is plausible and evidence based. (Hope Green showed evidence to Frederick Health Department and Catellus)

- **Compliance and enforcement:**

- MDE, often in coordination with EPA, should evaluate **enforcement action** for noncompliance with institutional controls or permit conditions. (This should have been immediately investigated when reported by residents)
- Require the responsible party or contractors to **submit a corrective action plan**, including proper **handling, transport, and disposal** of impacted soils per RCRA and state requirements. **Catellus, Rowan and Aligned Data Center not only didn't follow up with the corrective action they also have tried to hide it for months from the MDE!**

- **Remedial action and restoration:**

- Develop and implement a **remediation work plan** aligned with the ROD: soil management, verification sampling, and restoration of engineering controls (caps, liners).
- Update the **Site Management Plan** to prevent recurrence (e.g., pre-construction training, permits, oversight).-This obviously due to the pictures yesterday and the last few months was never done.

- **Risk communication and transparency:**

- Issue timely **public notices** and hold community meetings with EPA/MDE/Health Department present.-The only notice we have seen was a year ago with some signs put up near the construction area and not in the vicinity of the majority of the residences.
- Publish **monitoring data summaries**, actions taken, and next steps, avoiding technical jargon.
- **Interagency coordination:**
 - Convene an **Incident Unified Command**: EPA Region 3 (Superfund), MDE (state oversight), Frederick County Health (public health), local fire/EMS (if needed), and the responsible party.
 - Document decisions and maintain a shared log.
- **Longer-term prevention:**
 - Strengthen **permit conditions**, require **pre-excavation utility and soil clearance**, and enforce **contractor training** on brownfield/Superfund controls. (Not done since the overflow is still happening)
 - Update **GIS and One-Call** records to flag restricted areas and depth limitations.

Below, after hearing about the Data Center Water Retention Pond Overflow I know I sent you in early September, and Gene Butler informed you prior to that, this is the action that Frederick Health Dept should take and the MDE should do starting NOW:

Here's a checklist tailored to households with private wells near a disturbed Superfund/brownfield area. This reflects common EPA/MDE practice under CERCLA and state drinking water guidance; specifics should be confirmed with EPA Region 3 and MDE for East Alcoa.

- **Immediate guidance to well users:**
 - **Recommendation:** Use **bottled water** for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, and infant formula until sampling confirms safety. Tap can still be used for cleaning and flushing.
 - **Notification:** Deliver clear notices (door-to-door and mail) with a hotline number, what happened, and interim precautions.
- **Rapid well inventory and mapping:**
 - **Action:** MDE and county health should compile a list and map of all private wells within a defined radius (e.g., 0.5–1 mile or based on hydrogeology). Include well depth, construction type, and use (domestic, irrigation).
- **Hydrogeologic assessment:**
 - **Action:** Evaluate groundwater flow direction, aquifer layers, and any preferential pathways created by the excavation. Identify wells at highest risk (shallow wells, near surface water,

downgradient).

- **Targeted groundwater and well sampling:**

- **Scope:** Sample both monitoring wells on site and private wells offsite. (As of now MDE has not checked the private wells, however, Jeremy promised the MDE now being aware will take immediate action)
- **Parameters:** Include site-specific contaminants of concern (from the ROD/RI/FS), commonly metals (aluminum, arsenic, lead), VOCs (e.g., TCE/PCE/benzene), SVOCs, PFAS if relevant, nitrates, and indicators (chlorides, total dissolved solids).
- **Frequency:** Initial sampling immediately, with follow-up rounds (e.g., 2–4 weeks, then monthly/quarterly) until stability is confirmed. (This means-DO NOT STOP HELPING THE PRIVATE WELL OWNER UNTIL THERE WELL IS DEEMED NOT DANGEROUS TO DRINK)

(Patty Thompson Doctor told her and her husband to stop drinking their water) She should be helped until her Well is no longer contaminated.

- **Provide alternate water supply if needed:**

- **Action:** If any well shows contaminant levels above **MCLs** or health-based benchmarks, arrange **temporary bottled water or point-of-use treatment**, and for extended issues, **bulk water tanks or connection to public water** where feasible. Costs are typically borne by the responsible party under EPA/MDE oversight. Immediately Hope Green, Rick Strawder, Patty Thompson should have bottled water deliveries from MDE.

- **Point-of-use/entry treatment options:**

- **Guidance:** Depending on detected contaminants:
 - **VOCs:** Granular activated carbon (GAC) plus aeration.
 - **Metals:** Ion exchange, reverse osmosis (RO), or specialized cartridges; ensure corrosion control.
 - **PFAS:** GAC or RO certified for PFAS reduction.
- Provide residents with certified systems (ANSI/NSF), installation support, and maintenance schedule.

- **Health risk communication and support:**

- **Content:** Plain-language fact sheets on each contaminant, exposure routes, short- and long-term health effects, and what actions to take.
- **Medical outreach:** Offer consultation with public health nurses or providers; consider biomonitoring only when there's evidence-based potential exposure (e.g., VOCs detected above guidance).

- **Wellhead protection and immediate controls:**

- **Action:** Recommend sealing well caps, inspecting sanitary seals, and keeping surface runoff and dust away from wellheads. Avoid irrigating with potentially affected water until cleared.

- **Data transparency:**
 - **Action:** Publish a schedule, sampling methods, detection limits, and results summary for each neighborhood (protecting personal data). Provide clear pass/fail explanations against **EPA MCLs and MD health advisories.**
- **Ongoing monitoring and exit criteria:**
 - **Plan:** Continue periodic sampling until multiple consecutive rounds show contaminants are below health standards and stable; then move to semiannual/annual verification.
- **Incident management and funding:**
 - **Coordination:** EPA Region 3 leads; MDE and Frederick County Health manage resident communications and logistics.
 - **Responsibility:** The contractor/responsible party funds sampling, alternate water, and any necessary treatment under CERCLA enforcement.
- **If petroleum or chemical odors are present:**
 - **Action:** Do not use the water; ventilate the home; call the hotline. Vapors from VOCs can intrude into homes—EPA/MDE may conduct indoor air screening.

I am happy that Jeremy Baker is agreeing to a full investigation of many residences in Adamstown and Frederick, and not just the Data Center. Jeremy said MDE employees will also be investigating this Water Retention Overflow that has been ignored and hidden.

My team will be doing a door-to-door this weekend, asking every house that is in the vicinity of where Gene Butler, Rick Strawder, Hope Green, and Patty Thompson live, to ask them if they have had their wells tested—and if they did and had an issue, did they contact the Frederick Health Department? As such, my team will be doing an investigation to make sure all residents are aware they will no longer be ignored and that they can get help. The additional people I find that need help I will add to the list of people that MDE needs to assist.

Now, hearing what is going on, and seeing the pictures, hearing the proof, knowing there is a legal investigation into Catellus now, the Data Center Water Retention Pond Overflow has not stopped, and seeing that the Frederick Health Department did not do their due diligence for months—

This expansion and decision need to be put on hold until the issue of the current 1,600 acres can be fixed. This will also give Senator William Folden and Senator Karen Lewis-Young enough time to get all the results they need from the Loudoun County, VA Data Center Analysis.

Loudoun County, VA has finished PHASE 1 of the Data Center Analysis. Senator William Folden specifically said he wants to see the results of this study when available. Senator Karen Lewis-Young introduced Senate Bill 116 – Data Center Impact Analysis and Report, which would have covered Energy Impacts, Environmental Effects, and Economic Consequences. Loudoun County, VA, after their horrible problems, finally realized the importance of them getting their State of Analysis study.

The immediate changes Loudoun County VA is making after Phase 1:

After completing Phase 1 of its data center analysis, Loudoun County, VA, made one pivotal change that fundamentally altered how new data centers are approved:

End of "By-Right" Development

On March 18, 2025, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors voted to eliminate "by-right" development for data centers in most of the county's zoning districts.

Previously, data centers were considered a "by-right" use, meaning if a proposal met the existing zoning code's basic requirements (like height and setback), the county had to approve it without a public hearing or a vote from the Board of Supervisors. This process was largely administrative.

The new change now requires nearly all proposed data centers to go through a Special Exception (SPEX) process. This is a much more rigorous legislative review that includes:

- * Public Hearings: Community members now have the opportunity to voice their support or opposition directly to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.-The Frederick County Planning Commission only does meetings on Wednesday's at 9:30 am when most residents have to work. This keeps the Residents from the Opportunity to voice their support or opposition. Frederick Councilman Steve McKay requested the Frederick County Planning Commission do it at a time that more residents/voters/constituents can attend and they said NO.
- * Board of Supervisors Vote: Each project must be individually debated and approved by a public vote from the Board.
- * Proffers: The county can negotiate "proffers," which are voluntary commitments from the developer to provide specific benefits or amenities to the community to offset the project's impact.

In short, the primary change after Phase 1 was shifting data center approvals from a simple administrative check-off to a discretionary, public-facing legislative process that gives the county and its residents much more control over where and how data centers are built.

As shown above, Frederick County does not know how to handle the current 1,600 acres of the current East Alcoa Data Center area yet. By pictures and video, and now knowing a full investigation is underway with the MDE and Catellus it would be completely irresponsible to expand and add an additional 1,700 acres, in which we read the amendments the Frederick County Planning is deciding to apply.

Since Frederick County has shown with the first 1,600 acres that are not even finished being built yet that they have been unable to sufficiently help even one well from being contaminated for over a year, Catellus is under investigation with a possible lawsuit with the MDE that cannot be disclosed to the public yet, and I have proof in writing that Michael Kuykendall with Catellus knew about Hope Green's well and he tried to con an elderly lady by just reimbursing her for a UV light for her well—which he and the Frederick Health Department knew could not fix the type of contaminants she has that were caused by the unauthorized excavation or unauthorized soil disturbance within a Superfund site. In regulatory and legal contexts, it may also be described as a violation of institutional controls (e.g., deed restrictions, caps, soil management plans) and could trigger noncompliance/enforcement action under CERCLA and applicable state orders or consent decrees.

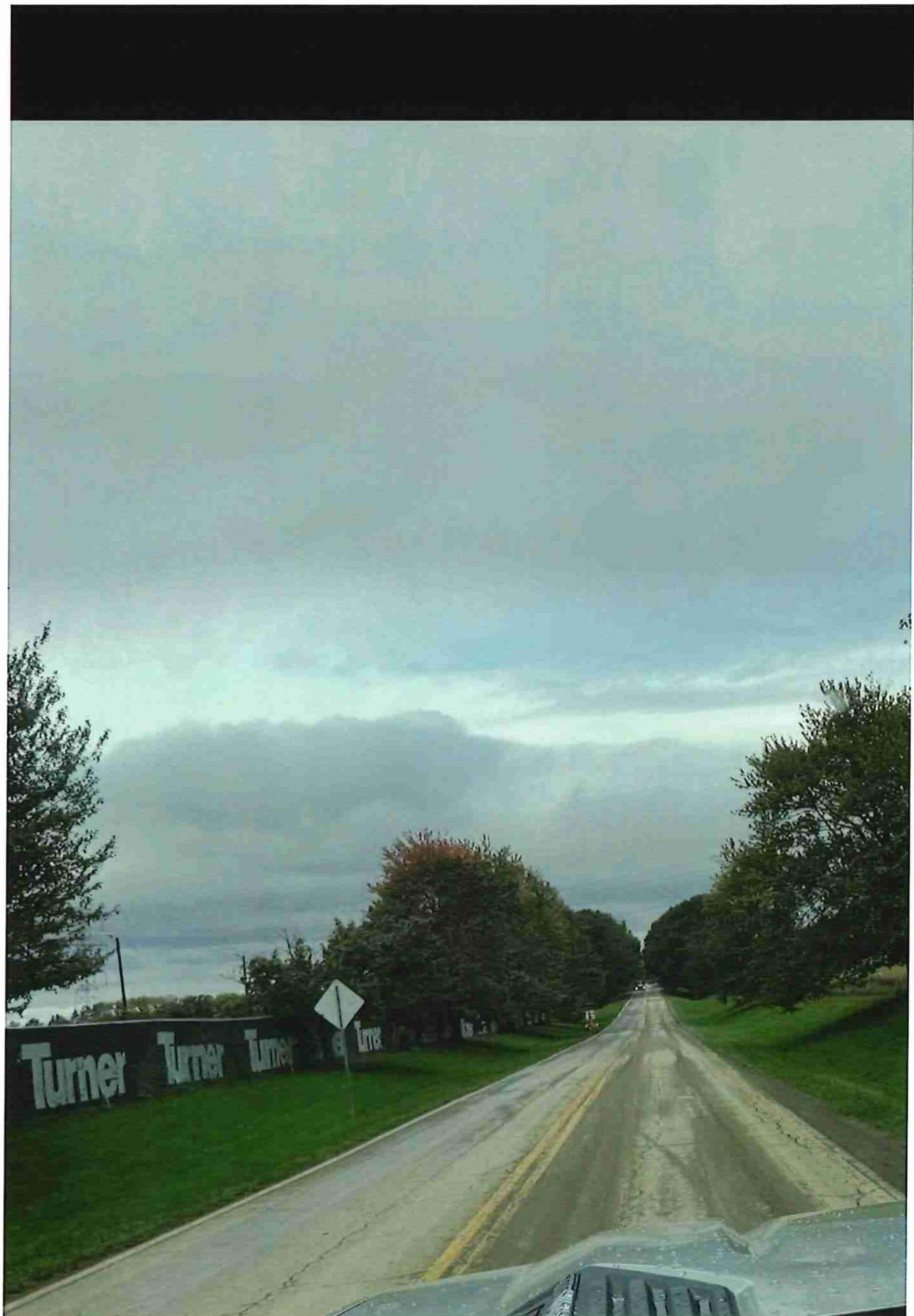
This is not the proper time to DOUBLE the size of the Data Centers. Jeremy, I would appreciate it if you would share this information with your boss, **Governor Wes Moore**, who due to him creating the Environmental Justice Group, you said the environment is important to him.

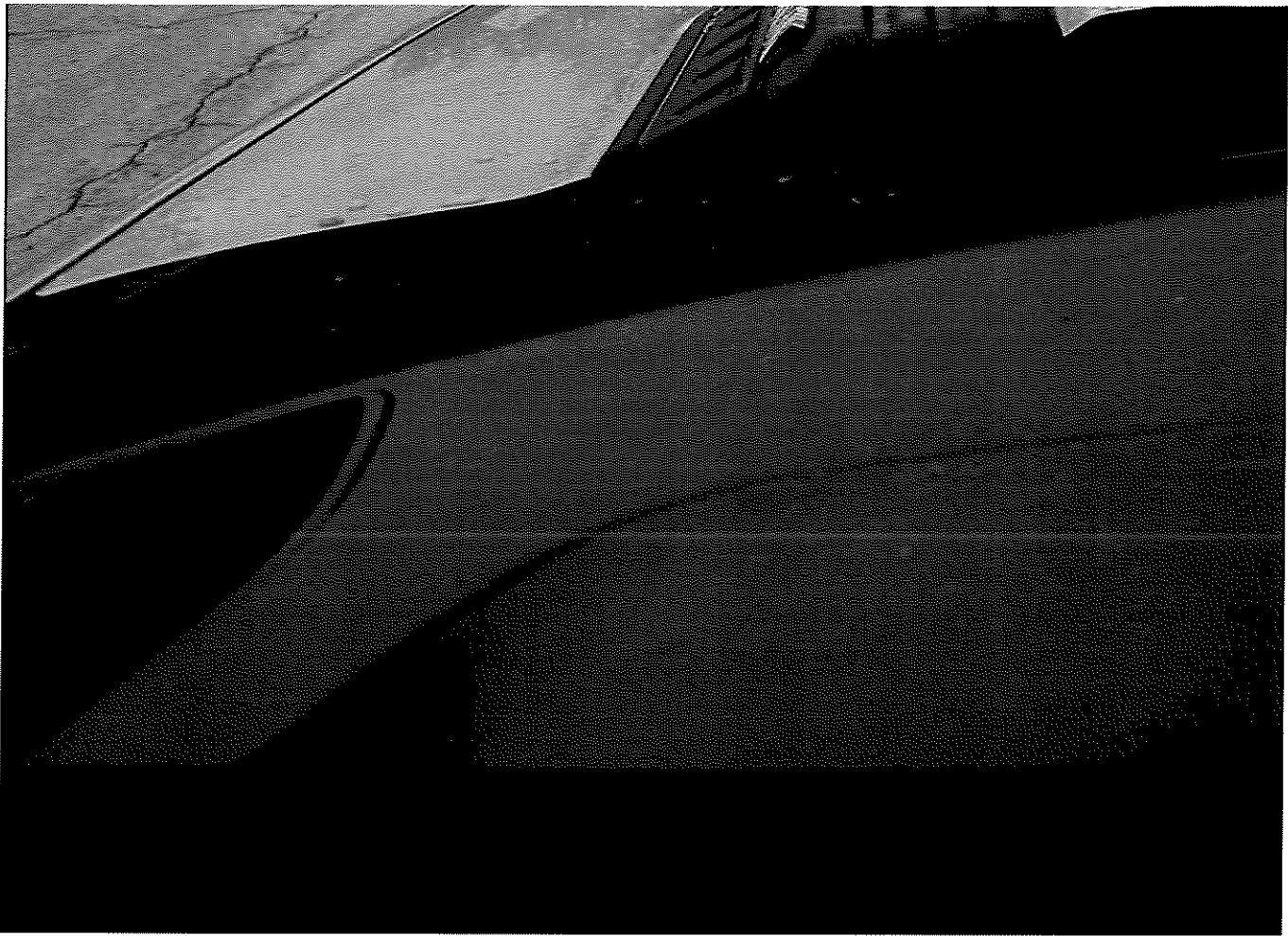
Please ask the Governor, knowing all of this, does he think this is the proper time to DOUBLE the amount of the Adamstown and Frederick Data Centers, or should they at least wait until it can be shown the current 1,600 is being handled appropriately to protect the residents of Adamstown and Frederick? Not only do we vote, but people in Maryland care about other towns in Maryland, and I am sure voters of other counties would think it's wrong to double until this current situation is resolved.

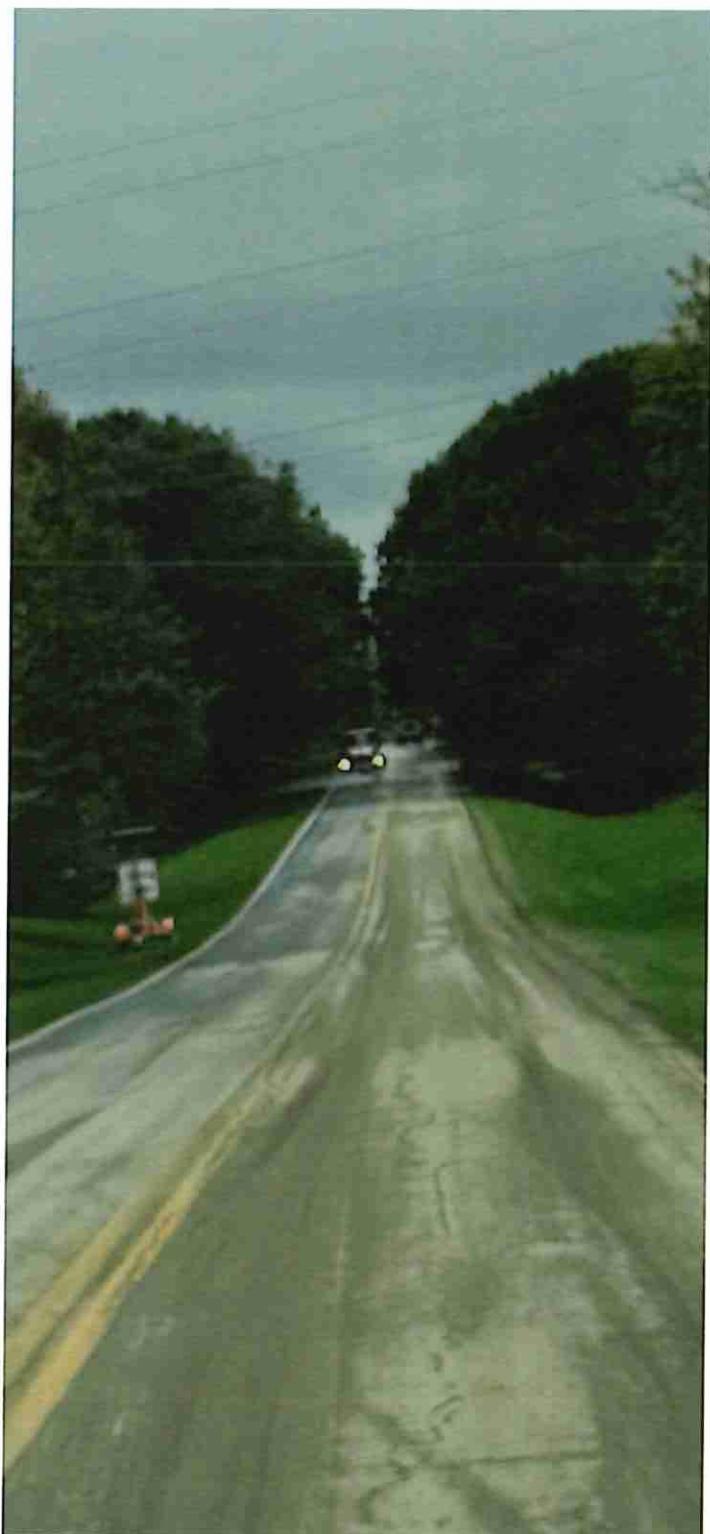
Do you also need the Water Pouring out of the Data Center pics also from the other week?

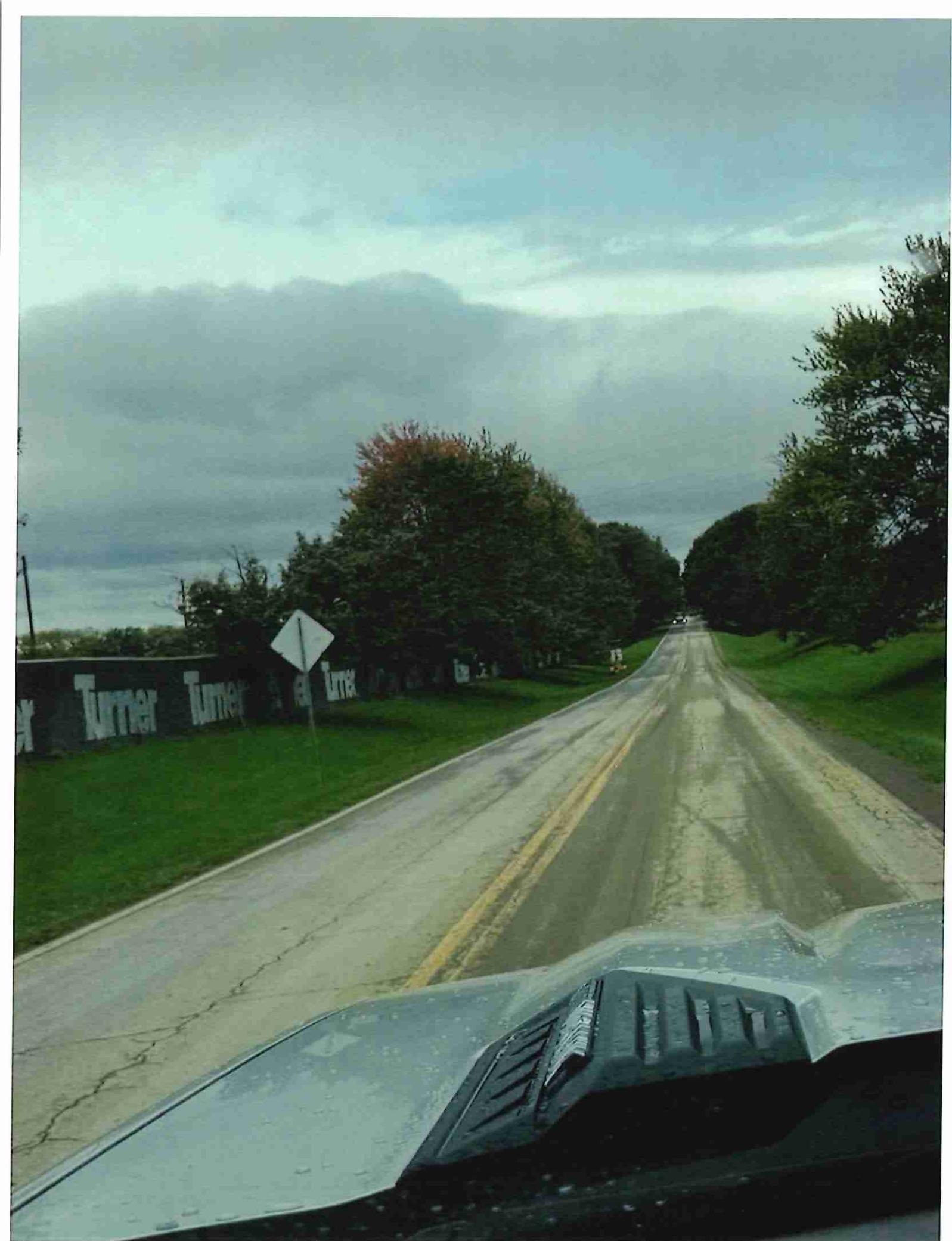
Sincerely

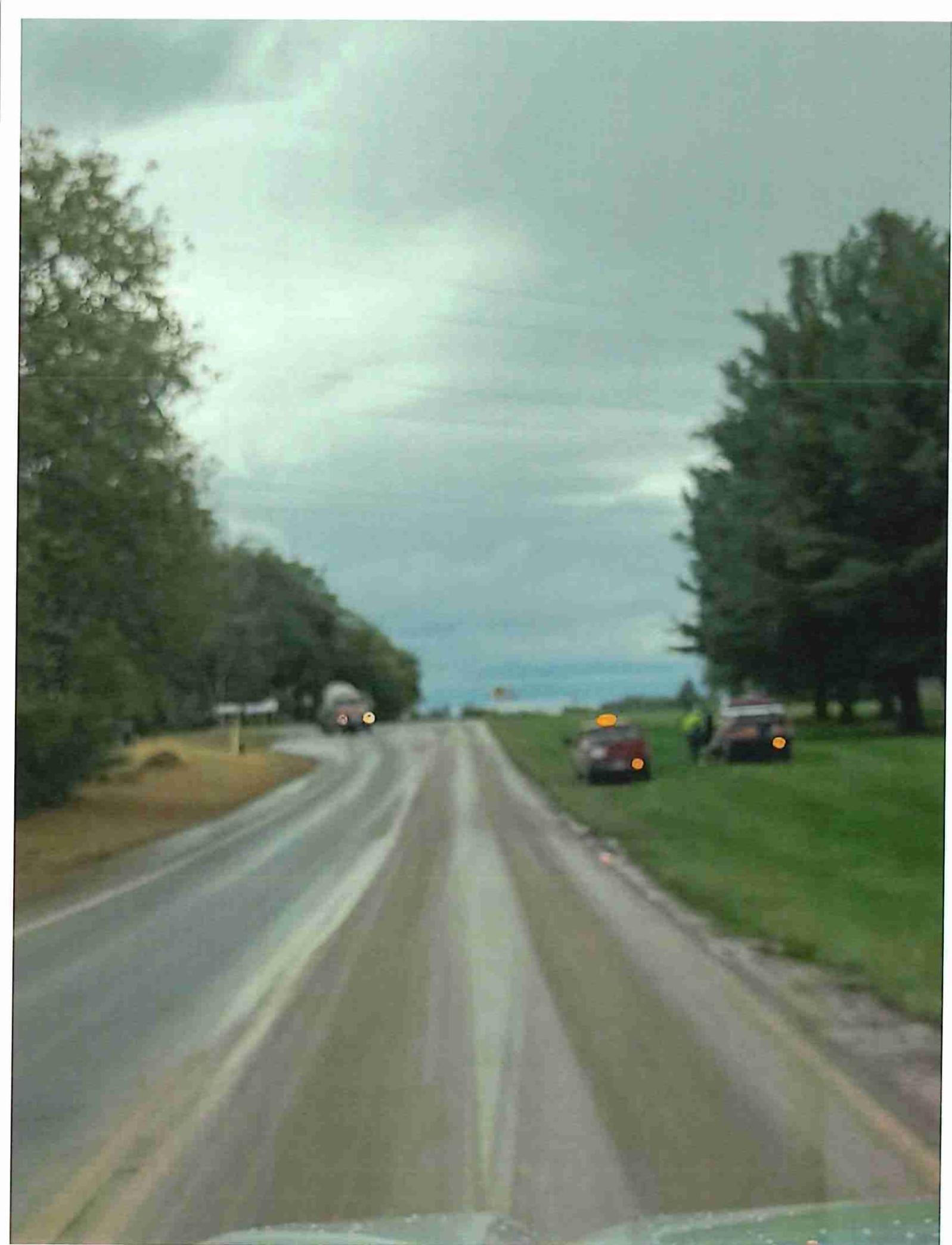
Elyse Wilson and the Coalition for Safe Drinking Water Adamstown and Frederick

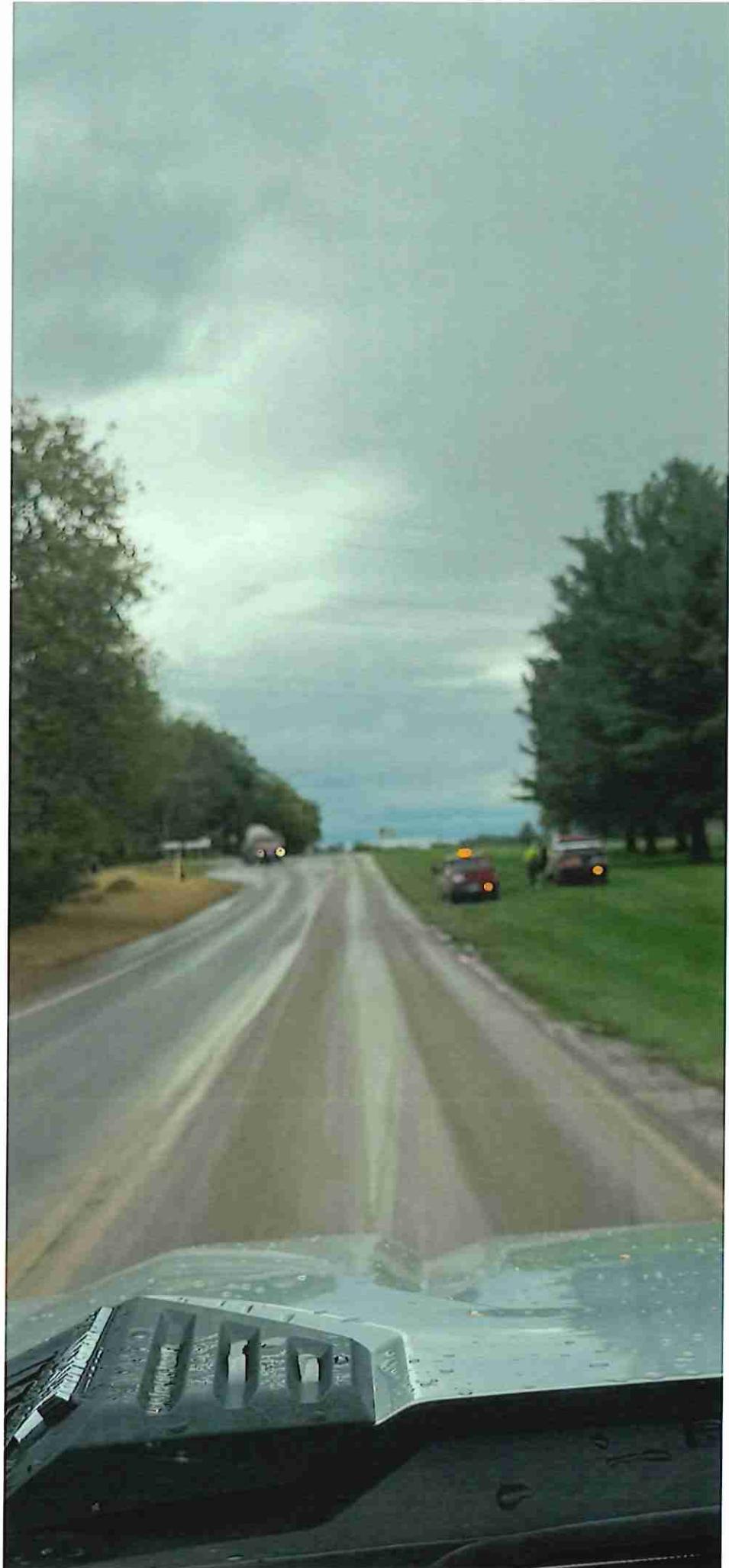


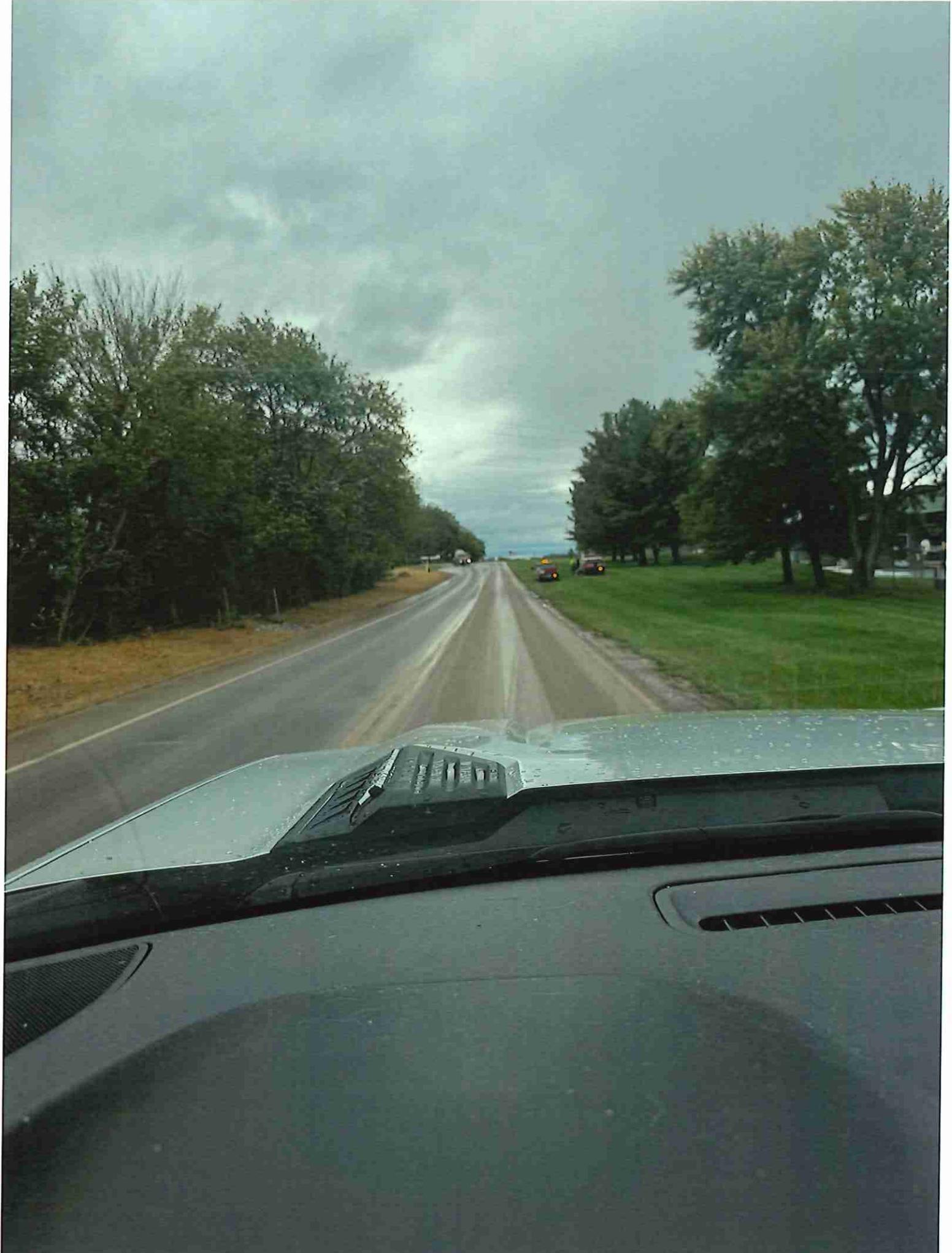




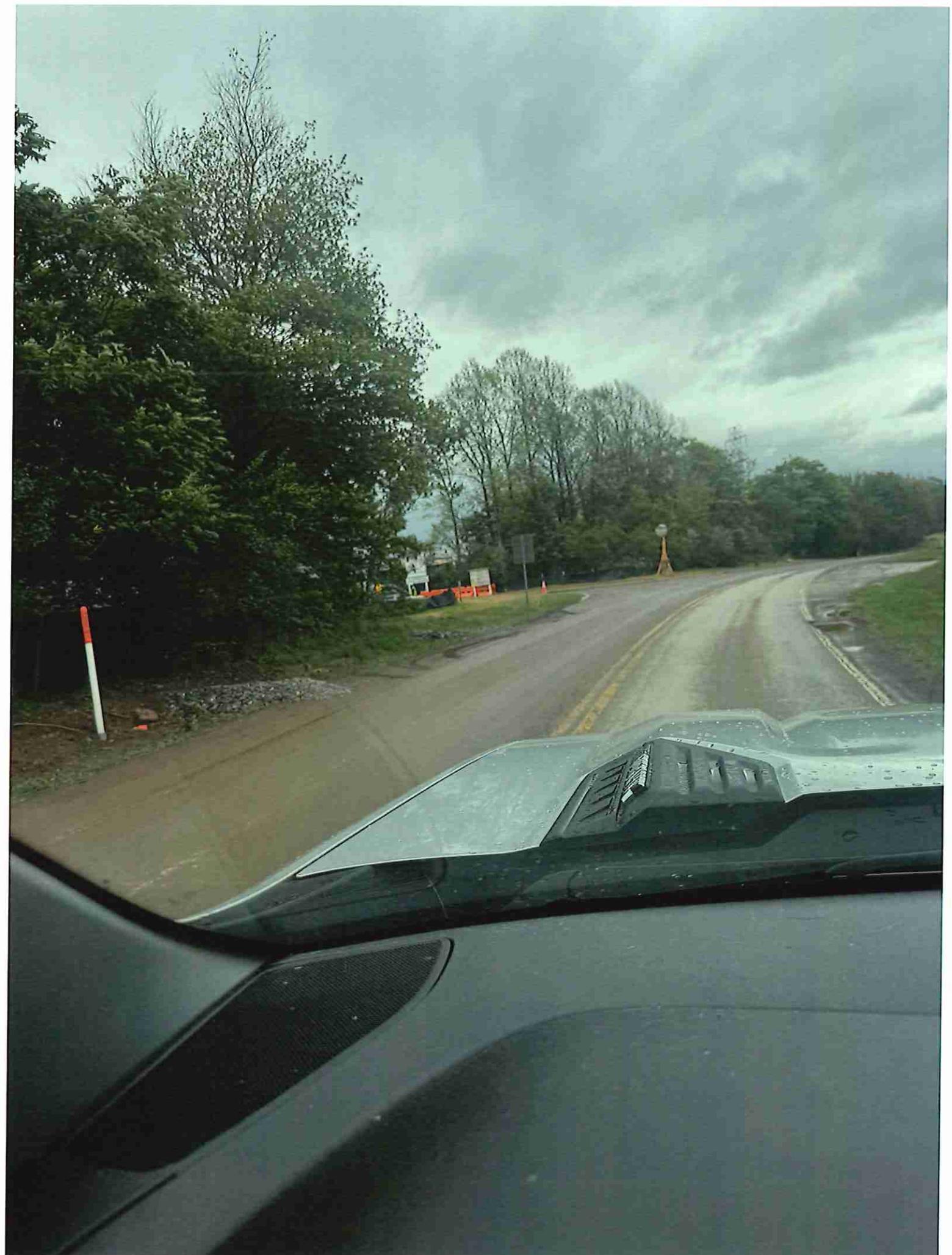














"The Voice of Organized Agriculture"

October 1, 2025

Dear Frederick County Planning Commission,

Frederick County Farm Bureau has several strong concerns that we feel need your utmost attention regarding the proposed Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay map. One of our concerns with the overlay map lie with the boundaries of State certified Priority Preservation Areas (PPI) which will require recertification of Frederick County's agricultural preservation programs. Frederick County's certification could come under review and reduce our percentage of transfer tax from 75% to 35%. The transfer tax funding is more important to Frederick County Land Preservation than ever before since the state ag preservation program (MALPF) was greatly reduced last year to meet state budget shortfalls.

Frederick County Farm Bureau does not support any rezoning of agricultural land to Limited or General Industrial outside the Comprehensive Plan Growth Area. Outside the Comprehensive Growth Plan lies Rural Legacy areas as well as Priority Preservation Areas. Any expansion of existing industrial zoned land will fragment out the Rural Legacy Area. The Carroll Manor Rural Legacy Area was created with the intention to protect farmland, historical locations and the abundant natural resources of this area of Frederick County.

The farmland outside the growth area is home to some of the highest quality soils in Frederick County. The Rural Legacy and Priority Preservation Areas were created to protect contagious tracts of land to enhance natural resources, and give agricultural and forestry land environmental protection. These affected soils cannot be duplicated anywhere else in Frederick County and need to be preserved and protected.

As this project moves forward in our county, please consider the consequences of Frederick County losing its eligibility of revenue for our farmland preservation from the State agricultural transfer taxes. Frederick County agriculture is currently challenged with many demands for farmland acres today and the loss of more preservation funds will limit the future of our industry forever.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Burrier".

David Burrier
President, Frederick County Farm Bureau



Re: Another Data Center Water Retention Pond Run-off Yesterday

From Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonkh@gmail.com>

Date Fri 10/10/2025 9:45 AM

To Brookmyer, Barbara (Health/Administration) <bbrookmyer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Cc Glotfelty, Barry (Health/EH) <BGlotfelty@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Jeremy Baker -MDE- <jeremy.baker@maryland.gov>; Alex Lima -MDE- <alex.lima@maryland.gov>; EJ MDE -MDE- <ej.mde@maryland.gov>; Folden, William Senator <william.folden@senate.maryland.gov>; Lewis Young, Karen Senator <karen.young@senate.maryland.gov>; Hope Green <hope.green76@yahoo.com>; rollbackfarmer@comcast.net <rollbackfarmer@comcast.net>; firefighterdeb53@aol.com <firefighterdeb53@aol.com>; strawder6101@verizon.net <strawder6101@verizon.net>; Paula damico-Hollewa <pdhollewa@yahoo.com>; FRANK HOLLEWA <fjhollewa@gmail.com>; Linda Everett <linda@edgedesigngroupllc.com>; Elizabeth Bauer <smartergrowthfc@gmail.com>; Steve Black <Steveblack2313@gmail.com>; STEVE MCKAY <stevemckay@comcast.net>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Frederick County Planning Commission, County Council, and County Executive Fitzwater,

I am writing to formally request that the Planning Commission address a critical issue of misrepresentation in the public record from a recent hearing concerning the Critical Digital Infrastructure (CDI) Overlay Zone.

The testimony in question was given by **Kane Stoner**, who identified himself as an Environmental Health Specialist with the Frederick County Health Department from August 26th at the Frederick Council Meeting.

The Conflict and Misrepresentation

When reading the official transcript and listening to the video of the testimony, it is clear that Mr. Stoner's remarks—and his mention of his department—created the unmistakable impression that he was representing the official position of the **Frederick County Health Department** on matters directly impacting our **Environmental Health**, particularly concerning setback distances and public safety.

I understand that this assertion is **grossly incorrect and a misrepresentation**, as confirmed by a statement from the Director of Environmental Health Services, Barry Glotfelty, who clarified that Mr. Stoner was speaking only on his personal opinion and was not representing the department's position.

Action Requested

To uphold the integrity of the public record and to ensure that citizens are not misled by testimony that incorrectly suggests official departmental endorsement, I request the following action be taken immediately:

- 1. Formal Disclaimer:** A prominent, official disclaimer from the Planning Commission must be **permanently affixed to the record** (both the video and the transcript/minutes) of Mr. Stoner's testimony.
- 2. Required Content:** This disclaimer must clearly state that **Mr. Kane Stoner's comments did not constitute the official position of the Frederick County Health Department** and that his statements were made in a strictly personal capacity.

This action is the right and necessary thing to do. The record must accurately reflect the facts and prevent this misinformation from misleading all stakeholders—including the County Council—as they move toward the critical vote on October 15th.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Elyse Wilson

On Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 10:19PM Brookmyer, Barbara (Health/Administration) <bbrookmyer@frederickcountymd.gov> wrote:

Good evening Ms. Wilson,

I appreciate your interest in assisting your neighbors and consolidating information into one instead of two separate e-mails. I'd like to correct one point and offer additional information regarding others.

Regarding my and Barry Glotfelty's attendance at the meeting you organized September 18, it was my supervisory chain of command within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Public Health Services Administration that advised me that no one had clearance in their capacity as a MDH/State employee to attend the event that evening. I don't know what information you have regarding others who may have had thoughts on the matter or that you believe were somehow involved, but what I know is what my (and Barry's) State supervisory chain of command communicated directly to me and I, in turn, communicated to Barry.

Regarding the timing of Barry's contacting Ms. Thompson, I overlooked her 9/25 e-mail with lab results after I returned from being out of the office and upon my discovering it 10/07, Barry contacted her right away.

Regarding the stormwater overflows, Barry shared with me his correspondence to you on September 2 and September 11 explaining that the Frederick County Health Department does not have the authority or delegation from MDE to enforce sediment and stormwater regulations although we have in the

past been asked to provide some coordination between agencies and associated public notifications. Based upon what I have understood from your e-mails, you have been directly in contact with persons at MDE regarding stormwater concerns.

Regarding the comments of Mr. Stoner at the August 26 County Council meeting, he was speaking as a private citizen and not on behalf of the State of Maryland or the Frederick County Health Department. While he did mention where he was employed, he did not and in contrast to the prior two speakers, state that he was representing the organization he referenced. The comments and statements by Mr. Stoner should not be misconstrued as having been evaluated or sanctioned by the FCHD. I cannot speak to the source of his data and which points he measured from other than to say it was not from work conducted by the FCHD.

Regarding the report that the University of Maryland was offering well test kits at no cost, the Frederick County Health Department was not aware of the study prior to its being mentioned at the community meeting. Upon learning about its existence we tried multiple ways to reach the researchers and when we did, we were informed that the [limited study](#) was closed. I had submitted a proposal a few years ago for the UMD to conduct a private well water quality study in Frederick County, but, to my knowledge, it was not selected. Perhaps when the results from the closed UMD study become available it will spur their interest in conducting a new study. If they do and they notify us, we will be offering assistance to ensure the broadest participation by Frederick County property owners.

Regarding your plans to ask neighbors if they have had their wells tested and if they did and had an issue, did they contact the Frederick County Health Department, I trust that you will let us know what you learn. I regret the delay in discovering the e-mail I missed from Ms. Thompson. That is not the level of customer service that is our typical in responding to persons inquiring about or presenting their well water test results. I trust that you will also offer to any individuals that you newly identify that they are welcome to contact Barry directly. If you haven't already provided Mr. Strawder with Barry's information, it would be helpful if you did so. I pasted Barry's contact information below. He and his team are quite knowledgeable and experienced in interpreting results and assisting persons with evaluating the options available for understanding and correcting water quality issues.

Barry Glotfelter, L.E.H.S.

Director of Environmental Health Services

Frederick County Health Department

Phone 301-600-1726

Fax 301-600-3180

blotfelter@frederickcountymd.gov

- Barbara

From: Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonhk@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 5:03 PM

To: Glotfelter, Barry (Health/EH) <BGlotfelter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Brookmyer, Barbara (Health/Administration) <bbrookmyer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Jeremy Baker - MDE- <jeremy.baker@maryland.gov>; Alex Lima -MDE- <alex.lima@maryland.gov>; EJ MDE -MDE- <ej.mde@maryland.gov>

Cc: Folden, William Senator <william.folden@senate.maryland.gov>; Lewis Young, Karen Senator <karen.young@senate.maryland.gov>; Hope Green <hope.green76@yahoo.com>; Patty Thompson <pattythompson125@gmail.com>; rollbackfarmer@comcast.net; firefighterdeb53@aol.com; strawder6101@verizon.net; Paula damico-Hollewa <pdhollewa@yahoo.com>; FRANK HOLLEWA <fjhollewa@gmail.com>; Linda Everett <linda@edgedesigningroupllc.com>; Elizabeth Bauer <smartergrowthfc@gmail.com>; Steve Black <Steveblack2313@gmail.com>; STEVE MCKAY <stevemckay@comcast.net>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KD Duckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carpenter, Deborah <DCarpenter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Hessong, Gary <GHessong@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Barlet, Lori <LBarlet@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Specht, Jennifer <JSpecht@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Rosenberger, Staci <S.Rosenberger@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; mwilkins@fredcountymd.gov; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Subject: Another Data Center Water Retention Pond Run-off Yesterday

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good afternoon, Barry and Jeremy,

Instead of sending two separate emails, I will use this correspondence to reply to Barry and relay messages to Jeremy.

Barry, I appreciate you letting me know this. Patty did not mention that you finally contacted her yesterday. Her most recent email to me is from this week.

Unfortunately, even though you are now attempting to help them, these people—whom I am currently trying to help—told me they have a lack of faith and trust in your department. Sadly, this is due to the numerous months they spent sending communications to your organization without receiving help. The senior citizens in this group are the ones who have been reaching out the longest. The majority are in their late 70s and 80s. It makes it seem like age discrimination.

The citizens/constituents are the ones who needed your help and support! The "actors" at the Data Center and at Catellus have a conflict of interest, and Rowan Data Center has been making promises for months to Gene Butler and never keeps their promises. Gene Butler has made public statements about needing this at Frederick County Council Meetings and has reached out to the Frederick Health Department multiple times. I shared with you, Barry, months ago the video of the Data Center water overflow, which should be considered urgent. Yet nothing was done until your email today, when you are finally reaching out—only after we had to get two Senators and the MDE involved.

I understand that your and Barbara Brookmyer's boss is Jessica Fitzwater. I have proof in writing from a Senator that Jessica Fitzwater discouraged both of you from attending the meeting. In addition to the email you sent on the day of the meeting saying you did not have "clearance to attend," we were made aware that this clearance was the choice of Jessica Fitzwater. The over 200 people who came to the September 18th meeting—which included two Senators, the County Sheriff, and three Frederick County Council members—were all shocked. Jessica Fitzwater did not want you all to attend because there were a large number of residents who would complain that you have not helped them or resolved any of their water issues.

In addition, we also corresponded via email on August 28th regarding a man who works for you named Kane Stoner. He stated directly on public record to the Frederick County Council that he works for the Environmental Health Department. In his testimony on August 26th, Kane Stoner said that the distance of the Data Centers from the nearby school and churches is 1.5 to 2 miles, and that due to this distance, there are no environmental factors that could affect the elementary school. Since this information was so inaccurate, and Kane Stoner gave everyone at the Council meeting the impression he was speaking on behalf of the Environmental Health Department, some members of the Council took that as fact prior to their vote, and it gave the townspeople false information. I asked Barry Glotfelty to have this information stricken from the record and to inform the Council that it was incorrect. Two miles is 10,560 feet. Carroll Manor Elementary School is only 1,000 feet away from a large group of Data Centers that are still being built. Barry only emailed me back saying that Kane Stoner did not speak for his department (even though he works directly for Barry) and would not agree to remove this false information that was said to be from his own department to the County Council.

Jeremy, feel free to get the transcription of the August 26th Frederick Council meeting of Kane Stoner as proof that Barry would not even ask to have this false information from his employee stricken from the record.

Barry, due to the lack of due diligence by your department, your refusal to remove false testimony from your employee who used his work status to appear credible, your team saying you had "no clearance" to attend the September 18th meeting to speak to the citizens of Adamstown and Frederick, and your ignoring of my emails with video and photo evidence of the Data Center overflows—if you were us, would you trust the Frederick Health Department? Plus, now, due to proof that Jessica Fitzwater ordered this, we no longer trust her either.

In addition, Michael Kuykendall with Catellus was aware of how bad Hope Green's well is, since she shared the results with him from Fredericktowne Water, and he reimbursed her for her UV light.

Yesterday, there was another Data Center Water Retention Pond Overflow! There was no big rainstorm yesterday! I had my husband, who works from home, immediately drive by and take pictures of the Water Retention Pond Overflow from the Data Centers before Rowan or Aligned rushed to clean it up again so they wouldn't get caught by the MDE and the EPA. We have people on these streets now who will text me as soon as they see something, since the MDE has been unable to catch them in the act yet. The Data Centers are being sneaky and devious, so the MDE won't catch the continued violations. This proves that once-a-month visits by the MDE Sewer and Water Division to the site are ineffective due to the cover-up going on by the actors.

Jeremy Baker kindly agreed to have the MDE do personal visits with residents to conduct more thorough investigations—not only on the damage to the residents, but also into the East Alcoa Brownfield, which everyone knows the construction workers have violated numerous times. The EAST ALCOA site is a SUPERFUND/CERCLA site; as such, a normal cleanup does not identify the damage that has been done to the below-ground area of the Brownfield.

The Data Centers have purchased huge street sweeper trucks so they can hide what they are doing.

These pictures attached are from YESTERDAY!

The Data Center last year was temporarily shut down due to this overflow, which has never stopped. We have been emailing about this for months, and we have been completely ignored—including myself. We have sent the MDE and Frederick Health Department videos and pictures of proof for many months now.

The only thing the Data Center learned from the temporary shutdown is how to hide it better, but they have no clue how to fix the issue.

I appreciate Jeremy's honesty in acknowledging that the MDE bureaucracy has been an issue in helping the residents, since previously, for residents, all that has been done is paper-pushing.

Jeremy Baker, now seeing what the residents are dealing with regarding poisoning and contamination of wells and some county water issues, has agreed to start having MDE do formal investigations for the residents—investigations that should have started a year ago.

I should not have to tell people how to do their jobs. I do realize the bureaucracy has caused this problem, so Jeremy Baker should directly speak to his boss, Governor Wes Moore, about this problem, since we know he created the Environmental Justice group a few months ago to help communities with water and other environmental issues. Is the Governor aware that residents of Adamstown and Frederick with wells have been reaching out for at least a year since the first violation shutdown of the Water Retention Pond Overflows—because they never stopped?

This is what was supposed be done right away per MDE Guidelines:

- **Immediate site control and stop-work:** Ensure construction halts, secure the area, and control dust and runoff. Establish exclusion zones and prevent public access. (Only done once and Frederick County Health Dept ignored the reports of Residences the Water Overflow
- NEVER STOPPED!! CATELLUS, ROWAN AND ALIGNED DATA CENTERS DO NOT KNOW HOW TO CONTAIN THE WATER OVERFLOW! THEY ONLY KNOW HOW TO HIDE IT.

Incident notification:

- Notify EPA Region 3 (lead agency for CERCLA oversight), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Frederick County Health Department promptly.
- If contaminants may reach surface water or sewers, notify local utilities and the National Response Center if there's a release that meets reportable quantity thresholds.

• Review site remedies and institutional controls:

- Check the Record of Decision (ROD), consent decrees, institutional controls (e.g., deed restrictions, construction soil management plans), and Health & Safety Plans applicable to East Alcoa.
- Determine exactly which restrictions were violated and the engineering controls affected.

• Exposure assessment and environmental monitoring:

- Conduct rapid air monitoring for dusts/vapors and soil sampling where excavation occurred.
- If groundwater could be impacted, perform dewatering assessments and sample as needed.
- Use conservative action levels to guide immediate protective measures.

• Public health protection measures:

- Implement dust suppression, cover or containerize excavated soils, and ensure proper stormwater controls.
- Provide interim relocation or shelter-in-place guidance if monitoring indicates potential exposure.
- Offer health risk communication in plain language, including what was disturbed, potential contaminants of concern, symptoms to watch for, and how residents can get assistance.

• Medical and community support:

- Set up a community hotline and clinics for symptom evaluation if warranted.
- Coordinate with local healthcare providers for biomonitoring only if specific contaminant exposure is plausible and evidence based. (Hope Green showed evidence to Frederick Health Department and Catellus)

• Compliance and enforcement:

- MDE, often in coordination with EPA, should evaluate enforcement action for noncompliance with institutional controls or permit conditions. (This should have been immediately investigated when reported by residents)
- Require the responsible party or contractors to submit a corrective action plan, including proper handling, transport, and disposal of impacted soils per RCRA and state requirements. Catellus, Rowan and Aligned Data Center not only didn't follow up with the corrective action they also have tried to hide it for months from the MDE!

• Remedial action and restoration:

- Develop and implement a remediation work plan aligned with the ROD: soil management, verification sampling, and restoration of engineering controls (caps, liners).
- Update the Site Management Plan to prevent recurrence (e.g., pre-construction training, permits, oversight).-This obviously due to the pictures yesterday and the last few months was never done.

• Risk communication and transparency:

- Issue timely public notices and hold community meetings with EPA/MDE/Health Department present.-The only notice we have seen was a year ago with some signs put up near the construction area and not in the vicinity of the majority of the residences.
- Publish monitoring data summaries, actions taken, and next steps, avoiding technical jargon.

• Interagency coordination:

- Convene an Incident Unified Command: EPA Region 3 (Superfund), MDE (state oversight), Frederick County Health (public health), local fire/EMS (if needed), and the responsible party.
- Document decisions and maintain a shared log.

• Longer-term prevention:

- Strengthen permit conditions, require pre-excavation utility and soil clearance, and enforce contractor training on brownfield/Superfund controls. (Not done since the overflow is still happening)
- Update GIS and One-Call records to flag restricted areas and depth limitations.

Below, after hearing about the Data Center Water Retention Pond Overflow I know I sent you in early September, and Gene Butler informed you prior to that, this is the action that Frederick Health Dept should take and the MDE should do starting NOW:

Here's a checklist tailored to households with private wells near a disturbed Superfund/brownfield area. This reflects common EPA/MDE practice under CERCLA and state drinking water guidance; specifics should be confirmed with EPA Region 3 and MDE for East Alcoa.

- **Immediate guidance to well users:**
 - **Recommendation:** Use bottled water for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, and infant formula until sampling confirms safety. Tap can still be used for cleaning and flushing.
 - **Notification:** Deliver clear notices (door-to-door and mail) with a hotline number, what happened, and interim precautions.
- **Rapid well inventory and mapping:**
 - **Action:** MDE and county health should compile a list and map of all private wells within a defined radius (e.g., 0.5–1 mile or based on hydrogeology). Include well depth, construction type, and use (domestic, irrigation).
- **Hydrogeologic assessment:**
 - **Action:** Evaluate groundwater flow direction, aquifer layers, and any preferential pathways created by the excavation. Identify wells at highest risk (shallow wells, near surface water, downgradient).
- **Targeted groundwater and well sampling:**
 - **Scope:** Sample both monitoring wells on site and private wells offsite. (As of now MDE has not checked the private wells, however, Jeremy promised the MDE now being aware will take immediate action)
 - **Parameters:** Include site-specific contaminants of concern (from the ROD/RI/FS), commonly metals (aluminum, arsenic, lead), VOCs (e.g., TCE/PCE/benzene), SVOCs, PFAS if relevant, nitrates, and indicators (chlorides, total dissolved solids).
 - **Frequency:** Initial sampling immediately, with follow-up rounds (e.g., 2–4 weeks, then monthly/quarterly) until stability is confirmed. (This means- DO NOT STOP HELPING THE PRIVATE WELL OWNER UNTIL THERE WELL IS DEEMED NOT DANGEROUS TO DRINK)

(Patty Thompson Doctor told her and her husband to stop drinking their water) She should be helped until her Well is no longer contaminated.
- **Provide alternate water supply if needed:**
 - **Action:** If any well shows contaminant levels above MCLs or health-based benchmarks, arrange **temporary bottled water or point-of-use treatment**, and for extended issues, **bulk water tanks or connection to public water** where feasible. Costs are typically borne by the responsible party under EPA/MDE oversight. Immediately Hope Green, Rick Strawder, Patty Thompson should have bottled water deliveries from MDE.
- **Point-of-use/entry treatment options:**
 - **Guidance:** Depending on detected contaminants:
 - **VOCs:** Granular activated carbon (GAC) plus aeration.
 - **Metals:** Ion exchange, reverse osmosis (RO), or specialized cartridges; ensure corrosion control.
 - **PFAS:** GAC or RO certified for PFAS reduction.
 - Provide residents with certified systems (ANSI/NSF), installation support, and maintenance schedule.
- **Health risk communication and support:**
 - **Content:** Plain-language fact sheets on each contaminant, exposure routes, short- and long-term health effects, and what actions to take.
 - **Medical outreach:** Offer consultation with public health nurses or providers; consider biomonitoring only when there's evidence-based potential exposure (e.g., VOCs detected above guidance).
- **Wellhead protection and immediate controls:**
 - **Action:** Recommend sealing well caps, inspecting sanitary seals, and keeping surface runoff and dust away from wellheads. Avoid irrigating with potentially affected water until cleared.
- **Data transparency:**
 - **Action:** Publish a schedule, sampling methods, detection limits, and results summary for each neighborhood (protecting personal data). Provide clear pass/fail explanations against EPA MCLs and MD health advisories.
- **Ongoing monitoring and exit criteria:**
 - **Plan:** Continue periodic sampling until multiple consecutive rounds show contaminants are below health standards and stable; then move to semiannual/annual verification.
- **Incident management and funding:**
 - **Coordination:** EPA Region 3 leads; MDE and Frederick County Health manage resident communications and logistics.
 - **Responsibility:** The contractor/responsible party funds sampling, alternate water, and any necessary treatment under CERCLA enforcement.
- **If petroleum or chemical odors are present:**
 - **Action:** Do not use the water; ventilate the home; call the hotline. Vapors from VOCs can intrude into homes—EPA/MDE may conduct indoor air screening.

I am happy that Jeremy Baker is agreeing to a full investigation of many residences in Adamstown and Frederick, and not just the Data Center. Jeremy said MDE employees will also be investigating this Water Retention Overflow that has been ignored and hidden.

My team will be doing a door-to-door this weekend, asking every house that is in the vicinity of where Gene Butler, Rick Strawder, Hope Green, and Patty Thompson live, to ask them if they have had their wells tested—and if they did and had an issue, did they contact the Frederick Health Department? As such, my team will be doing an investigation to make sure all residents are aware they will no longer be ignored and that they can get help. The additional people I find that need help I will add to the list of people that MDE needs to assist.

Now, hearing what is going on, and seeing the pictures, hearing the proof, knowing there is a legal investigation into Catellus now, the Data Center Water Retention Pond Overflow has not stopped, and seeing that the Frederick Health Department did not do their due diligence for months—

This expansion and decision need to be put on hold until the issue of the current 1,600 acres can be fixed. This will also give Senator William Folden and Senator Karen Lewis-Young enough time to get all the results they need from the Loudoun County, VA Data Center Analysis.

Loudoun County, VA has finished PHASE 1 of the Data Center Analysis. Senator William Folden specifically said he wants to see the results of this study when available. Senator Karen Lewis-Young introduced Senate Bill 116 – Data Center Impact Analysis and Report, which would have covered Energy Impacts, Environmental Effects, and Economic Consequences. Loudoun County, VA, after their horrible problems, finally realized the importance of them getting their State of Analysis study.

The immediate changes Loudoun County VA is making after Phase 1:

After completing Phase 1 of its data center analysis, Loudoun County, VA, made one pivotal change that fundamentally altered how new data centers are approved:

End of "By-Right" Development

On March 18, 2025, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors voted to eliminate "by-right" development for data centers in most of the county's zoning districts.

Previously, data centers were considered a "by-right" use, meaning if a proposal met the existing zoning code's basic requirements (like height and setback), the county had to approve it without a public hearing or a vote from the Board of Supervisors. This process was largely administrative.

The new change now requires nearly all proposed data centers to go through a Special Exception (SPEX) process. This is a much more rigorous legislative review that includes:

* **Public Hearings:** Community members now have the opportunity to voice their support or opposition directly to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.-The Frederick County Planning Commission only does meetings on Wednesday's at 9:30 am when most residents have to work. This keeps the Residents from the Opportunity to voice their support or opposition. Frederick Councilman Steve McKay requested the Frederick County Planning Commission do it at a time that more residents/voters/constituents can attend and they said NO.

* **Board of Supervisors Vote:** Each project must be individually debated and approved by a public vote from the Board.

* **Proffers:** The county can negotiate "proffers," which are voluntary commitments from the developer to provide specific benefits or amenities to the community to offset the project's impact.

In short, the primary change after Phase 1 was shifting data center approvals from a simple administrative check-off to a discretionary, public-facing legislative process that gives the county and its residents much more control over where and how data centers are built.

As shown above, Frederick County does not know how to handle the current 1,600 acres of the current East Alcoa Data Center area yet. By pictures and video, and now knowing a full investigation is underway with the MDE and Catellus it would be completely irresponsible to expand and add an additional 1,700 acres, in which we read the amendments the Frederick County Planning is deciding to apply.

Since Frederick County has shown with the first 1,600 acres that are not even finished being built yet that they have been unable to sufficiently help even one well from being contaminated for over a year, Catellus is under investigation with a possible lawsuit with the MDE that cannot be disclosed to the public yet, and I have proof in writing that Michael Kuykendall with Catellus knew about Hope Green's well and he tried to con an elderly lady by just reimbursing her for a UV light for her well—which he and the Frederick Health Department knew could not fix the type of contaminants she has that were caused by the unauthorized excavation or unauthorized soil disturbance within a Superfund site. In regulatory and legal contexts, it may also be described as a violation of institutional controls (e.g., deed restrictions, caps, soil management plans) and could trigger noncompliance/enforcement action under CERCLA and applicable state orders or consent decrees.

This is not the proper time to DOUBLE the size of the Data Centers. Jeremy, I would appreciate it if you would share this information with your boss, **Governor Wes Moore**, who due to him creating the Environmental Justice Group, you said the environment is important to him.

Please ask the Governor, knowing all of this, does he think this is the proper time to DOUBLE the amount of the Adamstown and Frederick Data Centers, or should they at least wait until it can be shown the current 1,600 is being handled appropriately to protect the residents of Adamstown and Frederick? Not only do we vote, but people in Maryland care about other towns in Maryland, and I am sure voters of other counties would think it's wrong to double until this current situation is resolved.

10/13/25, 1:27 PM

Re: Another Data Center Water Retention Pond Run-off Yesterday - Anderson, Katrina - Outlook

Do you also need the Water Pouring out of the Data Center pics also from the other week?

Sincerely

Elyse Wilson and the Coalition for Safe Drinking Water Adamstown and Frederick

Manor Woods Road Properties, LLC
3501 Urbana Pike
Frederick, Maryland 21704

October 8, 2025

Sent via email

Kimberly Gaines
Livable Frederick Director
Frederick County Government
Division of Planning and Permitting
30 North Market Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Re: Including the Noffsinger Parcels in the mapping of the CDI Overlay Zone

Dear Kim:

As the Planning Commission makes its final recommendations concerning the Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone, I am writing to reaffirm the requests made pursuant to our prior correspondence regarding the Noffsinger Parcels (please see attached).

As you know, Noffsinger comprises a total of 103.58 acres across seven parcels of land located in the Adamstown Planning Region of Frederick County, Maryland, south of Manor Woods Road and east of Cap Stine Road. Approximately 95.60 acres (Parcels 54 and Parcel 1) are currently zoned General Industrial. Approximately 7.98 acres (the five agricultural lots) are currently zoned AG.

For the reasons already set forth in prior correspondence, we continue to request that the entirety of Noffsinger be included in the Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone and that the five agricultural lots be zoned General Industrial as part of this mapping process. **The entire Noffsinger family fully supports this request.**

I'd note here that the five agricultural lots are not within a priority preservation or rural legacy area and represent only a small percentage of the overall Noffsinger property area. Parcel 54 already has an approved Letter of Understanding, permitting up to 1,600,000 square feet of CDI facilities, and the parcel was granted a water and sewer category change in 2023, advancing it to W5/S5 for the purposes of planning utility extensions to the site. Applying GI zoning now to the 7.98 acres will allow for a more thoughtful and comprehensive approach to the final planning for the overall property. We will not be seeking additional density associated with the addition of this property to a development plan for the site. It will simply permit a more thoughtful execution of a development plan for the overall property.

Kim Gaines
October 8, 2025
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Please let me know if you would like to discuss this request in any more detail, and we appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. A. Natelli".

Tom Natelli, on behalf of
Manor Woods Road Properties, LLC and the Noffsinger family.

cc: Denis Superczynski
Karin Flom
Tom Natelli
Dusty Rood



Bruce N. Dean, Esq.
D/L 240-503-1455
bdean@mdglawfirm.com

June 27, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC AND REGULAR MAIL

Kimberly Gaines
Livable Frederick Director
Frederick County Government
Division of Planning and Permitting
30 North Market Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Re: CDI Overlay Zone Mapping/Manor Woods Road Properties LLC/Noffsinger Parcels

Dear Kim:

I am writing on behalf of my client, Manor Woods Road Properties LLC, owner or contract purchaser of seven (7) parcels of land located in the Adamstown Planning Region of Frederick County, Maryland, south of Manor Woods Road and east of Cap Stine Road. These parcels are referred to collectively at times in this letter as the "Noffsinger Parcels," but which are also referred to individually as "Parcel 54," which contains approximately 64 acres of land more particularly shown and described on a plat recorded among the Plat Records of Frederick County, Maryland in Plat Book 106, page 134; "Parcel 1" consisting of the approximately 31.21799 acres that adjoins Parcel 54 to the south; and, the "Agricultural Lots," which refers to those five (5) lots shown and described on the plat recorded among the aforesaid plat records in Plat Book 84, page 95.

The Noffsinger Parcels are shown on the Exhibit enclosed with this letter. Parcel 54 and Parcel 1 are both designated General Industrial in the Frederick County Comprehensive Plan and are zoned General Industrial. Parcel 54 has an approved Adequate Public Facilities ("APFO") Letter of Understanding dated May 11, 2023 (the "LOU"), permitting development of Parcel 54



Kim Gaines
Livable Frederick Director
June 27, 2025
Page 2

for the generation of up to 176 am and 170 pm weekday peak hour driveway trips, which would permit the development of Parcel 54 with up to approximately 1,600,000 square feet of Critical Digital Infrastructure facilities.

The purpose of this letter is to request that Frederick County: 1) designate the Agricultural Lots for General Industrial land use in the County's Comprehensive Plan and include them (as well as a small portion of Parcel 54) as Planned Service in the Water and Sewerage Plan; 2) include all of the Noffsinger Parcels (to the extent not already depicted as such) in the Community Growth boundary; 3) place all of the Noffsinger Parcels within the proposed Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone; and 4) comprehensively rezone the Agricultural Lots from the current Agricultural (A) zoning classification to the General Industrial (GI) zoning classification. The entire Noffsinger Family fully supports this request.

Based on our review of draft Bill 25-06, we believe that the Noffsinger Parcels meet all of the legal and land use planning requirements for these 3 requests. The Noffsinger Parcels are not proximate to any schools, colleges or universities, daycare centers or healthcare facilities. There are no properties adjacent to the Noffsinger Parcels that are zoned or comprehensively planned for residential development. The only nearby residences are located on the Agricultural Lots and Parcel 1, and are owned by Manor Woods Road Properties LLC. The Noffsinger Parcels are further bounded by the Mullinix Agro Industrial Park to the east and by the Stanford Industrial Park to the west which are already zoned LI or GI. In addition, the property abutting the agricultural parcels to the south is already designated for industrial zoning in the Frederick County Comprehensive Plan. The former Eastalco site, being developed as a Critical Digital Infrastructure (CDI) campus housing approximately 17,000,000 square feet of CDI facilities and other employment uses, is located to the east along Manor Woods Road just past the Mullinix Agro Industrial Park. Being in close proximity to the Eastalco site means that the Noffsinger Parcels have nearby access to necessary infrastructure such as fiber, electricity, and public water and sewer facilities. This adjacency to Eastalco, along with the existence of the LOU and the current General Industrial zoning for Parcel 54 and Parcel 1, make the Noffsinger Parcels uniquely suitable and viable to house additional CDI facilities. Finally, containing in the aggregate approximately 100 acres means that the combined acreage of the Noffsinger Parcels is less than two-hundredths of one percent of Frederick County's land mass and will meet the County's goal of designating less than 1% of the County's land mass for CDI uses.



Kim Gaines
Livable Frederick Director
June 27, 2025
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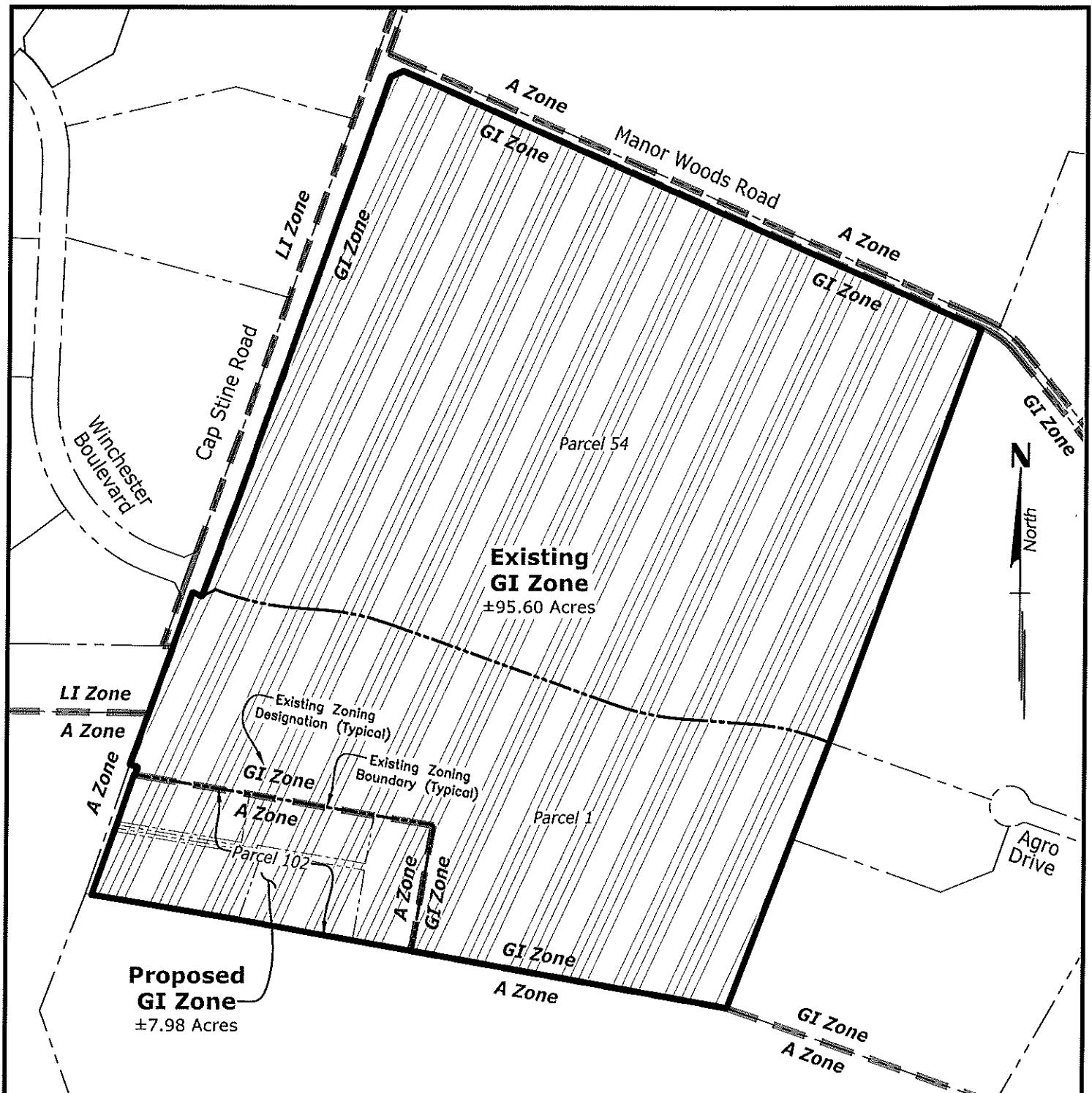
I hope this information is helpful to you, your staff and the Planning Commission in the creation of the CDI Overlay Zone, Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Map. Should you or any of your staff have any questions regarding the Noffsinger Parcels, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A blue ink signature of the name 'Bruce N. Dean'.

Bruce N. Dean

cc: Denis Superczynski
Karin Flom
Tom Natelli
Dusty Rood



Existing Zoning

±103.58 Ac.: Total Area Shown
±95.60 Ac.: GI Zone
±7.98 Ac.: A Zone

Proposed Zoning

±103.58 Ac.: Total Area Shown
±103.58 Ac.: GI Zone

**Exhibit of
Parcels 1, 54 & 102
Tax Map 94**

Buckeystown (1st) Election District
Frederick County, Maryland
Scale: 1" = 400'



Data Centers

From Madelle Tolbert <madgott@yahoo.com>

Date Fri 10/10/2025 4:02 PM

To Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Please read this article from the Wall Street Journal on the negative aspects of investing in Data Centers.

Thanks,

Madelle Gott Tolbert
4407 Ballenger Creek Pike
Frederick, MD 21703

https://www.wsj.com/tech/ai/ai-bubble-building-spree-55ee6128?mod=article_inline

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone



MTC Comment - CDI Overlay Zone Comprehensive Plan Amendment & Zoning Map Amendment

From Andrew Zirkle <Andrew@mdtechcouncil.com>

Date Fri 10/10/2025 4:07 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Cc Kelly Schulz <Kelly@mdtechcouncil.com>

1 attachment (323 KB)

CDIOZ Planning Commission Letter.pdf;

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good Afternoon,

Please see the attached letter from the Maryland Tech Council to the Planning Commission regarding the CDI Overlay Zone Comprehensive Plan Amendment & Zoning Map Amendment which is scheduled to be discussed by the Commission during its upcoming October 15th meeting. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Best,

Andrew Zirkle



Andrew Zirkle
Internal Government Affairs Specialist
E: andrew@mdtechcouncil.com | P: 240-282-1551





October 10th, 2025

Frederick County Planning Commission
30 N. Market Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Re: Recommendation on the Critical Digital Infrastructure (CDI) Overlay Zone

Chair Davis and Members of the Planning Commission:

On behalf of the Maryland Tech Council, I respectfully urge the Commission to recommend to the County Council a CDI Overlay Zone that includes the entirety of the area proposed by the County Executive. Furthermore, we ask that the Commission adopt each of the eight staff recommendations proposed for consideration by Department staff

The proposed CDI Overlay of 2,566 acres takes up only around 0.60% of County land. This area is well within the under-one-percent policy commitment specified in the CDI-OZ statute. Shrinking the geography further would discourage investment and risk shifting potential tax base to neighboring jurisdictions. Independent analysis prepared for MTC by Sage Policy Group estimates that a Frederick County data-center development would produce more than \$40 million in recurring annual county revenue once operational. This revenue will be key in helping Frederick County maintain its roads, fund its public services, and sustain its high-quality school system. Additionally, in Frederick County, Sage projects more than 48,000 construction jobs during buildout and over 1,700 permanent positions once the site is fully operational. A recommendation that is overly-restrictive may jeopardize the tremendous employment opportunity that this project will bring to Frederick County residents.

With respect to utilities, the proposal is paired with water and sewer planning so that service is extended only where capacity is planned and funded through the County's Water and Sewerage Plan and Adequate Public Facilities processes. Cooling systems are expected to use recirculation and metered allocations, and potable demand is subject to County limits and permit requirements, so the project will not strain residential water or sewer service.

Additionally, as proposed, the data center build-out would not have a material impact on electricity prices or availability for Frederick County residents. Under the Next Generation Energy Act (2025), electric companies must develop a special rate schedule for data centers. This rate will require data centers to pay their fair share of electricity costs and ensure residential and commercial customers are not responsible for the financial risks of grid upgrades.

For the reasons above, please recommend the CDI Overlay Zone exactly as mapped by the County Executive, no smaller, so Frederick can capture the fiscal and employment benefits while keeping the overlay focused, utilities planning aligned, and ratepayer protections in place.

Sincerely,

Kelly M. Schulz
Chief Executive Officer



CDI Water Ordinance or Amendment

From Kevin S <kgsellner@gmail.com>
Date Sat 10/11/2025 6:50 AM
To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

1 attachment (20 KB)

DataCenterWaterUseOrdinance08-27-25.docx;

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Pls distribute to PC members

Here's an amendment to share with commission members. It is a draft ordinance or CDI amendment specific to water issues associated with the permitted and possible future data centers in the County.

The 2 large critical resources for data centers are power and water, both acknowledged but not yet addressed within the County. Power beyond what is delivered to N. VA in the MPRP transmission lines will have to be found, likely delivered to Frederick centers in additional lines than those in the MPRP wires. Other experts have addressed this issue.

The text that I have attached attempts to address water supply, use on campuses, pre- and post campus treatment, volumes and composition of discharged water, impacts on public treatment facilities, and stormwater.

For stormwater, MDE's regulations date from 2007 and hence pre-date precipitation events and droughts now typical of our new climate. Hence, requirements for stormwater are included in the text I have drafted to ensure the new climate does not result in substantial damage on a data center site, floodplain or stream, nor for its neighbors. County lawyers will push that stormwater is a state issue. However, local jurisdiction regulations can be more protective than the state's, just not weaker, so I strongly encourage consideration and adoption of the stormwater options I have included. If not allowed due to Commission rules, the text at least familiarizes you with the issue.

Thank you for considering and ideally proposing some form of the water text I have provided, and definitely BEFORE any additional data center applications are received once the County moratorium is over. Feel free to contact me through e-mail or by phone (I am in the SW with aperiodic email access through 10/20) to discuss any part of the attached text.

Respectfully, Kevin Sellner, Ph.D.

Sr. Scholar
Center for Coastal and Watershed Studies

Hood College
Frederick, MD 21701
410-693-2067

Adapted from Penn Futures Model Ordinance for Data Centers

<https://www.pennfuture.org/datacenters>

Frederick County, Maryland is receiving applications for the construction and operation of Data Centers within its borders. As major power and water consumers, it is important to identify whether there are sufficient quantities of both resources for successful, safe, and environmentally responsible operations of these new industrial neighbors. County government has no control of power supply decisions as these are made at the federal level. Water policies, however, including supply, use, discharge, and treatment, are under the County's discretion. Additionally, with the expansive impervious areas of Data Centers, the County can require more protective stormwater controls than the state requires in its last 2007 Stormwater Regulations adopted before the new climate's extreme precipitation events have developed. Hence,

WHEREAS water demand exceeds most other water uses in the County; and

WHEREAS Data Center water use on-site and subsequent discharge may include unexpected compounds that potentially jeopardize public water treatment efficiencies; and

WHEREAS impervious surface areas in Data Centers reduce groundwater recharge and water quantities and qualities for adjacent neighbor wells as well as increase total surface runoff detrimental to riparian buffers, floodplains, and waterways;

NOW it be ordained that Frederick County enact the following Data Center requirements as [a unique ordinance or an amendment] to Critical Data Infrastructure Ordinance 25-XX:

Water and Sewer

1. All Data Centers will be served by either a public water supply or Data Center-constructed reservoirs filled from precipitation or natural rivers or creeks during high flow periods; water from groundwater wells will not be allowed. For public supplies, the applicant shall submit documentation from the Division of Water and Sewer Utilities (DWSU) that it can and will supply the water needed.

2. The applicant shall provide a water use study to document water demand and on-site water storage, uses on the Data Center campus, pre-and post-treatment of incoming and water used on-site, and quantities and chemical content of water discharged from the campus. No Data Center shall be approved unless the water use study includes the following information at a minimum:

- a. The projected maximum daily, monthly, and annual water demands of the Data Center;
 - b. The source(s) of water to be used;
 - c. The long-term safe yield of the water source(s);
 - d. A description of any water pre-treatment as the water enters the campus;
 - e. How water will be stored as a 5 day reserve and used, including the amount of water to be used for each purpose (e.g., cooling, humidity control, fire suppression, and domestic usage);
 - f. Estimates of all water lost to consumptive processes (percentages of incoming water and g/d);
 - g. A description of the amount and chemical composition of any water that will be recycled or discharged and by what means, including any post-use treatment before discharge;
 - h. A geologic map of the area with a radius of at least one mile from the site;
 - i. The location of all existing and proposed wells within 2,500 feet of the property boundary, with a notation of the capacity of all wells;
 - j. The location of all surface waters, including perennial and intermittent streams, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, wetlands, springs, and natural seeps within 1,000 feet of the property boundary;
 - k. A determination of the effects of the proposed water supply system, runoff, and discharge on the quantity and quality of water in nearby wells, surface waters, and groundwater; and
 - l. A statement of the qualifications and the signature(s) of the person(s) preparing the study.
3. The applicant shall provide proof of review and approval from the Division of Water and Sewer Utilities (DWSU) for projects proposing:
 - a. Daily, monthly, and annual water use (gallons/day) from any source or combination of sources; and
 - b. Any daily, monthly, and annual consumptive water uses from any water source.

4. The applicant shall demonstrate all proposed means of wastewater disposal, including domestic wastewater and wastewater used for cooling or industrial purposes, have been provided and approved by DWSU staff.
5. All applicants will document capture, storage, and discharge mechanisms for stormwater derived from the Data Center campus. This includes:
 - a. A summary of impervious surface acreage at the site in order to estimate the impact of loss of groundwater recharge and possible impact on existing wells within 2,500 feet of the site, groundwater supplies to stream baseflows, and surface waters in the vicinity;
 - b. Detailing all stormwater retention pond volumes to ensure that all stormwater from a site during a 500 yr storm can be collected without overflow; and
 - c. Detailing stormwater retention pond discharge mechanisms (e.g., diffuser pipes) that ensure maintenance of adjacent functional riparian buffers, floodplains for perennial and intermittent streams, and stream littoral zones and channels.
6. Native plant landscapes that ensure water percolation and retention will surround all Data Centers and nutrient management plans will be submitted for use and capture of any fertilizers, soil enrichments, or other applied compounds in those native landscapes.
7. The applicant will provide escrow accounts, security deposits, or bonds for the following:
 - a. Any necessary upgrades for County public water treatment utilities jeopardized by compounds discharged from Data Centers;
 - b. Repairing or replacing wells of neighboring properties where water volumes or quality have been lost during or after Data Center construction or operations;
 - c. Replacing damaged or lost riparian buffers or floodplain and restoring streams damaged through stormwater runoff or Data Center discharges; and
 - d. Soil and groundwater clean-up of any hazardous material inadvertently spilled from a Data Center, including monthly monitoring of contamination in soils, groundwaters, and neighboring waterways within 2,500 feet of the spill area; monitoring sites will be based on geology noted in Section 2.h.; similar measurements will be made once per year for a decade to ensure long-term groundwater contamination is less than concentrations known to inhibit local biological processes and/or domestic animal and public health.
8. No Data Center shall be approved unless conditions 1-7 are met.



October 18 Data Center Meeting

From L R <romdiver@gmail.com>

Date Sat 10/11/2025 3:40 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Planning Commission:

"1 Percent of Frederick County" and "2500 acres" are not terms most people can picture.

This should help:

1% of Frederick County would be about 7 SQUARE MILES of data centers.

Even "2500 acres" would still be about 4 SQUARE MILES.

Do you not understand these numbers or do you just not care?

L.D. Romane, M.D.

Buckeystown, MD



Data Center Overlay

From Julien Libert <j.r.libert.a@gmail.com>

Date Sat 10/11/2025 4:21 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello,

I'm reading more and more articles about the AI bubble and people turning more and more sour on AI. We're lucky to have the time to think this through and hear out some serious concerns on expanding data centers into our region. So please please play this conservatively and seriously weigh the economic, quality of life, energy, water, environmental downsides of approving any more data center development outside what is already planned. My family do not believe any more land should be sacrificed for this use. Thank you.

Julien
Frederick, MD



Critical Overlay

From Barbara Luchsinger <blagluch@gmail.com>

Date Sat 10/11/2025 4:48 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Cc Barbara Luchsinger <blagluch@gmail.com>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Planning Commission,

Beautiful and productive farm land is a key feature of Frederick County. Whatever now remains should be protected at all costs before the entire county becomes engulfed in suburban sprawl.

Please resist the self-interests of developers who love to see asphalt machines at work on our lovely rolling hills of Maryland especially Frederick County.

Where we once had quail sounding their "bob-whites" there is now silence. That is just the beginning of lost nature, the rest of which should remain without citizens being fearful every day of more and more new ideas (data centers and the like) robbing us of the best part of the county,

No more expansion of any kind of over-building. Retain our farmland for our children and Mother Nature.

Barbara Luchsinger



Comment on Data Center Overlay

From kagalloway@comcast.net <kagalloway@comcast.net>

Date Sat 10/11/2025 6:55 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

As part of the Data Center Overlay Maryland has a once in a lifetime opportunity
To zone for a new miniature nuclear power plant to locally power the data center
Expansion and put Maryland into the front of modern technology and opportunity.

Please consider including a new power plant in zoning to allow for this upcoming
Technology and enable a maximum data center growth potential.

Thank You

Keith Galloway



Data center expansion

From Carol Waldmann <c.waldmann@comcast.net>

Date Sat 10/11/2025 9:19 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

The amount of power/electricity needed as well as the land destroyed is so very unwise and heart breaking. The rural legacy landbe once destroyed cannot be brought back. Th pollution, the noise, the need to get power through power lines will all be doubled if the size of the data center land is doubled. One of the most precious valuable commodities of Frederick County is its open land and natural beauty. Please don't undervalue what we have to make the a few rich people richer. There will be a few people who make a lot of money with the building and running of Data center, but most people will be shouldered with higher energy costs and loss of the shared beauty. Montgomery county has preserved rural lands and Frederick county must save its natural places that cannot survive if the area where data centers are allowed, if the 1000 acres are destroyed. Please do the right thing and put a cap on the data center development where it stands now. Don't let your legacy be that you helped destroy the Frederick County that is loved by its residents and its visitors. The cost of expanding the area is great. We will lose beauty, quietness, tourism, peacefulness, clean air to breath, property values, we will be adding to the end of human viability on earth by adding to global warming,

again please do the right thing,

Carol Waldmann MD
Frederick county resident
781 405-1583
cw@alum.mit.edu



Outlook

Oppose CDI Overlay Area Expansion for Data Centers

From David Reeves <dave2442ree@hotmail.com>

Date Sun 10/12/2025 10:39 AM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I strongly oppose expansion of the Data Center CDI Overlay beyond the Eastalco Growth area. That expansion would be a radical change in the nature of Adamstown, Buckeystown, Point of Rocks, and rural southern Frederick County overall.

1) The argument that there will be positive net benefit to the county and or that it's worth the huge changes this industry will bring to the character of the region is not supported by any objective fiscal analysis of data center development or expansion.

a) How much will an increased Eastalco Growth Area cost Frederick county taxpayers?

b) What is the NET revenue from this huge increase in industrial activity?

c) Media sources indicate that electric bills will soar because of data centers, and we expect the value of homes in the Eastalco area to drop - how will that affect the financial impact on the county of adding more data centers?

2) The Plan calls for the elimination of almost 1000 acres of farmland.

All of this prime agricultural soil is in either the County Priority Preservation Area or the State Rural Legacy area, or BOTH. The Data Centers Work Group recommended against

this, and current County regulations say no data centers in Priority Preservation or Rural Legacy areas. How can this even be under discussion?

3) Both the county and the state appear unable to effectively monitor and regulate environmental violations from the current construction.

Since start of data center construction, more than 100 major environmental violations have been cited. The Eastalco complex has been given "Stop Work" orders and there are two ongoing Maryland Attorney General's Office investigations. In view of these violations, does the Planning Commission think it's environmentally prudent to expand the CDI Overlay by another 1000 acres?

4) Based on other data center complexes, the data centers that are already approved in the existing Eastalco Data Center Complex might be expected to use the same amount of electricity as TWO Baltimore Cities.

a) Real numbers regarding the power demands and impacts on Frederick County apparently are still unknown for the current Eastalco data center area. How is it a good idea

to double the size of the data center zone without that information? What's the rush?

b) Maryland is a power importer. Where is the power for the additional data centers going to come from? More power lines like MPPR will be needed to bring in the energy for this huge data center zone.

5)

Frederick County's climate successes will be undone.

For backup power, data centers use diesel generators the size of freight train engines. The current Eastalco data center area will need over 1000 of these diesel generators. Expanding the data center Growth Area will require even more generators. Further, all the gains that the county and the citizens have achieved in the last 15+ years will be wiped out by the additional greenhouse gas emissions generated by the additional electric grid power used by the data centers.

For all of the above reasons, I request that you please oppose expansion of the Data Center CDI Overlay beyond the Eastalco Growth area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
David E. Reeves
9265 Starlight Mews N
Frederick, MD 21704

Sent from [Outlook](#)



Absolutely Ridiculous!

From John Lyons <john@lyonsapprsvc.com>
Date Sun 10/12/2025 10:47 AM
To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I cannot believe this is even a topic for discussion at this juncture. You haven't even witnessed yet the resources consumed or the costs to the environment of what the one that is approved, will be!

Why would you even entertain discussing this now? We don't even know what future advancements in technology will do in terms of the sizes or resources these centers will need. Could be, like everything else in the technology world, these are obsolete and we won't even need them at all, or they will be significantly less intrusive. Remember the size of the first computers. Now look at them. We might not even need this technology 10 years from now. But the lands will be sold if approved and the lobbying for new builds will be here right away with pressure and promises of wealth for the county and the need for more space tomorrow if this is not put to rest right now.

Once the farm and other preserved lands are gone, they will be gone for good.

These areas for these lands were meant to be preserved to prevent this type of development and to protect our very scarce resources. We can't get it back once it's gone.

Please, table this for I don't know, 10 years from now. It is easy to add it later if we find it necessary or even pertinent. Absolutely no reason to discuss let alone consider expanding any area not part of the original Eastalco area for this development.

Respectfully,

John Lyons

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)



Vote Against Expanding Data Centers

From Kim Westervelt <kim.westervelt@gmail.com>

Date Sun 10/12/2025 11:44 AM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Cc Kim Westervelt <kim.westervelt@gmail.com>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Planning Commission Members, Council Members, and Country Executive:

Although I am unable to attend the October 15th committee meeting, this issue is very important to me as someone who uses and appreciates the rural areas of southern Frederick, Maryland.

I am distressed that this is a meeting to discuss EXPANDING the zone for data centers. The implementation of data centers in this area is already a concern due to loss of land, water issues, etc. so I am asking you not to consider ANY expansion to the zone. Please note that once these decisions are made and acted upon, we can't go back and "fix" mistakes made to nature.

Specific considerations:

1) No objective economic analysis has been done or has even been proposed yet to support the huge changes to the character of the region which leads me to questions.

- a) How much will an increased Eastalco Growth Area cost?
- b) What is the NET revenue from this huge increase in industrial activity and who will it benefit?
- c) This plan seems poised to send electric bills higher and to devalue homes in the area. That is not worth the financial impact of adding more data centers.

2) The Plan calls for the elimination of almost 1000 acres of farmland.

Since all of this prime agricultural soil is in either the County Priority Preservation Area or the State Rural Legacy area, or **BOTH** and the Data Centers Workgroup and current County regulations say **no data centers can be built** in Priority Preservation or Rural Legacy areas so **why is this even being proposed?** This goes directly against regulations.

3) Both the county and the state appear unable to effectively monitor and regulate environmental violations from the current construction.

Since the start of construction the current sites have racked up well over 100 major environmental violations. The complex has been given "Stop Work" orders and there are two ongoing Maryland Attorney General's Office investigations. In light of the already existing serious problems, **why is anyone even thinking about expanding a project that is not under control?**

4) Data shows that the current, already approved, Eastalco Data Center Complex will use the same amount of electricity as TWO Baltimores. Again, more questions to consider.

- a) Where is this power going to come from? More power lines like MPRP will be needed to bring in the energy for this huge data center zone. Adding another 1000 acres of data center will need even more electricity.

b) If the power demands, and impacts on Frederick County, are still unknown for the current data center area, then how is it a good idea to double the size of the data center zone?

5) The power demands of two or three Baltimores also brings pollution to our region. The current Eastalco data center area will need over 1000 diesel generators, each the same size as a freight train locomotive.

So now thinking logically, expanding the data center area will require even more generators. The normal electric grid power used by the data centers will cause so much additional greenhouse gas emissions that *Frederick County's climate policies will all be obliterated. Everything the county and the citizens have done in the last 15+ years will be undone.* Every new climate regulation and all the spending to cut emissions will be replaced by this one new industry.

As a county and a country, I understand we need to move forward and balance the needs of the 21st century with protection of our natural resources. You have the responsibility to make decisions for the good use of the county's resources and the impact on the people living there.

At this time, **no additional areas** should be set aside for data centers.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Kendra Westervelt



Stop the EXPANSION OF THE DATA CENTERS

From Carolyn Coelho <carolynlouisecoelho@gmail.com>
Date Sun 10/12/2025 12:10 PM
To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To the Planning Commission,

To the County Executive,

I live on Mountville Road. When I look at my window, I can see the data center, that is how close we are. I live with my elderly parents and I am concerned about the pollution, noise, danger from the large trucks, decrease in our home value (at a critical time in our lives), and the destruction of our beautiful, natural farmland.

How does this data center benefit the citizens of Frederick County and is it worth the destruction and over consumption of our natural resources and additional pollution? How much money have the Council Members, Planning Commissioner, and County Executive personally profited off of this deal? You should be able answer this question without offense since the decision is financially detrimental to the homeowners near the data center.

How much revenue will Frederick County actually make? How much will our electricity bills increase? How much noise, light, and air pollution will there be from this move to expand the data center? What happens when the Data Center closes? We will never recover from the ecological and economic blight this monstrosity will cause.

Why do you hate our community so much you are willing to let this expansion destroy our homes and our peace? Are you doing this for your own personal benefit? How will this make Frederick County a better and more attractive community to live in?

Please DO NOT VOTE FOR THIS EXPANSION. It will ruin our community.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Coelho



re: Data centers

From Jean Rosolino <jeanrosolino@gmail.com>
Date Sun 10/12/2025 1:09 PM
To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Frederick County is in a FOUR YEAR drought.

How can the county even entertain the idea of additional data centers?

The amount of water needed to cool the currently being built data centers is massive. AND, if I remember correctly, the county has given the data centers the right to pump water from the Monocacy until underground aquifers are built.

Have y'all LOOKED at the Monocacy lately? Drive over it and look down. Better yet, get out and look closely.

(If you park at Gambrill Mill on Urbana Pike, there's a handicapped accessible boardwalk to get to and look at the Monocacy.)

Even better, at the end of the boardwalk, if you can walk down the hill to the water's edge you will clearly see the rocks visible in the MIDDLE of the river... and you can walk across it without getting the seat of your pants wet!!!

The Monocacy is at an EXTREMELY low level and has been for many years.

How can our elected officials choose machines over humans for water usage and consumption?

The water needs of TWO Baltimore????

THINK AHEAD folks. Not at current trends. Or AI needs. Or county tax income. But at **residents. At drinking water.**

With global warming, there is no indication that water levels will be rising anytime soon. Heck, we can't seem to get more than a lick of rain any given time!

PLEASE place the drinking water needs of humans before the cooling needs of machines.

NO MORE DATA CENTERS. (At least not until there is clear, real data on how much water and electricity and noise the currently proposed data centers will create.

DO NOT RUSH INTO or be swayed to okay additional centers until we know the impact of the currently being built ones.

Jean Rosolino
Adamstown



Planning Commission Meeting Oct 15, 2025 - Comments on proposed CDI Overlay Zone Map

From Elizabeth Law <bettybob1758@gmail.com>

Date Sun 10/12/2025 2:11 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Venable, Victoria <Venable@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Gaines, Kimberly <KGaines@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Wilkins, Michael <MWilkins@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Superczynski, Denis <DSuperczynski@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Cc Moore, Shannon <SMoore@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Chair Tim Davis, Vice Chair Mark Long and Commissioners,

I strongly urge you to vote to restrict the CDI Overlay Zone to the present Quantum Frederick site. There is no apparent reason to expand that would be of benefit to the public good, aside from tax revenue minus the high increase in electricity rates, which might be a zero sum advantage for most county residents.

I understand that many people will be responding with specifics so I will be brief.

There is no hurry to expand the territory beyond the current Quantum Frederick Site

- No data center builders beyond Aligned and Rowan have come forward or we would have read about it in the Frederick News Post. It is the land speculators who are clamoring for expansion in hopes of huge profits.
- Properties 4 and 5 on the "Proposed Critical Data Infrastructure (CDI) Overlay Zone" map about existing neighborhoods. (See page 10 of the Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone report). The windfall profits expected by the land speculators should not be given preference over the loss of property value and quality of life of the residents in the abutting communities.
- Ordinances 25-05 and 25-09 were amended from the County Executive's draft of "data centers shall not abut residential zones" to a 500 foot setback. This change benefits the owner of properties 4 and 5 on CDI Overlay Zone map. Any homeowner finding himself now this close to a 75 foot data center has lost most of the value of his principal source of wealth. Where is the fairness?
- It is especially outrageous to consider inclusion of the Horman property in the CDI Zone. This property borders two separate residential areas, one of which would already be impacted by property number 5 owned by Mr. Pleasants. Inclusion of the Horman property is a blatant example of data center sprawl. What is east of this property? Wouldn't it be reasonable for that owner to request inclusion since he now borders a data center? Is this how the county plans to get to a 4000 acre data center hub?

- If properties 4 and 5 and the Horman property were denied inclusion in the CDI zone, they could be used for **solar farms** and thus be a buffer between the residential neighborhoods and the data centers. Under the title "Energy" the Maryland Department of Planning offered this suggestion in its July 2025 letter in your package:

"While the state's energy landscape continues to face mounting challenges, supporting the proposed industrial zone with resilient energy systems may greatly improve project feasibility, minimize adverse impacts of the local energy grid , and mitigate power generation/delivery emissions".

(See page 31 of the Critical Digital Infrastructure Plan (Plan)

Mr. Pleasants and Mr. Horman would not make the same profit selling to solar farms instead of data centers but would still see a good return on their investments.

There is no power for additional data centers in Frederick County

- The Data Center industry is rushing to buy generation in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. These states have a fracking industry to supply the massive amount of natural gas needed for gas-turbine generators. The gas infrastructure of pipes and compressor stations are in place in these states. The data center industry knows that this infrastructure is available now.
- PJM is proposing a "Bring Your Own Generation" (BYOG) policy. This change is supported by the independent Market Monitor. PJM will bring its proposal to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in December 2025. (Please see PJM presentation page 4 - [20250915-item-07---pjm-initial-proposal-and-alternatives-considered---pjm-presentation.pdf](#) This means a further push by the data center industry to locate in generation rich states.
- Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro has said publicly that his state will be a major data center hub. He has spoken of restricting the amount of power that will be exported, even if he has to pull Pennsylvania out of PJM.
- Maryland imports 40% of its power. The public is already outraged at the plan to build the Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP) to supply data centers in Virginia. First Energy is already approved to use its existing transmission lines to reconductor to higher voltage lines. There may not be many more retrofit opportunities. More data centers in Frederick could bring MPRP-like transmission lines through northern Frederick County farmland. Emmitsburg is close to the Pennsylvania border so a shorter transmission line might have an easier chance of the Public Service Commission (PSC) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) approval process.
- Rowan and Aligned Data Centers may have power purchase agreements, but any additional data centers requesting power would go to the end of the queue behind hundreds of data centers approved for Northern Virginia. This could set development at the Quantum Frederick site back ten years.

The quantity of water in Frederick County is known to be finite but the amount is undetermined

- There have been no studies made public that demonstrate a sufficient water supply for current needs, expanded growth due to new housing, and for an unknown number of data centers that will use water at the rates expected by Ronan and Aligned.

- The county planning department states in the package submitted for this meeting that the determinations of water for data centers will be made on a case by case basis. This produces uncertainty for both the industry and the Adamstown community.
- Continuing climate change is producing drought conditions of increasing frequency in Frederick County. Where is the study supporting a data center expansion in consideration of periodic draught?

Recommendations from the State Planning Department and other agencies appear perfunctory (template). Cursory state reviews leave you to make your own decisions.

- The State Planning Department ignored your request to include the Office of People's Counsel and other relevant agencies' input. You are free to make your own requests. The short delay in waiting for a response is reasonable so that you can make an informed decision.
- The Maryland Department of Planning suggestion of using adjoining land for solar farms is a good one (see above). Landowners abutting Quantum Frederick should be encouraged to work the county Department of Energy and the Environment (DEE).
- The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) floodplain ordinances are circa 2006 and out of date regarding recent changes due to climate change. Frederick County ordinances may well be more stringent, as planning staff says.
- It must be said that the most confounding review was provided by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development which did not see evidence of any relevant housing. Did they not receive the maps? Do they not know what the little boxes represent?

Finally, thank you for your continued diligence and consideration of the needs of the greater Frederick community. There is a place for data centers in Frederick County without the residents being deprived their right to a decent quality of life. I know you will find the right balance.

Elizabeth (Betty) Law, P.E.
1758 Wheyfield Dr.
Frederick, Maryland 21701



CDI Overlay Zone MAP

From Sherman Johnson <shermanajohnson@gmail.com>

Date Sun 10/12/2025 5:01 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I hope this email is taken as seriously as in-person testimony. After all, we allow absentee voting in elections -- ballots submitted at the polling place carry no more weight than those that are mailed in or placed in drop boxes.

You are no doubt aware of the various arguments against data centers in general and against expanding the allowable construction area beyond the existing Eastalco site.

It is discouraging that we allowed any data centers in the first place. Expanding the designated area should not even be a consideration.

The following is copied from a Sugarloaf Alliance email, but expresses my concerns well. I selected just 2 of several valid issues (**emphasis mine**):

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1) The argument that there will be positive net benefit to the county and or that it's worth the huge changes this industry will bring to the character of the region is not supported by any objective fiscal analysis of data center development or expansion.

a) How much will an increased Eastalco Growth Area cost Frederick county taxpayers?

b) What is the NET revenue from this huge increase in industrial activity?

c) **We're hearing in the media that electric bills will soar because of data centers, and we expect the value of homes in the Eastalco area to drop - how will that affect the financial impact on the county of adding more data centers?**

4) Based on other data center complexes, **the data centers that are already approved in the existing Eastalco Data Center Complex might be expected to use the same amount of electricity as TWO Baltimore Cities.**

- a) Real numbers regarding the power demands and impacts on Frederick County apparently are still unknown for the current Eastalco data center area. **How is it a good idea to double the size of the data center zone without that information? What's the rush?**
- b) Maryland is a power importer. Where is the power for the additional data centers going to come from? **More power lines like MPPR will be needed to bring in the energy for this huge data center zone.**

~~~

Water use is of course another very serious concern.

Please do the right thing and limit data centers to the Eastalco site. Even that is too much.

Sherman Johnson
Middletown



Outlook

AGAINST Expansion of Data Centers

From Nancy Izant <nizant@toast.net>

Date Sun 10/12/2025 9:57 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Cc Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Planning Commissioners,

Attached is link to a study by California Institute of Technology and University of California Riverside, about the hidden cost of A.I. and data centers as it relates to human health: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2412.06288.pdf> Just a few excerpts from this study say:

"...Our findings reveal that training an AI model of the Llama-3.1 scale can produce air pollutants equivalent to more than 10,000 round trips by car between Los Angeles and New York City." ..."The total public health burden of U.S. data centers in 2030 is valued at up to more than \$20 billion per year, double that of U.S. coal-based steelmaking and comparable to that of on-road emissions of California." ..." AI contributes substantially to air quality degradation and public health costs through the emission of various criteria air pollutants. Exposure to criteria air pollutants is directly and causally linked to various adverse health outcomes, including premature mortality, lung cancer, asthma, heart attacks, cardiovascular diseases, strokes, and even cognitive decline, especially for the elderly and vulnerable individuals with pre-existing conditions [20–23]."

Additionally, there is a Harvard study of data center practices that 'the industry' will not tell you about. <https://eelp.law.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Harvard-ELI-Extracting-Profits-from-the-Public.pdf> One practice is called "peak-shaving", where the data center will predict when their power consumption will be measured by the utility company and they switch to back-up diesel generators during this period. So, using this method they not only fool the utility company into charging them less, which drives residential rates up, but they are using the generators more often than just when a power outage occurs.

Is it worth extra tax dollars if the health of Frederick County residents deteriorates from massive amounts of air pollution generated by data centers? I say 'no', it is not worth it. Our health is too precious and no amount of money can change that or fix

it once it is lost. We finally got rid of the old aluminum plant and now are just trading it for a different type of air pollution. Unfortunately, the majority of our county council and the county executive refuse to do a cost/benefit analysis of any kind, where data centers are concerned. Why is this? And, how do they know what is best for the residents of Frederick County if they refuse to look at all angles of the issue?

There is simply no good reason to expand the data center area and many, many valid reasons to vote down the proposed expansion.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this issue.

Respectfully,

Nancy Izant
2770 Lynn St
Frederick, MD 21704



No Data Center Expansion

From Ashley Hoffman <ashley@foxhavenfarm.org>

Date Sun 10/12/2025 10:18 PM

To Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello,

I am a farmer and environmental educator in Jefferson, MD, miles away from the Eastalco data center site. I am exponentially concerned about the impacts of the data center on our community and our environment. This makes me in opposition of the increased growth area that is being proposed.

This is critical wildlife environment, plant diversity, and viable farmland that is being threatened by the potential expansion. At our farm, we teach the public about the importance of soil, water, flora, and fauna. We protect the waterways on our property through county ag programs to plant riparian buffers and reforest the land.

Data center expansion will negatively impact all of these things, impact access to clean water for residents, and destroy the community even more than the data center already will. Please do not move forward with the expansion for the sake of the people who live and love this land.

--
Ashley Hoffman (she/her)

Farmer/Facilitator/Outreach

Fox Haven Organic Farm, Retreat & Learning Center

3630 Poffenberger Rd. Jefferson, MD 21755

<http://www.foxhavenfarm.org>



Superfund Site Tampered: Data Center Water Overflowing Contamination Near Residents' and Wells has Continued

From Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com>

Date Sun 10/12/2025 10:53 PM

To Jeremy Baker -MDE- <jeremy.baker@maryland.gov>; Alex Lima -MDE- <alex.lima@maryland.gov>
Cc Linda Everett <linda@edgedesigngroupllc.com>; Paula damico-Hollewa <pdhollewa@yahoo.com>; Hope Green <hope.green76@yahoo.com>; rollbackfarmer@comcast.net <rollbackfarmer@comcast.net>; strawder6101@verizon.net <strawder6101@verizon.net>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; STEVE MCKAY <stevemckay@comcast.net>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Folden, William Senator <william.folden@senate.maryland.gov>; Lewis Young, Karen Senator <karen.young@senate.maryland.gov>; Pippy, Jesse Delegate <jesse.pippy@house.maryland.gov>; kris.fair@house.maryland.gov <kris.fair@house.maryland.gov>; ken.kerr@house.maryland.gov <ken.kerr@house.maryland.gov>; karen.simpson@house.maryland.gov <karen.simpson@house.maryland.gov>

📎 6 attachments (4 MB)

DataOverflow1.jpeg; Oct8th2025.jpeg; Oct8th2025Overflow2.jpeg; BluePrintDataCenterPonds.jpeg; TuscaroraCreekContamination2023.jpg; HopeGreenHome.jpg;

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good afternoon Jeremy Baker,

It was nice speaking with you last week, Jeremy. I have since **talked to many of my neighbors and community members, including some people on our email chain, about our conversation.**

They are thrilled that you will help with the **bureaucracy issue that has delayed MDE from being able to assist residents** in the Adamstown and Frederick area who have contaminated water from the Data Center Water Overflow. As I told you over the phone, **the Frederick Health Department's prolonged lack of due diligence has caused many residents in my community to lose trust in that department.**

I look forward to speaking with you and Alex Lima this Tuesday at 1:30 PM.

Per our conversation, MDE first needs to determine the source of the Data Water Overflow. As such, the **MDE-Water and Science Administration** or the **MDE-Wastewater Permits Program** needs to **meet with residents Gene and Debbie Butler** at 3512 Ballenger Creek Pike, Frederick, MD. They can personally show your team where the Data Center Overflow is coming from. As you know, my neighbors and I have been emailing MDE and the Frederick Health Dept. for months about this, but **due to the bureaucracy, the Butlers have not yet met with anyone regarding this issue.**

Evidence of Ongoing Data Center Overflow

See the attached picture, **DataOverflow1**. On the left side of the picture is the Data Center; on the right is the Butlers' house and farm. The white truck on the right is one of Gene Butler's trucks, and his

home is visible behind it. You can see his family's large commercial truck in his front yard. As you can see, the road (Ballenger Creek) is dry in this picture, but a large amount of water is flowing down the left side where the Rowan Data Center is located. This is the Data Center Water Overflow that the Data Center has been concealing for MONTHS!

In addition, I have attached two pictures taken last week on **October 8th, 2025**, of another Data Center overflow event. I rushed my husband up there to take pictures before Rowan and Catellus could clean it up and hide it again. I have more pictures, but I am sharing two of them now. I have photos of the gigantic sweeper trucks they purchased to do this, among others. **Catellus and Rowan Data Centers are completely aware of the violations.** I shared these photos last August with Michael Kuykendall of Catellus and had a one-hour Zoom call with him to discuss it. I even took some pictures during my Zoom meeting with him. Michael Kuykendall claimed that "robust procedures" were implemented to fix the overflow, but this is clearly **not true since we have more proof from last week and numerous other times that the overflow still persists to this day.** I appreciate that you will now have them and that you will also meet with residents who have complained and provided contamination tests from Fredericktowne and other organizations. I understand that MDE needs to be retested, and that is acceptable. **We definitely need complete due diligence on this**, and I am happy that you will be able to provide this to our town since the Frederick Health Department could not.

Resident Health Concerns and Lack of FCHD Response

Today, I spoke with resident Hope Green. As you are aware, **Hope Green has been complaining about her well issues to the Frederick County Health Dept. since May.** Hope Green told me that she will personally confirm to you that **neither Barry Glotfelty nor [Dr.] Brookmyer of the Frederick County Health Dept. has ever been to her home.** Michael Kuykendall of Catellus was **100% aware of her well contamination** because Catellus reimbursed Hope for her UV Light. Hope Green paid Fredericktowne to get the results that I sent you. Hope will join our call on Tuesday so you can hear directly from her about what she has had to deal with regarding her well and the Frederick Health Dept.

Hope Green said: "Barry Glotfelt with the Frederick Health Dept said NO to help Hope Green for well water testing, NO to help for remediation. Hope asked if the Frederick Health Department felt a responsibility to notify residents of possible contamination and Barry said only if there were more occurrences"

The whole point of getting rid of Quantum Loophole and replacing them with Catellus was due to all of Quantum's violations. When Quantum Loophole purposely spilled contaminated water in Tuscarora Creek seen by picture attached (**TuscaroraCreekContamination2023**). Frederick Health Dept did not tell MDE about the Tuscarora Creek Contamination, Hope Green did.

After the MDE visits Gene Butler please make sure the MDE goes to the following homes:

Hope Green
5252 Mountville Rd
Adamstown, MD
301-943-1915

Rick Strawder
6101 Manor Wood Road
Frederick, MD
240-215-5839

Paula Hollewa
2706 Mae Wade Ave
Adamstown, MD
301-337-9357

I will give you other homes after we do more door to door searching. But it would be great if MDE could take some initiative and do this as well. Sadly due to the history with Frederick County Health Dept the 3 Homes above need due diligence done by MDE since they no longer trust the Frederick Health Dept. My town is also investigating previous pay-offs to certain homes from the Industry right after the illegal East Alcoa excavation. We had tons of Dust Bowls all around our town when that happened. Some citizens have great pictures of this. It's amazing what some people are being offered for their Preservation and Agriculture land.

In addition Frederick Health Dept did not complete all the check-list protocols required by law for the contamination of the Tuscarora Creek by Quantum Loophole in 2023 for public safety and compliance.

The specific actions taken in this case, which reflect the general guidelines, included:

Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Guidelines

MDE is the lead state regulatory agency responsible for enforcing environmental laws and protecting the state's natural resources. Their guidelines center on investigation, compliance, and environmental protection.

- **Investigation and Enforcement:**
 - **Cease Discharges and Activities:** MDE's initial and most critical action was to **instruct the responsible party (Quantum Maryland LLC) to immediately cease all illicit water discharges** and stop relevant site development activities.
 - **Oversight and Sampling:** MDE directed the responsible party to **sample the creek, sediments, and the source water** that was discharged. MDE's on-site representatives and toxicologists then **oversaw, received, and assessed the results** to determine the level of contamination and potential public health or environmental harm.
 - **Compliance Monitoring:** MDE established a plan to **monitor the company's compliance**, including reviewing and approving work plans for future activity and conducting **on-site inspections** to check for compliance with permits, regulations, and the site's Environmental Covenant.
 - **Violation Resolution:** The MDE required the company to resolve all violations, obtain appropriate permits, and submit a revised environmental management plan before resuming operations.
- **Public and Environmental Safety:**
 - **Warning Signs (Abundance of Caution):** Out of an **abundance of caution**, MDE directed the company to **post warning signs** along the creek to notify the public of the potential issue, even before the final sample results were fully assessed.

- **Toxicity Assessment:** MDE's toxicologist reviewed the analytical results to **determine if there were adverse impacts to public health and the environment**. Since the sampling of the creek water and sediments did not identify such impacts, the MDE later determined the warning signs could be removed.

Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) Guidelines

The FCHD's role is to protect the public health of Frederick County residents. In an environmental incident, they primarily act as a conduit for public health information and coordinate with the MDE. **Frederick Health Department did not complete the check-list/guidelines.**

- **Public Information and Communication:**

- **Disseminate MDE Information:** The FCHD is responsible for receiving and providing **timely public health updates** to the community, based on the information and findings provided by the MDE. In this case, this included releasing a "Public Health Update" memo detailing MDE's findings. (Hope Green had to tell MDE)
- **Coordinate with State Agencies:** The FCHD coordinates with MDE to ensure that public health concerns are addressed and that appropriate actions, such as sign posting, are implemented.

- **General Environmental Health Services:**

- **Respond to Citizen Complaints:** The FCHD's Environmental Health Services division would be the primary contact for residents (in Frederick or Adamstown) with concerns or complaints related to the contamination.
- **Private Well Testing (If Applicable):** While the contamination was in a surface water body (Tuscarora Creek), the FCHD offers services for testing private well water for contaminants like bacteria and nitrate. In a contamination event, they would be involved in advising residents on private well testing if the contamination posed a risk to groundwater or drinking water sources. -(**Barry Glotfelty with Frederick Health Dept refused to give Hope Green or Rick Strawder the Well Water Testing**)

<https://health.frederickcountymd.gov/340/Well-Water-Testing#:~:text=FCHD%20Application%20for%20Private%20Water,Nitrate>

Catellus continues to have violations and we know they are under investigation. The actors Rown and Aligned Data Centers and Catellus are not going to give you the full proof, and MDE I know wants to help the residents as the importance of Governor Wes Moore **Environmental Justice** initiative <https://mde.maryland.gov/Environmental%20Justice/Pages/Landing%20Page.aspx> that everyone deserves clean air, clean land, and clean water. The Governor has spent a huge amount of money listed below on this and I am sure our environment is important to him and he would want this money to come to good use such as actually testing the Residents Well and County Water and make sure homes in the vicinity of the other homes contaminated are also tested for their safety.

With all the Funding and 43 new positions, the State of Maryland should be able to handle the current violations and problems residents are facing with water contamination and pollution caused by Catellus digging into the Superfund of EastAlcoa in Adamstown MD.

The East Alcoa site (Former Alcoa Eastalco Works) in Adamstown, MD is a **Superfund site** being managed under the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Voluntary Cleanup Program. The unauthorized digging and tampering with a Superfund-type site like this involve serious legal and regulatory procedures, as they violate both environmental laws and specific agreements tied to the property.

Here is a breakdown of the legal and procedural steps that are supposed to happen:

1. Immediate Response and Cease-and-Desist

When a violation like unauthorized digging occurs, the regulatory authority (MDE, and potentially the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - EPA) must take immediate action:

- **Stop Work Order:** The first and most critical legal action is for the state environmental agency (MDE) to issue a **Stop Work Order** and a **Cease Discharge Order**. This halts the activity that is causing the unauthorized disturbance and potential release of contaminants.
- **Withdrawal of Approval:** In the East Alcoa case, MDE reportedly **withdrew the conditional approval** for the construction company's (Quantum Maryland LLC) Environmental Management Plan (EMP), rendering all further site work unauthorized.

2. Violation of the Environmental Covenant (EC)

Superfund sites that are not fully cleaned up use **Institutional Controls** like an **Environmental Covenant (EC)** to restrict land use and manage residual contamination. Tampering with or disturbing contaminated areas is a direct violation of this legally binding document.

- **The EC:** The East Alcoa site has an EC that requires the current and future owners to adhere to specific land and groundwater use restrictions and follow a detailed **Site Management Plan (SMP)** and/or **Environmental Management Plan (EMP)**.
- **Specific Violation:** Digging without proper authorization, especially into a Waste Management Unit (WMU) or in an area of known residual contamination (like fluoride, PCBs, or PAHs), violates the terms of the EC and the required management plans.

3. Investigation, Sampling, and Risk Assessment

After the activity is stopped, an investigation must be launched to determine the extent of the damage and the threat to public health and the environment:

- **Mandatory Testing:** The responsible party is legally required to conduct immediate **sampling** of the disturbed soil, excavated material, and any released surface water (like Tuscarora Creek) under the strict oversight of the MDE.
- **Data Review:** MDE's toxicologists and experts review the analytical results to determine if a **release of hazardous substances** has occurred and whether the contamination poses an unacceptable risk.

4. Enforcement Actions and Penalties

Under state and federal law (specifically the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act - **CERCLA** or **Superfund**), the responsible party faces severe consequences:

- **Notice of Violation (NOV):** MDE or the EPA issues an NOV formally documenting the violation of the Environmental Covenant, permits, and state environmental laws.
- **Monetary Penalties:** The responsible party is subject to **significant civil penalties** for non-compliance with environmental laws and for violating the Consent Order or Environmental Covenant tied to the cleanup. These penalties can be designed to recoup the economic benefit the company gained by cutting corners and to deter future non-compliance.
- **Injunctive Relief (Required Corrective Action):** The MDE/EPA issues an **Administrative Order** requiring the responsible party to perform the necessary corrective actions and remediation (known as **injunctive relief**). This may include:
 - Properly treating and disposing of all contaminated soil and groundwater generated by the unauthorized digging.
 - Implementing better engineering controls (e.g., sediment controls) and stricter long-term monitoring.
- **Cost Recovery:** The regulatory agencies can seek to **recover all costs** incurred by the government for oversight, sampling, and any emergency response actions.

5. Resumption of Work

The company cannot legally resume work until all violations are fully resolved:

-The Data Center Water Overflow is NOT RESOLVED.

- **Remedial Work Plan:** The responsible party must submit a **revised, detailed work plan (EMP)** that explicitly addresses how they will prevent future violations and strictly comply with the EC, subject to MDE approval.
- **Compliance Verification:** MDE must verify that the immediate threat is contained and that all necessary permits are in place before allowing any site activities to restart.

The MDE and the Frederick Health Department were supposed to do all of this for surrounding residents of the East Alcoa Supersite.

Many of these guidelines/and checklists below were never completed.

1. Clear and Immediate Public Notification

The Frederick County Health Department and MDE should provide transparent and immediate communication.

**Identify
Exposure
Pathways**

Clearly state which pathways are affected (e.g., surface water) and which are not (e.g., public drinking water, if applicable). Crucially, inform residents of the nearest towns (Adamstown, Frederick) if their private wells are potentially at risk and how to get them tested.-THIS WAS NEVER DONE!

Disseminate Sampling Data	Release the key findings of the investigative sampling (contaminants found, concentration levels) quickly and in a public-friendly format, comparing results to safe standards.
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2. Provide Access to Independent Technical Information

Citizens living near a Superfund site are often eligible for resources to help them understand the complex technical information. (NONE OF US IN ADAMSTOWN WERE GIVEN ANY RESOURCES).

- **Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) / Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC):** The agencies should inform the community about the possibility of applying for a federal TAG or TASC program. These programs provide **funding for community groups to hire independent technical experts** (like toxicologists or engineers) to review and interpret the government's site-related documents, health data, and cleanup plans.
- **Establish an Information Repository:** Ensure all formal documents—the Environmental Covenant, the Site Management Plan, violation notices, and corrective action plans—are available in a central, accessible location (online and physically, such as a local library). **THIS WAS NEVER DONE. OUR TOWN DOESN'T HAVE A LIBRARY or COMMUNITY CENTER they give that to other towns, but not ours. Having a few signs near construction sites does not inform the entire community!**

3. Establish a Formal Community Involvement Structure

Effective communication must be a continuous, two-way street.

- **Community Advisory Group (CAG):** Encourage and facilitate the formation of a CAG, which serves as a formal liaison between the community, the company, and the regulatory agencies (MDE/EPA). **We have no official liaison between the community and MDE officially so me and a few others started helping our town a few months ago.**
- **Public Meetings:** Host regular, well-publicized public meetings where MDE officials, FCHD staff, and the responsible party (Quantum Loophole Catellus, Rowan, Aligned) must present findings and answer citizen questions directly. **Gene Butler, Hope Green, Rick Strawder and myself and tons of others told the Frederick County Council at many Council Meetings regarding well contamination etc. The information is in public record but the majority of the Frederick Council such as County President Brad Young, Councilwoman Renee Knapp, and Councilwoman Mc-Keegan-Ayer refused to listen or believe residents even when we emailed pictures and personally spoke at the meeting.**
- **Dedicated Contact:** Designate a specific Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) at the MDE or FCHD for the site, whose contact information (phone and email) is widely published and who can be contacted for questions and to report observations.

4. Address Health Concerns

The local health department plays a direct role in addressing citizen anxiety and health risks.

- **Health Consultations:** Work with the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) or the state health department to offer **free health consultations** to residents who believe they or their children may have been exposed to contaminants. [@Hope Green](#) Her husband has had Pneumonia for months. Please inquire about the health of Rick Strawder and Family.
- **Private Well Testing:** If the contamination has the potential to affect groundwater, the FCHD should have a protocol for rapidly conducting or subsidizing the cost of **private well testing** for residents in the affected area (e.g., Adamstown).-**Has not been done**

5. Ensure Accountability and Long-Term Oversight

Citizens need confidence that the violation will not be repeated and that the site's environmental integrity is restored.

- **Mandate Transparency on Corrective Actions:** The regulatory agencies must ensure the public is informed about the specific actions the company is being compelled to take to fix the damage (e.g., proper disposal of contaminated soil, new erosion controls).
- **Citizen Suit Rights:** Inform citizens of their right to bring a "citizen suit" under federal environmental laws to compel compliance if they believe the regulatory agencies are not adequately enforcing the law. [@Hope Green](#) @strawder6101@verizon.net

Best regards,

Elyse Wilson and the Coalition for Safe Drinking Water Adamstown and Frederick MD

301-639-4072

Adamstown, MD







