

From: Lisa Orr <edeckerorr@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:20 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: edeckerorr@comcast.net
Subject: Cap size of Data Center Overlay Zone to Quantum Frederick campus until a comprehensive study is completed

December 16, 2025

Dear County Council Members,

In advance of tonight's public hearing on the County Executive's proposal to establish the data center overlay zone boundaries, I am writing once again to express my support for the establishment of an CDI Overlay Zone that is solely centered on the Quantum Frederick site. I have serious concerns about any expansion of data center development beyond the Quantum Frederick campus until a comprehensive study of the economic, energy, environmental, noise, and air quality impacts of data centers is completed for that limited site. To date, there has been no independent comprehensive State or County study of these impacts. I would think that County Council members would want their decisions about (1) the size and boundaries of the overlay zone, and (2) policies about sustainable operation of data centers, the preservation of the County's agricultural land, and protection of community interests, to be informed by a comprehensive study.

For example, when the existing Quantum Frederick data center is fully built out, there may be as many as 1,000 polluting backup diesel generators to provide power in the event of a grid outage or equipment failure. The cumulative emissions impact of these future generators operating during a grid outage, or even a smaller number of generators operating for regular testing or maintenance purposes has not been assessed. Shouldn't they be?

There are other important unanswered questions about the future availability of adequate electricity and water for cooling needs and the impact of data centers on surrounding residential communities. I am also concerned about how data centers will impact the County's ability to meet its climate goals and renewable energy targets, something I feel very strongly about.

I urge you to cap the size of the current Overlay Zone at .5 percent of the County's land acreage (roughly the size of the existing Quantum Frederick campus) until such as comprehensive study is completed.

I am also concerned about the fact that several of the tracts proposed for inclusion in the Overlay Zone are zoned agricultural and located in Priority Preservation or Rural Legacy Areas. Allowing rezoning of these tracts for future data center development undermines the goals of the County's agricultural land preservation programs. While the bill text states that the County Council intends to preserve 5 new tracts of agricultural land for each agricultural tract that is

upzoned for data center development through community benefit agreements between the County and developers, this is not enforceable as a condition of rezoning.

I also support an amendment to the residential setback requirement that would increase the current 200-foot setback from residential properties to a minimum of 500 feet, with discretion vested in the Planning Commission to increase the setback further as necessary to address noise, vibration, viewshed or other community impacts.

We are at an important crossroads for data center development in Frederick County. Our approach should be cautious and we should assess the impacts of data centers on just the Quantum site before approving any additional lands for data center development.

Elizabeth Orr
305 E. Main Street
Burkittsville, MD 21718
Edeckerorr@comcast.net
240.529.3177

From: Eric Leigh - DEN <Eric.Leigh@quikrete.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:42 PM
To: Cherney, Ragen <RCherney@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: Stewart Lamb <Stewart.Lamb@Quikrete-Materials.com>; Grabowski, Sarah <SGrabowski@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Luna, Nancy <NLuna@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Redmond, Lee <LRedmond@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Gaines, Kimberly <KGaines@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Argos Parcel Inclusion in CDI Overlay and Rezone Request

Hello Ragen,

After reviewing the agenda for the meeting tonight, it appears that the maps show that our request to include the "Argos" parcel in the overlay zone is included but it is not shown on the Property Owner Requests for Rezone map. Are you able to share why our rezone request is not included? Would it be prudent for me to address at the meeting this evening?

Thank you,
Eric



Eric Leigh
Acquisition, Land, and Development
QUIKRETE
5 Concourse Parkway Suite 1900
Atlanta, GA 30328
M. 720-289-5584
W. www.quikrete.com



From: Cherney, Ragen <RCherney@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2025 11:18 AM
To: Eric Leigh - DEN <Eric.Leigh@quikrete.com>
Cc: Stewart Lamb <Stewart.Lamb@Quikrete-Materials.com>; Grabowski, Sarah <SGrabowski@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Luna, Nancy <NLuna@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Redmond, Lee <LRedmond@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Argos Parcel Inclusion in CDI Overlay and Rezone Request

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from *UNKNOWN* senders.

On behalf of the County Council, thank you for your remarks on the overlay zone comprehensive plan amendment and the zoning map amendment. The council members have all received your email. Your remarks will be made a part of the file.

The County Council appreciates all comments from our residents.

Have a good day.

Ragen

Ragen Cherney

Chief of Staff/Legislative Director

Frederick County Council
Winchester Hall
12 East Church Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701
301.600.1049

From: Gaines, Kimberly <KGaines@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2025 9:58 AM

To: Eric.Leigh@quikrete.com

Cc: Cherney, Ragen <RCherney@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keller, Catherine <CKeller@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Stewart.Lamb@Quikrete-Materials.com

Subject: FW: Argos Parcel Inclusion in CDI Overlay and Rezone Request

Hi Eric,

I am forwarding your email and letter to the County Council staff. The County Council meeting next Tuesday, December 16 is the public hearing. Each speaker will be given 6 minutes to comment. The County Council is expected to make decisions on the comprehensive plan amendment and zoning map amendment at their Tuesday, December 23 meeting.

Best,

Kim

Kimberly Gaines
Livable Frederick Director
kgaines@frederickcountymd.gov
(301) 600-1144

Livable Frederick Planning and Design Office

<http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/livablefrederick>

30 North Market Street
Frederick, MD 21701
(301) 600-1138

From: Eric Leigh - DEN <Eric.Leigh@quikrete.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 11:46 PM
To: Gaines, Kimberly <KGaines@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: Stewart Lamb <Stewart.Lamb@Quikrete-Materials.com>
Subject: Argos Parcel Inclusion in CDI Overlay and Rezone Request

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello Kim,

Please find attached a letter requesting a rezone of the "Argos" parcel as noted on the staff map for the proposed CDI Overlay. I will be present at the County Council meeting next Tuesday for comments/questions. Looking forward to the discussion. Please let me know if you have any questions ahead of the meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Eric



Eric Leigh

Acquisition, Land, and Development

QUIKRETE

5 Concourse Parkway Suite 1900

Atlanta, GA 30328

M. 720-289-5584

W. www.quikrete.com



From: Carola Saunders <carola.hatfield@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:49 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: NO data center expansion

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I am sending this email to express my objection against any vote that would expand the data center overlay.

I find it grossly disturbing how close the proposed boundaries are to residential areas. Choosing to side with the tech oligarchs is a complete lack of respect for Frederick County residents. But this potential expansion would impact all of Frederick County, not just Adamstown. There's still no clear accounting of the costs, power demands, or environmental consequences of what's already approved, let alone doubling down.

No objective economic analysis has been done to justify the scale of expansion. Over 1,000 acres of prime farmland in Priority Preservation and Rural Legacy areas could be lost. Over 100 environmental violations are already tied to existing construction, with ongoing investigations. The current Eastalco complex alone will use as much electricity as TWO Baltimores. Thousands of diesel generators and massive power demand would obliterate county climate goals.

We've elected you as public servants, and we the public are very much against a larger data center boundary. Please listen to your constituents. Please think of the future generations of Frederick who would be saddled with the consequences of this decision.

Carola Saunders
10004 Bethel Rd.
Frederick, MD 21702

From: Hannah Vo-Dinh <hannah.vodinh@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:46 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Stop Data Center Sprawl

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

The County's initial experience with the Eastalco site is proving unacceptable, with 100+ environmental violations and two ongoing investigations conducted by the Maryland Attorney General's office. The current site will demand the energy equivalent of two Baltimores, driving up costs for everyone and requiring new infrastructure. Moreover, 1000 massive diesel generators (which must be fired up and run for maintenance, not just power outages) will likely incur health care expenses due to air pollution and punish local residents with sound pollution. So much for the hard work we've been doing and the investments we've made as a county and state to address climate change.

And yet, the county council seems to be rushing headlong into an uninformed decision to expand the land available for data centers. Worse, the timing to rush this through is unseemly. I can think of few better ways to suppress citizen participation than by making a decision two days before Christmas. Shame.

And for what? You can't claim financial benefits until you do a thorough and complete objective analysis that weighs all of the costs. Make sure you include the burden of sharply declining property values, impaired quality of life, loss of unreplaceable farmland, unnecessary health expenses and suffering, and the potentially unmanageable, financially devastating consequences of climate change.

With such serious consequences, it's time to apply the brakes and take a good hard look at reality.

Sincerely,

Hannah L. Vo-Dinh

From: moonamber066 <moonamber066@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:52 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Concern from resident over data centers in Frederick County

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello,

I'm unable to attend the meeting tonight at Winchester Hall due to my work schedule, but wanted to voice my concerns for our county if data centers continue to be approved.

I live in Adamstown and love my community. I am very concerned about the environmental impacts (which have not been studied thoroughly, specifically pollution, water usage, and light/noise pollution) and potential price increases for electricity that I and my neighbors may face as a result of new data centers being built near our neighborhoods. I have family who live in Leesburg and they have not had good experiences with the huge uptick in data centers built in their communities.

Please keep OUR communities healthy and put our residents, not big businesses, first by limiting (or fully not allowing) data centers to use our land and resources.

Thanks for your time,

Amber Moon

From: Justin Wolfgram <jgwolfgram@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:56 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Centers

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hey all,

First off thank you for the work you all do. I appreciate everything you all do for our wonderful county.

I know there's a meeting on data centers today and want to quickly state my concerns, as I can't be at the meeting. We still don't know long term impacts these data centers have, studies need to be done on health effects they have on the communities and ground water. I'm also extremely concerned how much this will affect our power bills and overall scenic landscape. Frederick county is known for its beautiful scenery, please don't turn it into a data center haven. Even if it seems "remote" and "tucked away" - I promise you it's not out of the way for our rural community members and people moving through the county.

I also don't want to pay for Silicon Valley's power bills, it is in no way fair for our community to pay more for their power needs. I see no benefit to having any data centers here, and it's abundantly clear the people advocating for them have some alternate agendas. Those are not our people, they do not live here, and they do not care about our future. Thank you for your time.

Regards,
Justin Wolfgram

From: K and E Stephens <kandestephens@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:00 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; mbush@wypr.org; Baltimore Sun - Alex Mann <amann@baltsun.com>; mday63@bloomberg.net; Frederick Magazine <gfletcher@fredmag.com>; WUSA9 <WUSA-assignmentdesk@wusa9.com>
Subject: IMMEDIATE PAUSE REQUIRED: State Veto Override (SB 116) Renders CDI Overlay Vote Procedurally Flawed

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Email: Demand for Procedural Integrity - The SB 116 Mandate

To: councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov

Dear Frederick County Council Members,

I am writing as a concerned Frederick County resident in light of the critical legislative action taken today in Annapolis.

As of today, **December 16, 2025**, the Maryland General Assembly has successfully **overridden the Governor's veto of Senate Bill 116 (SB 116)**. This action immediately triggers a state-mandated, comprehensive analysis of the full impacts of data center development on Maryland's economy, environment, and energy grid.

The Fundamental Conflict: State Mandate vs. County Action

The State Legislature, representing the collective will of Maryland citizens from both sides of the aisle, has determined that **proceeding without verifiable data is a critical mistake**. By overriding the veto, the General Assembly has provided a unified, clear instruction: **Data must come before massive, permanent land-use decisions**.

- **The Study's Purpose:** The SB 116 analysis will provide Frederick County with the exact, objective, and non-industry-funded data that has been missing from this debate—data required to assess whether the **County has sufficient power, water, and infrastructure** to support the existing \${1,600} acres of data center development, let alone the proposed \${2,200}-acre expansion.
- **The Procedural Flaw:** The Council is scheduled to vote on the CDI Overlay expansion today, the very day the State confirmed that the most essential data is missing and must be obtained. To vote now is to move ahead of the State's own due diligence process and effectively ignore the legislative will of Maryland.

An Immediate Pause is the Only Responsible Course

Continuing with this vote today is not a sign of efficiency; it is a sign of procedural recklessness.

- **The Council cannot justify expanding the CDI Overlay Zone when the required data for responsible zoning is literally being compiled under a State mandate.**
- We urge the Council to align its actions with the legislature's bipartisan consensus. The purpose of the study is to inform local zoning decisions like this one, ensuring that appropriate sites are chosen and communities are protected.

We demand that the Frederick County Council **immediately postpone all votes and decisions related to the expansion of the CDI Overlay** until the comprehensive SB 116 study is completed and its findings can inform truly responsible, site-specific zoning decisions.

The citizens of Frederick County should not be committed to a permanent environmental and financial liability based on incomplete information when the State itself has moved to secure that information.

Respectfully,

Ken Stephens

Adamstown MD

BCC: Maryland Senator Karen Lewis Young (SB 116 Sponsor], [Steve Black Leader, e.g., Sugarloaf Alliance]

From: Charlie Cottingham <ccottingham924@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:57 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center Overlay Zone

December 16, 2025

Dear County Council Members,

In advance of tonight's public hearing on the County Executive's proposal to establish the data center overlay zone boundaries, I am writing to express my support for the establishment of an CDI Overlay Zone that is solely centered on the Quantum Frederick site. I have serious concerns about any expansion of data center development beyond the Quantum Frederick campus until a comprehensive study of the economic, energy, environmental, noise, and air quality impacts of data centers is completed for that limited site. To date, there has been no independent comprehensive State or County study of these impacts. I would think that County Council members would want their decisions about (1) the size and boundaries of the overlay zone, and (2) policies about sustainable operation of data centers, the preservation of the County's agricultural land, and protection of community interests, to be informed by a comprehensive study.

For example, when the existing Quantum Frederick data center is fully built out, there may be as many as 1,000 polluting backup diesel generators to provide power in the event of a grid outage or equipment failure. The cumulative emissions impact of these future generators operating during a grid outage, or even a smaller number of generators operating for regular testing or maintenance purposes has not been assessed. Shouldn't they be?

There are other important unanswered questions about the future availability of adequate electricity and water for cooling needs and the impact of data centers on surrounding residential communities. I am also concerned about how data centers will impact the County's ability to meet its climate goals and renewable energy targets, something I feel very strongly about.

I urge you to cap the size of the current Overlay Zone at .5 percent of the County's land acreage (roughly the size of the existing Quantum Frederick campus) until such as comprehensive study is completed.

I am also concerned about the fact that several of the tracts proposed for inclusion in the Overlay Zone are zoned agricultural and located in Priority Preservation or Rural Legacy Areas. Allowing rezoning of these tracts for future data center development undermines the goals of the County's agricultural land preservation programs. While the bill text states that the County Council intends to preserve 5 new tracts of agricultural land for each agricultural tract that is upzoned for data center development through community benefit agreements between the County and developers, this is not enforceable as a condition of rezoning.

I also support an amendment to the residential setback requirement that would increase the current 200-foot setback from residential properties to a minimum of 500 feet, with discretion vested in the Planning Commission to increase the setback further as necessary to address noise, vibration, viewshed or other community impacts.

We are at an important crossroads for data center development in Frederick County. Our approach should be cautious and we should assess the impacts of data centers on just the Quantum site before approving any additional lands for data center development.

Charles Cottingham
305 E. Main Street
Burkittsville, MD 21718
Edeckerorr@comcast.net
240.529.3181

Sent from my iPad

From: Hope Green <hope.green76@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:59 PM
To: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: steveblack2313@gmail.com; Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com>; Elizabeth Law <bettybob1758@gmail.com>; Brandon Brooks -MDE- <brandon.brooks@maryland.gov>; Shannon Heafey -MDE- <shannon.heafey@maryland.gov>; Karen Senator Lewis Young <karen.young@senate.state.md.us>
Subject: Frederick County - NONATTAINMENT AREA and LACK OF AIR QUALITY MONITORING

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

<https://legalclarity.org>

[What Is a Nonattainment Area Under the Clean Air Act?](#)



[LegalClarity Team](#)

Published Aug 28, 2025

A nonattainment area is a geographic region where air quality does not meet federal health-based standards for specific pollutants. This designation identifies locations with unhealthy air and triggers actions to improve air quality. The concept originated under the Clean Air Act, a federal law designed to control and reduce air pollution. Its purpose is to ensure Americans breathe safe air, prompting states to address pollution sources.

The process for designating an area as nonattainment begins with the EPA establishing National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). These standards limit the concentration of six common air pollutants, known as criteria pollutants, to protect public health. The criteria pollutants are:

Ozone
Particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10)
Carbon monoxide
Sulfur dioxide
Nitrogen dioxide
Lead

COMMENT: According to the EPA Frederick County is currently nonattainment for 8-hour ozone.

The EPA reviews and revises NAAQS periodically, ensuring they reflect the latest scientific understanding of air pollution's effects. States and tribes submit recommendations to the EPA regarding the attainment status of areas within their jurisdiction. These recommendations are based on air quality monitoring data.

COMMENT: Adamstown does not have air quality monitoring. The closest monitor is at the airport but has NO DATA associated with it according to AIRNOW (EPA's air quality monitoring program).

An area can be in nonattainment for one pollutant while meeting standards for others. Lacking current air quality monitoring, Adamstown and Frederick County could be nonattainment now or at least the immediate future because of diesel generators and brownfield contaminants for:

Particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10)
Carbon monoxide
Sulfur dioxide
Nitrogen dioxide
Lead

COMMENT: Adding emissions from 1,000+ diesel generators would overwhelmingly decrease air quality, especially with regard to PM2.5 and nitrogen oxides.

Ongoing air quality monitoring is essential to track progress and verify that implemented strategies effectively reduce pollution levels. Once an area demonstrates three consecutive years of clean air data, showing consistent NAAQS attainment, it can request redesignation to attainment status from the EPA. This request must include a maintenance plan, outlining how the area will continue to meet the NAAQS for at least 10 years.

COMMENT: Frederick County will never achieve attainment status for any pollutant because of our geography and atmospheric/temperature inversion. Frederick County is in a valley surrounded by mountains and highways. Highways that collect miles of slow to still traffic emitting gas and diesel engine fumes and plumes.

<https://airquality.news>

Temperature inversions are a meteorological phenomenon that significantly impacts air quality and public health. These events occur when a layer of warm air traps cooler air at the surface, preventing it from rising and dispersing pollutants. Understanding the mechanisms behind temperature inversions and their consequences is essential for mitigating their effects, especially in the context of global climate change.

Under normal conditions, air near the Earth's surface is warmer and rises, carrying pollutants away from ground level. However, during a temperature inversion, the typical gradient is reversed. Warm air forms a cap over cooler surface air, trapping pollutants such as particulate matter (PM2.5), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and sulfur dioxide (SO2) Temperature inversions, while a natural atmospheric phenomenon, have profound implications for air quality and public health. Their frequency and severity may increase with ongoing climate change.

COMMENT: In my opinion, the PSC's refusal of Aligned's generators was influenced by our topography and atmospheric inversions. If Aligned fired up 168 diesel generators during a winter inversion, the resulting Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) and Particulate Matter (PM2.5) would pool in the valley, creating a toxic "soup." A full CPCN review would have required detailed air quality modeling to simulate this scenario. But this data would have derailed Moore's promise to Aligned. So, he wrote the Streamlining Act allowing data centers to have unlimited diesel generators and negating MDE's consideration of the aggregate in their approval process. Further exacerbating the issue of air quality and human/environmental health, Moore's vetoing Senator Karen Lewis-Young's data center study bill (IMO).

PM2.5 and UFP's can travel for 100's of miles wherever the wind takes it. Most of our winds come from the South thereby blowing pollutants (ours and Loudon County's) into Westfield, the City of Frederick, Walkersville and beyond. If data centers were built outside the current Quantum site it would worsen the effects dramatically (IMO).

Impacts on Public Health

Prolonged exposure to pollutants during inversions poses serious health risks. Fine particulate matter (PM2.5) can penetrate deep into the lungs, causing respiratory and cardiovascular issues. Populations most at risk include children, the elderly, and those with preexisting conditions such as asthma or heart disease. According to the World Health Organization, air pollution contributes to millions of premature deaths annually.

COMMENT: PM2.5 measures less than the width of a human hair.

Air pollution is one of the biggest public health hazards the world faces today. While we often focus on larger and fine particles (PM10 and PM2.5), ultrafine particles (UFPs) deserve equal attention. Ultrafine particles (UFPs), also known as nanoparticles, are extremely small, typically less than 100 nanometers in diameter. These tiny particles can come from various sources, including vehicle exhaust, industrial emissions, and even natural processes like forest fires. UFPs, despite their size, play a significant role in atmospheric science, climate, and public health.

Health Implications

Respiratory Effects

- UFPs can penetrate deep into the respiratory system, reaching the alveoli. Their small size allows them to bypass the body's defense mechanisms.
- Exposure to UFPs has been linked to respiratory diseases such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and lung cancer.
- UFPs may also exacerbate existing conditions and increase hospital admissions.

Cardiovascular Risks

- Emerging evidence suggests that UFPs can enter the bloodstream and affect the cardiovascular system.
- UFP exposure is associated with increased risk of heart attacks, strokes, and other cardiovascular diseases.

National Library of Medicine

National Center for Biotechnology Information (Study of PM2.5 and mental illness in Ireland)

[ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov) **Keywords:** Environmental health, PM2.5, Particulate air pollution, Mental health, Depression, Anxiety, Ireland

There is now increasing evidence that environmental conditions, and in particular poor air quality, may be associated with mental health and wellbeing.

Dementia

- Exposure to UFP has also been linked with onset of dementia.

Environmental Impact

Climate and Aerosol Dynamics

- In addition to their direct health effects, UFPs can also have indirect impacts on human health and the environment. For example, these particles can reduce visibility, leading to air pollution and impairing visibility for drivers and pedestrians.
- UFPs can contribute to climate change by absorbing sunlight and altering atmospheric processes. UFPs influence climate by acting as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) and affecting cloud properties.
- Understanding UFP behavior may help improving climate change models and predictions..

Aviation and UFPs

- Ultrafine particles (UFPs) emitted by aircraft near airports pose significant health risks to nearby residents.

Air Quality Regulations

- To date, there are no regulations on safe levels of UFPs in the air. Current regulations primarily focus on PM2.5 and PM10, but UFPs are equally important and are largely ignored.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) recognized UFPs as a pollutant of emerging concern over 15 years ago.

Research Insights

Source Apportionment

- Monitoring UFPs helps identify their sources (e.g., traffic, industrial processes, combustion).
- Source apportionment informs targeted mitigation strategies.

COMMENT: I repeat, Adamstown has NO air quality monitoring. Closet monitor is at the airport but has NO DATA according to AIRNOW.

Indoor Air Quality

- Accurate UFP sensors can protect indoor air quality in workplaces and homes.
- HVAC systems can be adjusted based on UFP detection.

COMMENT: CMES, built in the 60's does not have an adequate HVAC system!

Challenges and Future Directions

Long-Term Data

- Continuous monitoring generates long-term data to correlate UFPs with health effects.
- This informs emission standards and public health policies.

COMMENT: We have NO air quality monitors in or around Adamstown.

Emission Reduction Strategies

- Quantifying UFPs guides efforts to reduce exposure and mitigate health impacts.
- Improved monitoring can drive policy changes and technological innovations.
- To address the health risks posed by UFPs, it is essential to implement strategies to reduce their emissions. This includes promoting cleaner transportation

options, improving industrial processes, and adopting policies that limit the use of polluting sources.

- Additionally, individuals can take steps to protect themselves from UFP exposure by avoiding areas with high levels of air pollution, wearing respiratory protection when necessary, and staying informed about air quality conditions.

COMMENT: Currently, the Adamstown populace does not know if we need to mask-up when we go outside, nor do students and faculty at CMES know if they are safe inside the school, because **ADAMSTOWN DOES NOT HAVE ANY MONITORS!**

In Summary:

There are several health issues commonly associated with inversion and air pollution:

- **Asthma:** Poor air quality can cause asthma or make symptoms worse.
- **COPD:** This is a group of lung diseases that cause breathing problems.
- **Heart disease:** coronary artery disease, heart failure, cardiomyopathy and other heart conditions can be affected by air pollution.
- **Heart attacks:** Poor air quality Increases the risk of heart attack over time.
- **Birth problems:** Things like preterm birth, small birth size or weight, birth defects or even fetal or infant death are possible.

<http://WWW.EPA.GOV>

Exposure to such particles can affect both your lungs and your heart. Numerous scientific studies have linked particle pollution exposure to a variety of problems, including:

- premature death in people with heart or lung disease
- nonfatal heart attacks
- irregular heartbeat
- aggravated asthma
- decreased lung function
- increased respiratory symptoms, such as irritation of the airways, coughing or difficulty breathing.

Environmental damage

Particles can be carried over long distances by wind and then settle on ground or water. Depending on their chemical composition, the effects of this settling may include:

- making lakes and streams acidic
- changing the nutrient balance in coastal waters and large river basins
- depleting the nutrients in soil
- damaging sensitive forests and farm crops
- affecting the diversity of ecosystems
- contributing to acid rain effects

COMMENT: How can we protect ourselves and our environment if we have **NO AIR QUALITY MONITORING** in our community? Is it by design like all the other deceptions that have been heaped upon us? Why did MDE approve Aligned's generators without proper, up-to-date monitoring scenarios? Because of Moore's Streamlining Act and his requests for leniency for the industry as a whole? An impact study would have brought all this to light, but he couldn't risk that, so he vetoed Senator Young's bill (IMO). Moore

should be impeached (IMO), if for no other reason than for the blatant disregard for the public's health and well-being! Adamstown could become another Ft. Detrick Area B Cancer Cluster (IMO).

I've heard rumor about Moore's promise to Fitzwater to reward her with an appointment at the State House for her support of the "industrialization of Southern Frederick County," i.e., data centers. If that happens, it will occur before she has her "listening sessions" and I highly doubt that Council President Young will honor that promise as he takes her place, IMO.

Promises - easy to make, harder to keep.

To expand the Overlay beyond its current boundary of the former Alcoa Eastalco site would be reprehensible (IMO). Please stop any expansion before any more damage is done.

Respectfully,

Hope Green
Adamstown

From: Kate McDermott <katemmcdermott@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:40 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center Overlay

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

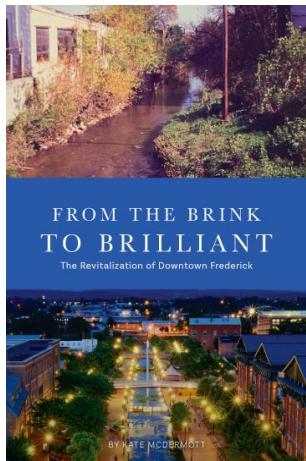
I am writing to express my desire for the County Council to delay a vote on the Data Center Overlay zoning designation until the State of Maryland passes the data center analysis bill, filed by state Sens. Karen Lewis Young and Justin Ready.

We need to fully understand the impact of data centers based on actual data, not projections or speculation. The County Council will be doing their constituents a disservice if you advance the overlay designation without a complete understanding of the impacts.

Please don't rush this.

Kate McDermott
Copywriting and Editorial Services
240.285.8855

*Author of "From the Brink to Brilliant:
The Revitalization of Downtown Frederick, Maryland"*



From: Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:39 PM
To: Mary Dague <mhdague@gmail.com>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: countyexecutive@frederickcounty.gov
Subject: Re: Tonight's Meeting 12/16/25

Mary,

That is not what the bill passed does. The bill has the state do one study of the impacts, not on each one. In addition, what we are passing reduces the acreage that data centers can go on from 5,000 to under 2,500. If we do not do the overlay, then they can use the entire 5,000 acres while we wait for the study.

Brad Young

From: Mary Dague <mhdague@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:32 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: countyexecutive@frederickcounty.gov <countyexecutive@frederickcounty.gov>
Subject: Tonight's Meeting 12/16/25

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

The Maryland State legislature has voted a unanimous override of the the veto of the data centers bill that requires environmental studies at the start. Council has no choice but to delay voting on the new overlay proposal and the Amazon license for installing infrastructure.

From: Samar Mathur <Samar.Mathur@auduboncentralmd.onmicrosoft.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:36 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Audobon Society of Central Maryland stance AGAINST Data Center Zoning Expansion

Dear Members of the Frederick County Council,
On behalf of The Audubon Society of Central Maryland (ASCM), a community organization dedicated to bird conservation, habitat stewardship, and public education throughout Frederick County, I am writing to share our position on the proposal to **expand data center zoning beyond the existing Eastalco-approved area**.

Our club **supports the Frederick County Planning Commission's recommendation** to limit data center development to the currently approved sites and **opposes** expanding the Growth Area at this time.

Frederick County lies within a critical migratory and breeding corridor for many species documented by eBird, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and national monitoring programs. Based on extensive scientific evidence, we believe that expanding high-intensity industrial zoning in sensitive areas would pose avoidable risks. These include:

1. **Habitat fragmentation and loss**, which is a primary driver of bird population declines in North America (Rosenberg et al., *Science*, 2019).
2. **Increased noise, lighting, and heat emissions**, which disrupt avian navigation and behavior and degrade ecosystem integrity (Longcore & Rich, *Ecological Consequences of Artificial Night Lighting*, 2004).
3. **Significant water and energy demands** associated with data centers, which conflict with the sustainability goals outlined in the **Livable Frederick Master Plan** and current county water-resource policies.
4. **Long-term land-use impacts** that reduce the county's ability to preserve open space, biodiversity, and recreational natural areas valued by residents.

Additionally, we have identified several **Threatened, Vulnerable, and Rare species of birds** that have been reported to be breeding in the areas of proposed zoning expansion (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, *eBird Breeding Bird Atlas*; IUCN, *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*; Maryland Department of Natural Resources, *List of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species of Frederick County, 2021*).

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Council to **uphold the Planning Commission's recommendation** and to **limit data center development to existing approved areas**.

We also welcome continued engagement with County leadership. Our members routinely monitor bird populations, maintain two wildlife sanctuaries located in Frederick County, and contribute thousands of citizen-science records annually. We would be glad to provide bird-use data, field knowledge, or community perspectives to assist in land-use decisions that balance economic growth with conservation.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your service to the residents of Frederick County.

Sincerely,
Samar

From: Jackie Clark <jclark@delaplaine.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:36 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Absolutely NO on ANY Data Centers

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi, my name is Jackie and I love and work in Frederick County MD.

I am unable to attend tonights County Council meeting to discuss data centers so I wanted to make my voice heard about how much I, and other community members DO NOT WANT any data centers going up into our county.

Data centers are a huge strain of resources. They contaminate groundwater. They rely on our energy grid, yet we make up the cost of that strain which is reflected on OUR bill, not theirs.

The jobs they create are VERY MINIMAL after construction is complete. There is NO BENEFIT to these centers going up and taking up precious farmland. Data centers benefit corporations and corporations only.

I would side-eye any official who is defending these monstrosities from popping up in our communities, when our community, and the general public as a whole, is adamantly opposed to more data centers being created.

Thank you,

Jackie Clark
Marketing and Membership Manager
[The Delaplaine Arts Center](#)
40 S Carroll St | Frederick MD 21701
301.698.0656 x100
[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Subscribe](#)

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Everyone
Deserves
Art

From: MARCEL Aillery <aillery@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:35 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: CDI Overlay Zone for data center expansion_12-16-2025

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Frederick County Council members,

Yes, I received the blitz of mailings extolling the benefits of Data Centers for Frederick County. But I remain disappointed, and frankly very frustrated, by what I view as inadequate consideration of the full costs of Data Center expansion —locally and regionally, monetary and non-monetary, today and well into the future. I've summarized my primary concerns in an earlier email (see below).

Data Center development is underway at the former Alcoa Eastalco site, and the area transformation will be dramatic to say the least. Given the enormous potential costs of prior approved development under full buildout, I would ask that the County restrict future Data Center expansion under the CDI Overlay Zone to current GI- and LI-zoned parcels within the former Alcoa Eastalco site. Committing to additional expansion without a more comprehensive assessment of the full longterm impacts of this development—to me, that's not good public policy.

Thanks for the opportunity to share my perspective.

Marcel Aillery

3710 Tuck Avenue
Point of Rocks, MD 21777
aillery@msn.com
240-285-1647

From: MARCEL Aillery <aillery@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2025 3:25 PM
To: councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov <councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov>
Cc: countyexecutive@frederickcountymd.gov <countyexecutive@frederickcountymd.gov>; Marcel Aillery <aillery@msn.com>
Subject: Re: CDI Overlay Zone for data center expansion

Frederick County Council members,

I'd like to share a final comment on the Critical Digital Infrastructure (CDI) Overlay Zone for data center expansion in Frederick County under review ..if a bit 'last-ditch/broken-record'. I'm asking that you do not expand the boundaries of the overlay zone beyond the former Alcoa Eastalco property at this time, in light of the following concerns:

- The dramatic change in regional character resulting from planned buildout on GI- and LI-zoned land within the property, and potential impacts on affected communities. The nature and extent of community damages can be debated

endlessly .. but there's no question that adjacent communities will be adversely affected by industrial development on such a massive scale.

- The enormous and highly uncertain impacts on the broader mid-Maryland region regarding energy and water demand and supporting infrastructure. It's actually incomprehensible to me that the County would green-light data center expansion on this scale without a thorough review of these potential impacts. Perhaps an internal assessment has been conducted or is currently underway, though I'm unaware of any such effort.
- The integrity of the Carrollton Manor Rural Legacy Area (CMRLA) –an issue of particular interest for me, as a (now-retired) USDA economist and Carrollton Manor Land Trust board member involved in establishing the CMRLA and developing grant-funding proposals in partnership with the County. Allowing data center expansion within the Rural Legacy Area and Priority Preservation Area parcels is not consistent public policy –and an improper precedent and breach of faith for many.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Marcel Aillery

*3710 Tuck Avenue
Point of Rocks, MD 21777
aillery@msn.com
240-285-1647*

From: Susan Gordon <segmessages@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:30 PM
To: Jenny Teeter <jennyteeter@comcast.net>
Cc: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Re: Frederick County CDI Overlay Amendment

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Jenny,

Thank you for your beautifully written and clearly presented reasoning on keeping the CDI footprint as the Planning Commission recommends.

To the County Council, I could not have written this nearly as well but every single word of Jenny Teeter's letter has my Amen.

Please pay heed.

Susan Gordon

On Tue, Dec 16, 2025, 1:17 PM jennyteeter@comcast.net <jennyteeter@comcast.net> wrote:

Council members & County Executive,

I am writing to urge the council to oppose the CDI overlay amendment and limit data centers to the currently approved Eastalco site.

I am a strong believer in carefully measured growth of projects that face public outcry locally accompanied by daily media accounts of negative data center impacts and attempts to legislate at the state, local and nation levels. This alone begs the question of a stepwise approach to growth. Will the project owner live up to stated expectations to protect the environment and the public? Project management best practices require milestones that must be met in order for further expansion of a new business line to mitigate risk and course correct as necessary, this is no different.

The supply chain for chips, access to water and energy necessary to run operations are all in finite supply in our community. The public is faced with footing the bill in their electricity rates and access to clean water. Concerns have reached the national level. The Dept of Energy is planning to release large load rules in April 2026 that will dictate national policy that will override state and local decisions. If we try to get out ahead of that we are likely to be faced with expensive legal challenges.

There is so much that Frederick County has done right. It is the envy of many counties nationally. Smart minds designed this delicate mix of urban and rural landscapes through purposeful zoning. Once data centers are constructed including miles of high voltage transmission line supporting them it is nearly impossible to undo the damage.

Let's start smart with the current approved land use and develop the roadmap for moving forward with expert and public input based upon that experience.

Thank you for your service to our county,
Jenny Teeter

From: Theresa <scrutiny1000@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:25 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Council Meeting Tuesday, December 16th

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members:

Regrettably, I am unable to attend tonight's meeting; however, my absence does not diminish my commitment to the subject of the vote regarding the CDI Overlay. It is anticipated that there will be substantial testimony opposing approval of this overlay, and I also advocate for a vote against it. My position is consistent with that of Mr. Steve Black, and I encourage you to thoroughly consider his points in relation to this decision. Furthermore, I am aware that the Maryland SB116 Veto override has been confirmed. In alignment with Elyse Wilson's beliefs, I respectfully request that the Frederick County Council postpone all votes and decisions concerning the expansion of the CDI Overlay until the comprehensive SB 116 study is completed, allowing its findings to guide responsible, site-specific zoning determinations. I urge you to act in the best interest of all residents of Frederick County.

Respectfully,

Theresa Rutter
Adamstown, Maryland

From: Angela Burke <aakeefer17353@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:27 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data center meeting tonight

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello county council members,

What I already know about the environmental atrocities committed at this site makes me so furious for them to be taking up any more prime Maryland farmland for this data center nonsense. It will only cost the people of Frederick County more \$\$ and will line the pockets of the people running the show there. There are only 200 acres of superfund site at east alco and they try to pass it off like this is the best use of the land. That is total bullshit. I work at a farm just south of Manor Woods Road and it is the best soil in the state! Ask any soil scientist. They seriously can't find some land that is less valuable?!

The propaganda I keep getting in my mailbox is such trash. Lots of 'if' and 'maybe' and 'could' words are being used to try to trick people into this being good for schools and farms. So the people in charge donated 30k to the boys and girls club?! Ohhhhhh, that must have really put them out..... We're supposed to be impressed with that tiny amount and also at the same time be told our electricity rates will skyrocket and they don't even have a water source that is sufficient for what they're currently building let alone if we let them have more land?!

The fact that we're bending over and taking it is really embarrassing. Look at what Prince George's County is doing!!!! At least they're standing up for themselves and attempting to hold the data centers accountable. Meanwhile we're rolling out the red carpet! I hope everyone up for election next year is ready for a new job cause they're all getting voted out and the main reason for that is the mishandling of the data center issue.

Thank you for hearing my thoughts.

Angela Burke
404 Grant Pl, Frederick, MD 21702
717-496-5887

From: Elizabeth Stogden <elizabeth.stogden@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:20 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: CDI Overlay and the SB 116 study

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To the Frederick County Council Members,

I am writing today as an extremely concerned resident of Frederick County. I write to ask each of you to do the right thing and postpone all votes and decisions regarding the expansion of the CDI Overlay until the SB 116 study has been completed so we can all make educated decisions on this matter. There is no excuse to proceed without the information the SB 116 study will provide and we have every reason to make sure we gather all the necessary information before making irreversible decisions that could be devastating to our county. The importance of the impact on our energy, water, economy, and our environment is paramount and we are counting on you to do your due diligence to protect our county and way of life.

Thank you for your time and everything you do for our beautiful community.

Elizabeth Stogden
212 N Delaware Ave
Brunswick, MD 21716

From: Elizabeth Law <bettybob1758@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:07 PM
To: Hope Green <hope.green76@yahoo.com>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Frederick County - NONATTAINMENT AREA and LACK OF AIR QUALITY MONITORING

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hope,

Thank you for this excellent documentation. I'm sorry you are forced by circumstances to become so conversant with the dangers posed by data centers and data center construction on a brownfield site.

Many people have asked me for details of the hazards. I am passing your information to colleagues.

Many thanks,

Betty Law

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

From: **Hope Green** <hope.green76@yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 1:59 PM

Subject: Frederick County - NONATTAINMENT AREA and LACK OF AIR QUALITY MONITORING

To: Jessica Fitzwater <countyexecutive@frederickcountymd.gov>, Council Members <councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov>, Planning Commission <planningcommission@frederickcountymd.gov>

Cc: steveblack2313@gmail.com <steveblack2313@gmail.com>, Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Law <bettybob1758@gmail.com>, Brandon Brooks -MDE- <brandon.brooks@maryland.gov>, Shannon Heafey -MDE- <shannon.heafey@maryland.gov>, Karen Senator Lewis Young <karen.young@senate.state.md.us>

<https://legalclarity.org>

[What Is a Nonattainment Area Under the Clean Air Act?](#)



[LegalClarity Team](#)

Published Aug 28, 2025

A nonattainment area is a geographic region where air quality does not meet federal health-based standards for specific pollutants. This designation identifies locations with unhealthy air and triggers actions to improve air quality. The concept originated under

the Clean Air Act, a federal law designed to control and reduce air pollution. Its purpose is to ensure Americans breathe safe air, prompting states to address pollution sources.

The process for designating an area as nonattainment begins with the EPA establishing National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). These standards limit the concentration of six common air pollutants, known as criteria pollutants, to protect public health. The criteria pollutants are:

- Ozone
- Particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10)
- Carbon monoxide
- Sulfur dioxide
- Nitrogen dioxide
- Lead

COMMENT: According to the EPA Frederick County is currently nonattainment for 8-hour ozone.

The EPA reviews and revises NAAQS periodically, ensuring they reflect the latest scientific understanding of air pollution's effects. States and tribes submit recommendations to the EPA regarding the attainment status of areas within their jurisdiction. These recommendations are based on air quality monitoring data.

COMMENT: Adamstown does not have air quality monitoring. The closest monitor is at the airport but has NO DATA associated with it according to AIRNOW (EPA's air quality monitoring program).

An area can be in nonattainment for one pollutant while meeting standards for others. Lacking current air quality monitoring, Adamstown and Frederick County could be nonattainment now or at least the immediate future because of diesel generators and brownfield contaminants for:

Particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10)

Carbon monoxide

Sulfur dioxide

Nitrogen dioxide

Lead

COMMENT: Adding emissions from 1,000+ diesel generators would overwhelmingly decrease air quality, especially with regard to PM2.5 and nitrogen oxides.

Ongoing air quality monitoring is essential to track progress and verify that implemented strategies effectively reduce pollution levels. Once an area demonstrates three consecutive years of clean air data, showing consistent NAAQS attainment, it can request redesignation to attainment status from the EPA. This request must include a maintenance plan, outlining how the area will continue to meet the NAAQS for at least 10 years.

COMMENT: Frederick County will never achieve attainment status for any pollutant because of our geography and atmospheric/temperature inversion. Frederick County is in a valley surrounded by mountains and highways. Highways that collect miles of slow to still traffic emitting gas and diesel engine fumes and plumes.

<https://airquality.news>

Temperature inversions are a meteorological phenomenon that significantly impacts air quality and public health. These events occur when a layer of warm air traps cooler air at the surface, preventing it from rising and dispersing pollutants. Understanding the mechanisms behind temperature inversions and their consequences is essential for mitigating their effects, especially in the context of global climate change.

Under normal conditions, air near the Earth's surface is warmer and rises, carrying pollutants away from ground level. However, during a temperature inversion, the typical gradient is reversed. Warm air forms a cap over cooler surface air, trapping pollutants such as particulate matter (PM2.5), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and sulfur dioxide (SO2)

Temperature inversions, while a natural atmospheric phenomenon, have profound implications for air quality and public health. Their frequency and severity may increase with ongoing climate change.

COMMENT: In my opinion, the PSC's refusal of Aligned's generators was influenced by our topography and atmospheric inversions. If Aligned fired up 168 diesel generators during a winter inversion, the resulting Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) and Particulate Matter (PM2.5) would pool in the valley, creating a toxic "soup." A full CPCN review would have required detailed air quality modeling to simulate this scenario. But this data would have derailed Moore's promise to Aligned. So, he wrote the Streamlining Act allowing data centers to have unlimited diesel generators and negating MDE's consideration of the aggregate in their approval process. Further exacerbating the issue of air quality and human/environmental health, Moore's vetoing Senator Karen Lewis-Young's data center study bill (IMO).

PM2.5 and UFP's can travel for 100's of miles wherever the wind takes it. Most of our winds come from the South thereby blowing pollutants (ours and Loudon County's) into Westfield, the City of Frederick, Walkersville and beyond. If data centers were built outside the current Quantum site it would worsen the effects dramatically (IMO).

Impacts on Public Health

Prolonged exposure to pollutants during inversions poses serious health risks. Fine particulate matter (PM2.5) can penetrate deep into the lungs, causing respiratory and cardiovascular issues. Populations most at risk include children, the elderly, and those with preexisting conditions such as asthma or heart disease. According to the World Health Organization, air pollution contributes to millions of premature deaths annually.

COMMENT: PM2.5 measures less than the width of a human hair. Air pollution is one of the biggest public health hazards the world faces today. While we often focus on larger and fine particles (PM10 and PM2.5), ultrafine particles (UFPs) deserve equal attention. Ultrafine particles (UFPs), also known as nanoparticles, are extremely small, typically less than 100 nanometers in diameter. These tiny particles can come from various sources, including vehicle exhaust, industrial emissions, and even natural processes like forest fires. UFPs, despite their size, play a significant role in atmospheric science, climate, and public health.

Health Implications

Respiratory Effects

- UFPs can penetrate deep into the respiratory system, reaching the alveoli. Their small size allows them to bypass the body's defense mechanisms.
- Exposure to UFPs has been linked to respiratory diseases such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and lung cancer.
- UFPs may also exacerbate existing conditions and increase hospital admissions.

Cardiovascular Risks

- Emerging evidence suggests that UFPs can enter the bloodstream and affect the cardiovascular system.
- UFP exposure is associated with increased risk of heart attacks, strokes, and other cardiovascular diseases.

National Library of Medicine

National Center for Biotechnology Information (Study of PM2.5 and mental illness in Ireland)

[ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8530333/) **Keywords:** Environmental health, PM2.5, Particulate air pollution, Mental health, Depression, Anxiety, Ireland

There is now increasing evidence that environmental conditions, and in particular poor air quality, may be associated with mental health and wellbeing.

Dementia

- Exposure to UFP has also been linked with onset of dementia.

Environmental Impact

Climate and Aerosol Dynamics

- In addition to their direct health effects, UFPs can also have indirect impacts on human health and the environment. For example, these particles can reduce visibility, leading to air pollution and impairing visibility for drivers and pedestrians.
- UFPs can contribute to climate change by absorbing sunlight and altering atmospheric processes. UFPs influence climate by acting as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) and affecting cloud properties.
- Understanding UFP behavior may help improving climate change models and predictions..

Aviation and UFPs

- Ultrafine particles (UFPs) emitted by aircraft near airports pose significant health risks to nearby residents.

Air Quality Regulations

- To date, there are no regulations on safe levels of UFPs in the air. Current regulations primarily focus on PM2.5 and PM10, but UFPs are equally important and are largely ignored.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) recognized UFPs as a pollutant of emerging concern over 15 years ago.

Research Insights

Source Apportionment

- Monitoring UFPs helps identify their sources (e.g., traffic, industrial processes, combustion).
- Source apportionment informs targeted mitigation strategies.

COMMENT: I repeat, Adamstown has NO air quality monitoring. Closet monitor is at the airport but has NO DATA according to AIRNOW.

Indoor Air Quality

- Accurate UFP sensors can protect indoor air quality in workplaces and homes.
- HVAC systems can be adjusted based on UFP detection.

COMMENT: CMES, built in the 60's does not have an adequate HVAC system!

Challenges and Future Directions

Long-Term Data

- Continuous monitoring generates long-term data to correlate UFPs with health effects.
- This informs emission standards and public health policies.

COMMENT: We have NO air quality monitors in or around Adamstown.

Emission Reduction Strategies

- Quantifying UFPs guides efforts to reduce exposure and mitigate health impacts.
- Improved monitoring can drive policy changes and technological innovations.
- To address the health risks posed by UFPs, it is essential to implement strategies to reduce their emissions. This includes promoting cleaner transportation options, improving industrial processes, and adopting policies that limit the use of polluting sources.
- Additionally, individuals can take steps to protect themselves from UFP exposure by avoiding areas with high levels of air pollution, wearing respiratory protection when necessary, and staying informed about air quality conditions.

COMMENT: Currently, the Adamstown populace does not know if we need to mask-up when we go outside, nor do students and faculty at CMES know if they are safe inside the school, because **ADAMSTOWN DOES NOT HAVE ANY MONITORS!**

In Summary:

There are several health issues commonly associated with inversion and air pollution:

- **Asthma:** Poor air quality can cause asthma or make symptoms worse.
- **COPD:** This is a group of lung diseases that cause breathing problems.
- **Heart disease:** coronary artery disease, heart failure, cardiomyopathy and other heart conditions can be affected by air pollution.
- **Heart attacks:** Poor air quality Increases the risk of heart attack over time.
- **Birth problems:** Things like preterm birth, small birth size or weight, birth defects or even fetal or infant death are possible.

<http://WWW.EPA.GOV>

Exposure to such particles can affect both your lungs and your heart. Numerous scientific studies have linked particle pollution exposure to a variety of problems, including:

- premature death in people with heart or lung disease
- nonfatal heart attacks
- irregular heartbeat
- aggravated asthma
- decreased lung function

- increased respiratory symptoms, such as irritation of the airways, coughing or difficulty breathing.

Environmental damage

Particles can be carried over long distances by wind and then settle on ground or water. Depending on their chemical composition, the effects of this settling may include:

- making lakes and streams acidic
- changing the nutrient balance in coastal waters and large river basins
- depleting the nutrients in soil
- damaging sensitive forests and farm crops
- affecting the diversity of ecosystems
- contributing to acid rain effects

COMMENT: How can we protect ourselves and our environment if we have NO AIR QUALITY MONITORING in our community? Is it by design like all the other deceptions that have been heaped upon us? Why did MDE approve Aligned's generators without proper, up-to-date monitoring scenarios? Because of Moore's Streamlining Act and his requests for leniency for the industry as a whole? An impact study would have brought all this to light, but he couldn't risk that, so he vetoed Senator Young's bill (IMO). Moore should be impeached (IMO), if for no other reason than for the blatant disregard for the public's health and well-being! Adamstown could become another Ft. Detrick Area B Cancer Cluster (IMO).

I've heard rumor about Moore's promise to Fitzwater to reward her with an appointment at the State House for her support of the "industrialization of Southern Frederick County," i.e., data centers. If that happens, it will occur before she has her "listening sessions" and I highly doubt that Council President Young will honor that promise as he takes her place, IMO.

Promises - easy to make, harder to keep.

To expand the Overlay beyond its current boundary of the former Alcoa Eastalco site would be reprehensible (IMO). Please stop any expansion before any more damage is done.

Respectfully,

Hope Green
Adamstown

From: Sarah Frymark <sarahfrymark@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:16 PM
To: Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Frederick Valley Aquifer

Good evening Frederick County Council Members,

I speak on behalf of my nieces, who are 3 years old and 6 months old. They live off East Basford with a swing set in the backyard that backs up to corn fields. These corn fields are what bring us all here this evening.

My niece's home, and neighbors' houses located South of Frederick City in Adamstown and surrounding communities are on unconfined private wells. Private wells in the State of Maryland are unregulated. Testing of the water in these private wells is only required when selling/buying a property. Wells on unconfined aquifers are vulnerable to any activity on the land surface. It is VITAL we remain educated, informed and attentive to land classifications and land use as this directly impacts quality of potable water for these private wells.

The data center zones, and these communities reside on the Frederick Valley Aquifer. The Frederick Valley Aquifer lies within the Potomac Direct Watershed, and the Monocacy Direct Watershed, all which are in the Potomac River, and Chesapeake Bay Watershed as well. The Frederick Valley Aquifer rock type is Frederick and Grove limestone; flat to rolling lowlands with red soils, low ridges with diabase dikes and limestone conglomerates with common sinkholes. Water in these rocks moves through secondary openings such as fractures, bedding planes, joints, and faults; most of the water obtained is found in fractures. This is called Karst. Formations underlain by carbonate rock and limestone caverns/sinkholes, specific designs are Required for Best Management Practices (BMPS) within these karst areas. Additionally, according to USGS Soil Survey, the Erosion Hazard of these soils on this geology is rated moderate to severe. The risk of corrosion (steel and concrete) is rated mostly high, very susceptible. The PFAS translocations is rated to "moving below the soil surface and headed towards the groundwater/moving laterally to surface outlet". According to the Frederick County Stream Survey (FCSS) in 2017, Impervious surface rated "sensitive", meaning potential stormwater erosion, and pollution as impervious areas increase (looking at you large concrete data center building). The Benthic Index of the Potomac Direct Watershed is considered POOR, with 50% rated severe bank erosion.

What does all this scientific language mean? Means, before these data centers became a topic of discussion, the land due to its natural geology and soil composition, is already very susceptible to contamination...and sinkholes.

But what if the data centers follow the rules and regulations? What if? But what if something happens? Like at the Eastalco Site, where in 1997 on the Frederick Valley Aquifer, contaminated the groundwater with fluoride and cyanide- which time also

revealed Eastalco also contaminated the groundwater with PCE (which degrades to the carcinogen TCE), PCBs, VOCs, SVOCs, and heavy metals. If you don't remember correctly- this launched a large-scale investigation in 2005. The investigative studies suggested: "groundwater seepage velocities and travel times of the contaminated plume suggests about 700 ft per year, but given the karst hydrogeology it is probable that plume migration occurs at different rates" This study indicates the unknown of karst hydrogeology, and the fast pace travel from source of contamination onward (to the possible private wellhead, or even further to the surface water, Monocacy or Potomac River- which may I add is all upstream from the New Design Water System and the Potomac Pumping station). This case study additionally exploits the legacy soil we live on, and the man-made history we have written on the land. Should I also mention Fort Detrick is also located on the Frederick Valley Aquifer? An EPA Superfund Level 1 Contaminated Site. Where Agent Orange, and other LN compounds were applied via handheld sprayers on fields. Which flash-forward a couple decades and the new residential community on top of these fields have contaminated private wells with TCE compounds above the federally mandated levels? These communities have since been annexed into the public water supply, due to extreme groundwater and soil contamination. That is Legacy Soils. The opposite of "leave no trace". Footprints and history lessons on the Frederick Valley Aquifer prove how susceptible, vulnerable the land truly is to contamination, pollution and the mark humans leave. Let's use this knowledge to prevent yet another case study in Frederick County, especially on the Frederick Valley Aquifer. Is the County creating a contingency plan in case the private community wells do get contaminated? Is the County financially ready with an action plan in place? Or are you just risking it for the biscuit? Are we being preventative or reactionary?

But, what about the "SANITARY SURVEYS" that are offered for private wells? Great, but Neighbors, community members: I highly suggest privately testing your wellhead's water. Test for VOCs, heavy metals, PAHs, PCBs, TCE and of course PFAS. Test now and test often. Gather a baseline and monitor your water chemistry. If you smell, or see any changes in your drinking water, test and report immediately. Mandated "Sanitary surveys" can be influenced, and biased, and not to mention taken AFTER pollution occurs. Gather the insight yourself, and hold the data center companies, Frederick County, the State of Maryland, responsible. This is your land. This is your home. This is my niece's backyard. My sources are frederickcountymd.gov, and mde.maryland.gov. And my Bachelors degree in Soil and Water, and over 15 years of professional career experience in Water and Environmental Sciences in the State of Maryland.

Thank you,

Sarah Frymark

Sources:

[Frederickcountymd.gov](http://frederickcountymd.gov)

[Mde.Maryland.gov](http://mde.maryland.gov)

USGS Soil Survey

From: Toni <toni@jamesonline.us>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:42 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: CDI Overlay - Please vote against

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council People,

I am not going to waste a lot of my time or yours telling you why you should not vote for the Overlay. If you don't know by now, you have learned nothing.

I am thankful for Steve McKay as well as Jerry Donald for actually thinking about what is best for all of the residents of Frederick County and not just about all of the residents of Frederick County EXCEPT those living near the data centers in Adamstown.

Most people who live in Adamstown can accept that they live near an industrial wasteland, but they cannot accept that you want to make it bigger.

I think if you would spend as much time trying to curb your spending as you have wasted on trying to push data centers through, we would be in a better financial position here in Frederick County and would not need to be finding ways for the Adamstown community to suffer even more with your overlay.

Frederick County is not the "community" that needs a Community Benefit Agreement it is the "community" near the data centers that does. And no, we do not want another park or a community center. The last thing we want is more people in the area. Why do you think we live in the middle of cornfields?

Vote against the Overlay.

Toni James

From: Ellen Clarke <ellen.clarke78@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:48 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: No on AI/ data center

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To whom it may concern,
Please do not pollute the ground water and raise our energy costs with this data center.

We rely on local produce to keep us healthy.

AI is a sickness that is ruining the entire internet. And it's causing public upset.

I am disabled and can't afford a higher energy bill.

Thank you for your time,

Ellen and Gandalf Clarke

Sent from my iPhone

From: Eileen Gunther <egunther101@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:48 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data center

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear County Council Members

On the deadly data center.

Postpone the vote. There are many many residents, your constituents that need to speak.
With this short that won't happen.

Also for me, my health and recent hospitalization prevents me attending at this time.
This project is DEATH to Frederick County and the surrounding area. Everything, water,
plants, animals, people, ground water will be made UNSAFE.

Thank you.
Eileen M Gunther

From: Patricia Catalano <patcatalano1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:48 PM
To: Cherney, Ragen <RCherney@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: Grabowski, Sarah <SGrabowski@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Luna, Nancy <NLuna@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Redmond, Lee <LRedmond@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Re: Data Center Public Meeting today

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I realize that but I need environmental impact study report. I read the resolution, but interested in what damage did mud from drilling have on our waterways, how our utility bills will increase due to infrastructure improvements to build data center and how it impacts my local farmers.

I live at Crestwood Village and utilities are already higher.

Where can I get water testing results . Many people drink from Sprouts Springs.

In order to ask questions, data is needed. Who will be present tonight's meeting?

Patricia Catalano

Sent from Gmail Mobile

On Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 11:52 AM Cherney, Ragen <RCherney@frederickcountymd.gov> wrote:

There is no presentation tonight. Just to receive public comment at the public hearing.

R

Ragen Cherney
Chief of Staff/Legislative Director
Frederick County Council
Winchester Hall
[12 East Church Street](12_East_Church_Street)
[Frederick, Maryland 21701](Frederick,_Maryland_21701)
301.600.1049

From: Patricia Catalano <patcatalano1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:51 AM
To: Cherney, Ragen <RCherney@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: Grabowski, Sarah <SGrabowski@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Luna, Nancy <NLuna@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Redmond, Lee <LRedmond@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Re: Data Center Public Meeting today

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Will environmental impact report be available tonight. I have downloaded documents I found on Google

Sent from Gmail Mobile

On Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 11:20 AM Cherney, Ragen <RCherney@frederickcountymd.gov> wrote:

On behalf of the County Council, thank you for your remarks on the overlay zone comprehensive plan amendment and the zoning map amendment. The council members have all received your email. Your remarks will be made a part of the file.

The County Council appreciates all comments from our residents.

Have a good day.

Ragen

Ragen Cherney

Chief of Staff/Legislative Director

Frederick County Council

Winchester Hall

12 East Church Street

Frederick, Maryland 21701

301.600.1049

From: Patricia Catalano <patcatalano1@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:34 AM

To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Subject: Data Center Public Meeting today

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

How can I review documents regarding environmental impact, how increased electric and water will be paid. I just heard about this meeting and plan to attend.

I am on your website and can't find documents.

Patricia Catalano

5685 Crabapple Drive

Frederick MD 21793

Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: Jane Choi-Doan <janejc39@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 3:01 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: NO DATA CENTERS IN FREDERICK!

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council members,
Please say "NO" to data centers!
The long-term ecological harm far outweigh the short, small economical gain.
All the communities in other states that have put in data centers and transmission lines are regretting their decision- the water usage/waste, skyrocketing electric prices, air pollution and health problems are well-documented.

We need to protect our beautiful county. Please reconsider expanding data centers and transmission lines in Frederick County!

Thank you!
Dr. Jane Choi-Doan

From: Lx Stogden <lx.stogden@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 3:06 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: CDI Overlay Expansion

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To the Frederick County Council Members,

I am writing today as a concerned resident of Frederick County. I write to ask you to postpone all votes and decisions regarding the expansion of the CDI Overlay until the SB 116 study has been completed so an educated decision can be made on this matter. There is no reason to proceed sans the information the SB 116 study will provide and we must gather all the necessary information before making irreversible decisions. The importance of the impact on our infrastructures and environment should remain a priority and we are counting on you to do your due diligence to protect our county and way of life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lx Stogden
212 N Delaware Ave
Brunswick, MD 21716

From: David W <davichon47@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 3:10 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Dataetceras

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear representatives

None of the proposed "limitations" on data center growth here makes sense -- considering the pressure you will be under from folks with far more power than Adamstown residents or those who understand long-term environmental consequences. And the pressure to foolishly try to compensate for budget cuts coming down the pike.

What to do? The non- politician thing: a full stop beyond existing Quantum commitments. That seems and is a bleak prospect. But the Frederick relative - prosperity bubble cannot last. The alternatives to a precedent - setting hard stop -- raging poverty and social conflict -- are far worse.

Some of you were have won votes for your pragmatic solutions, some for promises promises. You did not foresee crisis. Maybe none of us all prepared for that. But maybe as our representatives you have a different job now. Full stop.

 david wolinsky
Frederick

From: Brian Fox <briandfox@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 3:15 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data center expansion - NO

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members,

I am horrified at the thought of you approving a larger data center zone. Stop being greedy trying to get tax dollars - you are raping and plundering a beautiful part of the county. WE DON'T WANT DATA CENTERS!

No cost studies have been done - they need to be done.

My electric bill is too high, my water bill is too high. Building these monstrosities because you are greedy and want tax dollars is just wrong. Stop the madness, do not expand beyond the old East Alco property.

Sincerely,

Brian Fox

From: Steve Poteat <cspoteat@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 3:23 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Testimony on CDI Overlay Zone and Zoning Map Amendment, December 16, 2025

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Comments on CDI Overlay Zone and Zoning Map Amendment to the County Council,
Testimony of Steve Poteat, Sugarloaf Mountain Road
December 16, 2025

My major concern is you, the County Council, do not have the foggiest idea what the actual costs to the County will be from this largest rezoning ever in the County's history.

Decisions come with costs, not only benefits. Would you make budget decisions without this information? I hope not. So far five of you see only industry-promoted dollar signs, not overcrowded schools.

I suspect only a few of you have done analysis of what public costs will be of the massive industrialization that your potential action to expand the CDI Overlay Zone will bring to the southwestern area of the County.

Citizens don't believe for a moment that you will stop with the 4000 acres at the old Eastalco plant. No one will remember the commitment to limit data centers to 1% of the County. That can be changed with a simple 4-3 vote as soon as the expanding data center industry dangles riches before your eyes. We know that Urbana is next. The upcoming I-270 Corridor Plan may as well be renamed the Natelli Data Center Corridor Plan. After all, it is only "commercially reasonable" as one developer noted, despite a fifty-year County commitment of open space for the Sugarloaf region. And Frederick City is already teeing up to be the next municipal data center concentration, followed soon by Brunswick.

Does it concern you at all that the so-called "expert" economic analyses provided by the Sage group, sponsored by the Maryland Tech Council and endorsed by the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, and the HRA analysis, sponsored by Catellus and endorsed by Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, vary in their annual revenue estimates by a factor of 5: \$41 million to \$215 million. Somebody has got to be wrong, way wrong. Do you know who? I don't think so. And, most importantly, the prospect of a business personal property tax in Frederick County, the Golden Goose of Northern Virginia, is remote if not dead due to the power of the data center industry lobby and our pro-data center Governor.

In addition to new revenue, what about the increased costs of County services? This is the reason for a rigorous cost/benefit analysis. Sage says there will be 6,300 new workers, HRA says 9,800 new workers. That's just the new workers. Presumably, those folks will want families and housing and schools. That will mean 3 or more people added to the county for every job, or between 19,000 and 29,000 new folks requiring public services. What happened to the idea that data centers will not impact public services? This idea was never based in reality. Do you know what the cost is for every new public-school student? Well north of \$20,000. The thousands of new houses that will be needed for the new employees and their families will compete in an already tight housing market. This will further drive up

County housing costs, and, of course, assessment values, thus leading to higher property taxes for all. Thank you, data centers.

Nowhere has anyone publicly put “pencil-to-paper” to figure out the real costs of public services resulting from the data center invasion of Frederick County. Despite the fact that the data center invasion began over five years ago, no public agency has undertaken the necessary analysis. We think we know the reason why: community analyses around the country show that data center development does not produce the net fiscal bonus that developers proclaim. As Paul Kedrosky of MIT’s Initiative on the Digital Economy has noted: “It’s a very speculative real estate game, but it’s sold as a no-brainer.”

At some point public policy makers are going to wake up to the fact that all industries are not equal in providing net benefits to the County and hopefully economic development incentives will reflect that fact. AstraZenica is getting \$100 million in public money for their expansion. Hopefully it won’t be another Bechtel take-the-money-and-run. Years later those buildings remain largely empty.

Some of you, along with developers, have suggested that data centers will produce somewhere between 10% and 40% of needed county revenues at some point in the future. It is interesting that there have been no projections of the expected public costs in the future to compare with those projected revenues.

This is just the beginning of the fleecing the County. Data centers are undesirable industrial neighbors that destroy adjacent property values. It has been estimated that the surrounding community will lose \$162 million in property values. How would you like to have your house devalued by \$40-50,000 dollars? What about the impact on the values of surrounding farmland. Does the County’s commitment to farmland preservation mean anything anymore?

There are many other negative impacts that my fellow concerned citizens will discuss this evening, including higher and ever-climbing electricity rates, exhaustion of our water supply, safety concerns from the on-site storage of massive amounts of diesel fuel, light and noise pollution, and 10-15 years of damaging construction traffic.

I will end with a positive statement. All things considered, I urge you to support Councilmember McKay’s position to “limit the CDI OZ to only the currently approved Catellus properties by removing the Windridge and Noffsinger properties from the proposed CDI OZ. Catellus has more than half of their buildable property still uncommitted with site plans, leaving a lot of additional room for development without adding more acreage...Against this backdrop, it is unconscionable to consider expanding the available land for data centers.”

From: Marjorie Rosensweig <marjorierosensweig@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 3:45 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: data centers

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I just received an email informing me and countless other Frederick Countians (and Marylanders) that the Maryland Senate has "overwhelmingly" overturned Governor Moore's veto of the Data Center Study bill. It would seem as though legislators statewide are concerned about the one-sided and often-quoted "studies" of the amazing benefits of data centers and want to know the costs of such installations as well.

It would behoove you to pause in the County's rush to attract and accommodate data centers until said study is completed, and we have a balanced picture of what we will gain and at what cost. I, and most of my friends and colleagues, realize that data centers are coming to Frederick. The issue is how and to what degree the centers' impacts affect us all. Based on the study, you may decide the benefits far outweigh the risks (which have been clearly documented in the many letters you have received to date and testimony of many Countians). Alternatively, you may decide to safeguard the residents and assure maintenance of our way of life by placing restrictions on the building and operation of said centers to preserve our resources and way/quality of life.

Marjorie Rosensweig
50 Citizens Way
Frederick

From: William Warren <wwarren@etc-md.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:04 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Centers in Frederick County

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I am a business owner here in this county. I also reside in this county. I send this from my business address as I feel someone from the technology industry with a contrary opinion about data centers needs to speak up. We simply do not have enough resources for these data centers. We are running short on water, land, power, and electronic components. AI is not intelligent. It is artificial. All modern AI is a large database...that is all they are. Ask an AI when it's last training date was then ask it something after that date. Most times it won't know. It looks like intelligence...but it really isn't.

Why is modern AI a problem? Right now, AI is causing shortages in power. Power rates have gone up drastically due to the data centers being given reduced rates and the enormous amount of power they consume. This passes the costs to the consumer and small businesses who may not even use these resources, I am one of those folks that does not make large use of AI. AI is causing massive electronics shortages. I was informed by my Dell and Lenovo representatives that prices are going up by a MINIMUM of 25% across the board Jan 4. Datacenters do not add to the job base, and they do not add much if anything to the tax base. Due to the tax breaks often given these campuses become parasitic and not beneficial. They are not job magnets as most of the systems are totally automated. A crew of 100-200 is all that is needed for a massive data center to operate. The costs to the community in terms of power, land usage, power cost increases, and tax revenue destruction do not make data centers a beneficial proposition. Once this bubble bursts, the county and the local municipalities will be stuck holding the bag on how to dispose of the gigantic wastelands.

It is in my estimation that data centers should NOT be allowed to go forward beyond anything already built. If they have not been built or approved, it's time to stop this before even more families and businesses get forced out of the state further eroding the tax base and putting an increased burden on those left behind.

If you wish to have me talk personally contact me here or at 301-524-5271

Sincerely,
William Warren
CEO
Emmanuel Technology Consulting, INC.

From: Marilyn Bagel <mbwriter2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:05 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Today's Data Centers Meeting Testimony

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Frederick Council Members and County Executive Fitzgerald,
I hope to attend today's meeting in person but in case I can't be there,
I want to be sure you have my testimony regarding the future of Data
Centers in Frederick.

We are living in a time and in a country when literally daily we're at the
effect of soulless decisions that attack our wellbeing by an
administration that puts PROFITS BEFORE PEOPLE. After all, that's the
American way. I recently heard on an NPR broadcast that we should
put our faith in the decisions by leaders at the local government level
because it's our only hope that real humanity will prevail.

There is plenty of evidence as to the negative effects of data centers,
their danger to ravaging our environment, raising electrical prices. I
could go on and on. But you already know these.

So as stewards of Frederick are you going to do the right thing? Are
you going to reverse the system that puts PROFITS BEFORE PEOPLE? Are
you going to, once and for all, really put the wellbeing of our people
first?

I sincerely hope so. Because as our local government that, yes, is by
the people and for the people, you are our only hope. Most sincerely,
Marilyn Bagel

I communicate your messaging in the strongest, most engaging way for award shows, conferences, events, and multimedia.

MARILYN BAGEL

Scriptwriter, Speechwriter, Author

cell: 301-580-3281

mbwriter2@gmail.com

www.MarilynBagelWriter.com

President, The Frederick Art Club

Member, Frederick Arts Council

Member, Women's Giving Circle of Frederick County

Member, African American Resources, Cultural and Heritage (AARCH) Society

From: Luke Tate <lukemiketate@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:07 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Postpone the CDI Overlay Vote

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members,

Please postpone the CDI Overlay vote.

The override of the governor's veto on SB 116 is directly related to today's CDI Overlay vote. This override is indicative that it is undeniable and evident that there is a large public interest in understanding the impacts of data centers. The state senate has just provided the opportunity for much needed information to come to light that can help this body to make a more informed decision about such a critical matter. Given these circumstances, it would be reprehensible for the county council to vote without first receiving the findings of the study.

Please postpone the vote.

Luke Tate
2408 Doubs Ct, Adamstown, MD 21710



From: Ian Mathews <wvuphisher@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:23 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center Land Access: Impact and Analysis from a Concerned Resident

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good Afternoon,

My name is Ian Mathews, I am a resident of Frederick County and a Tech worker in the Aviation IT industry.

I am in opposition to allowing any further land access for data centers in Frederick County. Outcomes in counties similar to Frederick where data centers have taken hold have shown that data centers do not provide many long term, high paying jobs, often averaging less than 1 permanent employee per 50,000 square feet of space (Loudoun County data). They use an unfair share of utilities that cause an alarming rise in utility costs and strains an already stretched thin public. Pollution and noise increases from fossil fuel based backup generator systems have adverse health effects on residents, and basing Frederick's long term financial stability on projected tax revenue from data centers carries significant risk. The current frenzy in data center expansion is tied to highly volatile market conditions, and a market correction in this, very much speculative, AI sector could leave the county with massive infrastructure investment debt and underperforming assets.

I am urging the Frederick County Council to not expand land access for data centers and instead prioritize more sustainable and long term goals that will directly benefit its population. We are in an arms race of inefficient, careless, and questionable market frenzy that will do more harm than good. Frederick County must not allow itself to become part of this frenzy.

Thank you for considering my informed opposition,

--

Ian Mathews
304-554-9203

privacy notice:

Parts of this email may contain personal or private information, use discretion when forwarding emails to others.

From: Jennifer Gufreda <mrsgufreda@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:25 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>;
countyexecutive@frederickcounty.gov; planningcommission@frederickcounty.gov
Subject: Data Center input

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good afternoon,

It has come to my attention that Frederick is considering yet another data center build out. However, it is also my understanding that we still don't know what the total impact of the current data center build out in Adamstown is going to be. It seems foolish to consider building more of these data centers before having a more thorough investigation of the real impacts on the everyday people of Frederick. The reality of the amount of long term sustainable employment is usually much lower than the actual employment of the build out process, which employees many for an extended period, but then it drops significantly.

Electricity: Who is paying for it? How much is it being billed per Kw/h? How much is the estimated usage per month going to be? Are everyday people of Frederick going to be footing the bill? Because if this is the case, with times as tight as they already are, I suspect it won't be long before folks are having to choose between heat and food.

Water and environmental impacts. Having previously lived in New Mexico and seeing the very little the Facebook data center has actually done to benefit the community in terms of sustainable private sector jobs compared to the damage it is doing to the water tables of the Rio Grande; there is simply not enough data yet to see if building more of these is a good idea. I think it is of paramount importance that the county pump the brakes on approving any more of these data centers without an independent impact study being done.

It is up to the elected, and thereby appointed, members of our community to put the people before the profits of the community and take more time to make decisions about these data centers.

A worthwhile watch: <https://youtu.be/YN6BEUA4jNU?si=IQHliwhY0yNb7QOv>

And another: <https://youtu.be/DGij7wDYail?si=G6xVFxfsqUQzirkn>

Thank you for your open mindedness and consideration of this very serious matter,

Residents of 2622 Mill Race Rd.
Frederick, MD 21701

From: Tim Alborg <talborg@rowan.digital>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:24 PM
To: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Clarification Regarding Recent Media Coverage

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

This message was sent securely using Zix®

County Executive Fitzwater and members of the Frederick County Council,

I wanted to reach out directly in light of an article published late Friday that quoted unnamed sources suggesting Rowan may be exploring a sale or capital raise.

For legal reasons, Rowan does not comment publicly on specific financing matters. That said, I want to be clear about what has not changed.

When Rowan first began work in Frederick County, we committed to being long-term partners in the community. That commitment remains firmly in place today – even more so – with three active projects that have earned broad community support and several new philanthropic partnerships we are incredibly proud to be part of.

Regardless of funding sources, Rowan will maintain a direct and strong presence in Frederick County for years to come.

More broadly, given the capital-intensive nature of our industry, it is common for developers like Rowan to continually evaluate efficient ways to grow and manage our portfolio. Exploring strategic financing is a normal part of operating at scale and it does not signal a change in the owner of local projects, over project timelines, or commitment to Frederick County.

We remain excited about our projects here and deeply value our ongoing collaboration with you and with this incredible community.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Best regards,
Tim

Tim Alborg
Director, Government & Community Affairs
(m) 770.595.0190
talborg@rowan.digital



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From: Elizabeth Willis <mcbeth@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 5:13 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; info@jessicafitzwater.com; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: John Willis <macjohn@mac.com>; Josh Willis <macjosh@mac.com>
Subject: Stop Data Center Expansion: Senator Van Hollen calls for an investigation into Data Center role in electricity cost rise

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Elected Officials,

Is it possible you are beginning to sense you may be headed towards being on the wrong side of history?

I can barely keep up with the national uproar about the impacts of data center proliferation. How about you?

Just this afternoon, Senator Van Hollen made this announcement: "As data centers pop up in every corner of the country, their electricity demands are spiking rates for everyone.

But why on Earth should you be covering the electricity bill of a billion-dollar tech giant?

This week, **U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Richard Blumenthal, & I** are asking big tech just that."



Just today the Maryland Senate voted UNANIMOUSLY to override the Governor's veto of the data center impact study.



[Maryland lawmakers override veto, will study impact of data centers](http://www.yahoo.com)
[yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)

And by late afternoon Gov Moore is backtracking on his opposition to the study in the face of overwhelming political and constituent pressure.

There are other bills out there requiring data centers to produce their own power. These will be taken up in the 2026 session.

I have not seen evidence of thinking out of the box from the Frederick County Council, in the many ways needed to responsibly engage with this technology. Hint: hundreds of diesel generators is not the way.

For the love of God! Pause. There is no justification to rush ahead with the CDI overlay.

I must tell you that everyone I run into, whether or not they are deeply involved in this issue- says “what’s up with the County Council? is someone paying them? Why are they taking a final vote on Dec 23rd? That’s sketchy. What’s with these expensive mailers everyone is getting? These fliers are very concerning. It is obvious they are not telling the whole truth on the impacts and that they are trying to rally people who don’t know what is really going on. Do the monied people control this? “

Your constituents are outraged.

Wishing for you to take a deep breath and engage in open minded thinking. To do otherwise will not go well for anyone.

your also increasingly outraged constituent,

Beth Willis
8135 Ball Rd
Frederick, MD 21704
301-514-7648

From: Sue Hough <sue@8vodesigns.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 9:59 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Centers & Critical Digital Infrastructure Support

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members,

I am writing this email in support of the CDI Overlay Map for the following reasons:

- Data centers should be built and controlled in specific areas, versus countywide proliferation
- The Eastalco site (and properties surrounding it) are the best place to build these facilities.
- The timing of future data center construction can be regulated, so the sites currently under construction can be brought online before adding new facilities
- County Executive Fitzwater used a structured, transparent process to allow the current development
- While there are certainly long-term infrastructure issues associated with data centers, such power, emergency generators and cooling water, all of these issues can be dealt with using the regulatory powers of the County
- Data centers can (and will) contribute significant financial resources to allow major infrastructure projects and operational funding priorities to advance

Thank you,
Sue Hough
Frederick County Chamber of Commerce Board Member



Sue Hough

301-695-8885
50 Citizens Way, Suite 403-1A
Frederick, MD 21701
8vodesigns.com

From: Jeanne Geisinger <jmg51654@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 10:02 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: Soo Lee-Cho, Lawyer <sleecho@bregmanlaw.com>
Subject: CDI-Overlay Zone / Comprehensive Plan Amendment - GEISINGER NORTH (i.e., land north of Mountville Road only)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council President Young and Members of the Council,

We are writing to briefly provide additional input to the public hearing testimony provided by our legal counsel, copied here, last evening on our family's behalf, as her time to present did not allow for the below to be mentioned.

*We just wanted to note that when our father purchased the property in the early 1980s, the Rural Legacy and/or Priority Preservation eligibility overlay did not exist on the property. It was placed on the property without our family's consent. Our father was adamant about keeping the land free of any government ties. As we have stated publicly previously, unlike some other properties being considered for the CDI Overlay, our family did not purchase the property knowing the property was in the RLA/PPA. **We have never entertained applying for either program.***

Best regards,
Jeanne Geisinger, Kathy Wolfe, Jeff Geisinger, Daniel Geisinger, Gary Geisinger

From: Logan Kuhn <logankuhn@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 9:28 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: AI Data Center Support

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello Council Members,

My name is Logan Kuhn and I believe that I speak for a sadly non-vocal caste of Marylanders when I say that it is in all of our best interests to support the construction of an AI Data Center in our beautiful state. As a lifelong Maryland resident, I want to see our community thrive and assert itself as a leader in the upcoming years. I make my home in Frederick county, not too far from one such proposed site, and truly believe that constructing a data center would provide well-paying, middle-class jobs for Marylanders like myself. The reason I felt so compelled to write this is that I am well aware the backlash you have been receiving in regards to this decision. Being in college, I can see many individuals who are adamantly opposed to this line of thinking; however, being around many people I can verify this is not a universally held viewpoint. I do not even believe it is an opinion held by the majority of Marylanders. These peers I speak of who pride themselves on this facility's opposition do mean well, I believe, but I do not think they are thinking of the overall good of the state when they speak out. The drawbacks are clear, but at times I believe there are circumstances in which you must trade the better decision with the popular one. I understand how difficult these times are, so I wanted to write and inform you of my support. Generally speaking, politics disinterest me. It is easy to stay silent when we sit back and get what we want, but that is not the person I want to be in this instance. For that reason, I thank you all for your prioritization of the state which I treasure and for your commitment to every single one of us who live here.

Sincerely,

Logan Kuhn

From: Jeff Griffin <Jeff.Griffin@dcmbio.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 11:10 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: CDI Overlay Map - comment submission

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good afternoon-

I know you all have heard from me multiple times - as a board member of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, techfrederick, and Maryland Tech Council - but given the current status of this hearing being extended for public comment, I feel it's prudent to share my thoughts again.

And here's why:

I moved to Frederick County over 30 years ago.
I graduated from Urbana High over 25 years ago.
My kids now attend FCPS schools.
I've worked in Frederick for over 20 years.
I run a business in Frederick.

Frederick is home; it's my family's home.

I share that list and identity to make clear that the stakes are real for me and my family. They're real for every Frederick County resident.

Data centers are an opportunity for our community. With any opportunity, it can be seized or squandered. To take *appropriate* advantage of this opportunity, I believe the key factors are:

- Use land appropriately and legally, respecting property owners' rights - this means residential **and** commercial owners.
 - The current Eastalco site and some surrounding areas are ideal for data centers - not all over the county but in very specific places and limited other locations.
- Be logical, consistent, and transparent with legislation and regulation.
 - Common sense, realistic regulation of any future sites is still feasible and necessary outside of the unique Eastalco site, which can address power and water issues effectively.
- Be honest about real impacts - the pros and the cons.
 - Stop blaming all power issues and MPRP on these data centers alone. Statewide decisions created the larger power issues, and we're dealing with the consequences.
 - Be honest about backup generators - actual use versus exaggerated use for air and sound impacts.
 - The massive financial resources that will create generational impact for schools, roads, and residential property tax rates.

- Be true to our history while understanding that without change AND the discomfort that always accompanies growth, we'll find ourselves talking about what could have been and "remember when" instead of "look at what we can do."

I urge you to approve a logical CDI overlay - not including the amendments proposed by the Planning Commission - that allows for the continued development of data centers to fundamentally benefit our county for years to come.

Thank you. -JG

JEFF GRIFFIN | Managing Director
DCM BioServices | dcmbio.com
301.514.5490 | 800.240.4593

From: Judy Rosey <jprosey@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 10:46 AM
To: Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Last night's meeting

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello council members,

My name is Judy Rosey and I live on East Basford right across from the proposed industrial zone. First of all, I want to thank you for staying until after midnight last night. I was beyond exhausted after listening to all the pros and cons of this decision. Although we don't necessarily agree on everything, we took home the data center worker from Baltimore to sleep at our home last night since he had to get up so early this morning. There are so many emotional people on both sides of this issue and I understand your difficult decision. I do want to reiterate where I stand. When we arrived home late last night, the stars were so vivid in the sky and the view was phenomenal with the snow covered fields. It made me appreciate all that I have that so many people don't have. I love my home. I don't have an opposition to the data center that has already been built because it can't be changed at this point. But to rezone the priority preservation area (Suzanne Irrevocable Trust) can be stopped and I plead with you **not to rezone** this area to an industrial zone. Thank you for reading this and considering the view of myself and my neighbors.

Judy Rosey

From: Caitlyn Kolhoff <myers1cn@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 11:16 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Strong opposition to data centers in FC

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members:

I want to start by saying I moved to Frederick County in 2022. I was drawn to the area because of its balance of big city amenities and small town charm. When family and friends visit us they are captivated by the beauty of the city and constantly comment on how unique of a place it is.

The recent proposal to allow/limit restrictions on data centers in the county is deeply disturbing to me. This would place corporate interests over the interests of the community members of Frederick County. Allowing these centers to expand unchecked, as we've seen in other parts of our region, will lead to increased electric costs for our community and the degradation of our treasured environmental resources.

While I am politically active and aware, I've never felt the need to speak publicly on an issue apart from this. I mention that because I want you to understand how dire I feel this situation is. As members of the Council, I am asking you to protect the interests of the people of Frederick County and to keep this community thriving for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Caitlyn Kolhoff, D.EdTech
Frederick County, MD, Resident

From: Robert Clemson <clemsonr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 11:18 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center Overlay Letter Clemson

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

December 17, 2025

Dear councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov

I am a lifetime resident of Frederick County Maryland for 63 years. I grew up here, worked here and plan to stay here. I understand the data center is a large issue for the county to consider. I wanted to forward my personal thoughts for you to consider when deciding the data center overlay from just the Eastalco site, to the planning commission recommendations, and for the connecting property owners that want to be included in the overlay. I am part owner of 4719 Ballenger Creek Pike farm. 150 acres in size. I farmed there in the past and now we have a crop farmer for the fields. I agree that farmland is important but urban sprawl and hopscotch planning is not the best way to plan. Eastalco was a heavy industrial plant and I understand that that region was planned to be an employment center for the county that didn't take off and since then the properties were downgraded. The overlay appears to be a long term plan to expect growth of GI and Data centers in an area and not everywhere. Currently I would be **FOR adding the 4719 Ballenger creek pike property to the overlay** and below are my bullet points for more information.

- Family purchased the ballenger creek farm in the mid 1960's.
- Worked the crops on the farm even though I was very young.
- Drove a tractor on the farm and roads hauling crops to the main farm on New Design.
- Remember the Eastalco truck traffic during the build out of the plant that later employed up to 1200 employees at a peak. To the final days in 2005 where we made 1 million pounds of aluminum a day, and employed 624 people at the end. I worked there for 22 years. Our production was offshored

to Iceland because of the very inexpensive hydro electric power that was provided there.

- The Ballenger farm. Most all family members sold out their shares and I brought in a partner Tom Horman with me as the current owners.
- We are at a crossroads in Frederick county. Stay in a farm community and raise property taxes to appease the desires of the new people moving in from other areas of the state, or accept that a data center industry will help the tax base for all.
- A data center has its issues: energy, water use, emissions and noise. Some can be reduced but the need for more computing power is coming.
- We all use computers and our cell phones. Data centers have several resources they provide. Computing power, search assistance, artificial intelligence and not what most are aware of people surveillance (a bad thing).
- Websites to search for Dollar Vigilante, The Crowhouse, and Brighteon to name a few. Do your homework to answer your questions. Become awake to what is changing all around us.
- We need to accept that data centers are already here in Frederick county. Most residences in the Adamstown area got used to the disappearance of the aluminum smelter known as Eastalco, but the property was Zoned back in 1967 for industrial usage and now it is back to what it was zoned for.
- This meeting is about increasing the area by the property owners that want to be in the overlay. Maybe like our property half of the acres works and half doesn't. Maybe a center point and a radius from the Eastalco site.
- Several years ago I was on a Church disaster mission to the midwest. I saw a lot of wind mills both existing and being built. Talking with the land owners they came up with a compensation plan to compensate the neighboring owners that had to look at such windmills. This way the property value argument is neutralized for the neighbors.
- Just realize the neighbors are not wanting their property values to go down and the overlay owners just get the most value for their property if they choose to sell or develop it.
- I can answer any questions about the Eastalco history, data center issues as I have learned so far, and my energy knowledge I have learned over time.
- I would like for the council to vote **FOR the inclusion** of the property owners that have applied to be included in the overlay.

Thank you

Robert Clemson Myersville MD.

From: BRENDA SCHROEDER <brendaleeschroeder@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:15 PM
To: Constituent Services <constituentservices@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Re: Data Center

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear County Executive Fitzwater and County Council Members;
Due to a conflict in scheduling, I could not attend tonight's meeting regarding the proposed data center. Tonight was the last night of a class I am taking. But I wanted to again share my many concerns over this proposal.

I have outlined my reasoning in previous emails. Today, I am including an Instagram post by Bernie Sanders, announcing that he is proposing a moratorium on data centers. His reasoning is aligned with my reasoning. And I am pleading with you to stop this project. It can lead to no good. It will cause great harm to our community, our infrastructure, our finances, and our privacy. And in this current climate, possibly our own safety. Please watch this video and please stop this project. Thank you.



<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DSV4Q6ogQvI/?igsh=MXQ5aDlsYm9kY3V2Mg==>

Sincerely,
Brenda Schroeder

On Dec 13, 2025, at 11:37 AM, BRENDA SCHROEDER <brendaleeschroeder@msn.com> wrote:

Dear County Executive Fitzwater and County Council Members:
In my previous message, I outlined my objections to the data center project. I included an Instagram link that had more information backing up my objection. I am today, including a second Instagram link. It clearly states all of my objections to the data center proposal. It is stating the truth through humor. But it is still the truth.

<https://www.instagram.com/reels/DQ5ERbLkqlX/>

<579650328_18535776613037211_8812069521899600330_n.jpg>

Charlie Berens on Instagram: "Coming to
a town near you . . . #invention #robots
#comedy #howto"
instagram.com

Please do not succumb to the lies. No good can come to us, our county, or our planet from this data center. Please stop this project. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Brenda Schroeder

On Dec 7, 2025, at 2:31 PM, BRENTA SCHROEDER <brendaleeschroeder@msn.com> wrote:

Dear County Executive Fitzwater:

I am emailing with my many concerns about the data center being proposed for the Eastalco campus. I am greatly concerned about the hazards to our environment, the added air and water pollution from the massive amounts of energy required, the increased energy costs to our county residents due to the new infrastructure needed and the massive draw on our energy providers, and above all, privacy concerns over the data being held. The latter is especially worrisome, given the current administration in Washington DC. I am hoping that your committee is looking into all of these matters and putting safeguards into place to protect us. I am also sending along a link to an Instagram post about how Finland is dealing with some of these same

issues. https://www.instagram.com/p/DR5E8FFExlu/?img_index=7&igsh=MWxoZG5vZmk1Z2E2Mg==

Sincerely,
Brenda Schroeder

Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 9:42 PM

To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Cc: County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Subject: FW: New voicemail for County Council

This voicemail can be reviewed [here](#).

From: +17138207979

Message Transcription: Hi, my name is Gabriela Conrado. I am calling in regards to the council meeting that is occurring right now in regards to the data center. I moved out here to Frederick, unbeknownst to me that there was a data center, that center thing occurring back in 2019. And honestly, I just didn't really pay attention to, not necessarily to politics, but I just didn't pay attention. I am not necessarily for technology or opposed to technology. I work in biotech tech is in my career path and what I studied. So I definitely understand the pros and cons, but as everybody else that's urging the conversations or the comments that they're saying today is, let's wait and see. Because currently there are, there is so much information that negatively shows, or sorry, that's showing the negative impact of data centers to the surrounding community in which they're built. And I understand that yes, there might be some jobs growth, there might be some, you know, tax incentives, but there's also the drawbacks of water use electricity and you know, just green space being taken noise. Hell. And I'm not saying I think that we need to be cautiously optimistic with some things and in the sense of let's wait and see. There's no reason to rush. I'm not quite sure why we're trying to rush an expansion. If there's, the project hasn't been done. And I believe one of the members even stated, you know, if you know this was a business and a partner came and said, Hey, I, you know, I think we're projecting X, Y, and z. I want X amount more money. Okay, but where are the studies? You, you can project on hopes and dreams, but if there's nothing that's viable that's showing and there's already something that's showing that there's negative impact, why invest more money or why invest more? Everything. So I believe that the appropriate thing to do is to wait on the expansion. I am opposed to data centers in the sense that I understand that, okay, we want it for ai, but what are we using AI for truly in your day-to-day life. I know that when I Google something, if I do a search engine, the first thing that comes up is ai. I don't need that summary. I don't need those things. I can use my critical thinking to find the documents and data that I need. What are we truly using it? I get frustrated whenever I see on the news where, or the commercials where it's like AI. But what I'm saying is that the use of AI with these data centers, it's not necessarily beneficial. There are some pros and cons, but I believe we need to wait because as several people and teachers are stating, you know, it's not helping, it's not helping students, it's, you know, not allowing them to use critical thinking. A lot of the systems that we have in place right now don't necessarily need AI and it's taking jobs. How can you say that? It's creating jobs when it's been proven that companies wanna use AI to take people's work. And then, and I think that in this rush to, I wanna do, I wanna do, I wanna get, I wanna get, I don't know what it is. It's almost as if we're doing the space race again, where we wanna be the first ones on the, on the moon. Like I understand that, but at

what cost? At what cost to the residents. And it's very true. We vote, we vote for you guys and city council, we vote for county members, we vote. So we're gonna pay attention, we're gonna pay attention to these votes. And I don't know if you wanna hold your positions or not, but we vote and we pay attention. And not even that, like others said, I've been watching videos where people have tried to get on, on, like do just a video on data centers and they get rushed out and then they, I've also seen watch a more perfect union videos on data center or just literally YouTube, any data center, they'll tell you the pros and cons. A lot of cons to it. So thank you for your time. I hope you guys have a happy holiday season and I hope you guys side with the majority of the constituents that are stating, wait, let's wait and see. Let's wait and see what the third party environmental impact cost analysis says about data centers. Thank you. Have a wonderful day.

[Audio File](#)

Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:30 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: FW: New voicemail for County Council

This voicemail can be reviewed [here](#).

From: +13017483278

Message Transcription: Stop what they want to do. I don't want a data center at my face. Goodbye.

[Audio File](#)

You can change or disable notifications like these on the [project settings tab](#).

From: Genevieve Moore <moore.gemmedia@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:05 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: NO DATA CENTERS IN FREDERICK COUNTY

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Data centers are TRULY DISASTROUS for any nearby communities and ecosystems. Any work being brought to the area is short term, and not sustainable for the environment or neighborhoods of close proximity.

The fact that the council is even considering this is extremely disappointing.

Your constituents and community DOES NOT WANT THIS. They don't want to pay more for their energy bills or water (which data centers use MASSIVE amounts of by the way, oh, and they pass on the bill to houses nearby). Your constituents don't want to be burdened with health issue due to hazardous waste runoff into waterways and air pollution.

Hear your constituents voices, we do not want this! NO DATA CENTERS IN FREDERICK COUNTY!

Genevieve Moore
Moore.Gemmedia@gmail.com

From: Steve Cook <mdvolfan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:05 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center Overlay Concerns

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

As a concerned senior citizen I am not in favor of expanding the Data Center Overlay Zone. My concerns include the extra demand for electricity that additional data centers would require plus the stress on the ground water supply. Please consider not approving an expansion of the Overlay Zone.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Stephen J. Cook

From: Brian Gove <bgove@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:41 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: STOP data center expansion! Never-Ending Growth, without benefit for Frederick County

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To the Frederick County Executive and Council,

My name is Brian Gove and I am emailing in regards to the proposal to expand the zone for data centers in the county nearby Adamstown. You must reject this expansion, which will have massive ramifications for the economic and environmental health of the county. Those pushing this expansion are Big Tech corporations that do not care for the people living and working here, nor do they care for the ruin they will leave here once the complex is built.

The money earned for Frederick County will be short-term gains only; in jobs, commerce, profits made from sale of land. But once up and running, a data center needs only a skeleton crew for maintenance operations...no return for Frederick County, and those jobs, and attached commerce boost go away.

The data center will cause environmental issues during construction, in terms of run-off, waste, and wasted materials and resources.

And the data center will cause an enormous drain on the public infrastructure during operation, requiring enough power for 2X that which is required to keep Baltimore running? In Adamstown?

And the data center will draw so much water, that whether they are on a city-provided water supply, or on a private well, we can rest assured that their cooling system requirements will run reservoirs, cisterns, and aquifers dry at alarming rates!

And the data center will run 24/ 7/ 365, with so much noise, air, and light pollution the likes of which this part of the county has never seen!

Push back on growth for immediate return! Please, look at what the impact will be 20 years from now. Usually that picture is a little grim, and the vision of it is intended to keep you from making a mistake.

Please don't make the mistake of expanded the data center lot for corporate greed, and for responsible Frederick County growth.

Regards,
Brian Gove
3rd generation land owner
Eastern Frederick County

From: Dine Bne <dinebne@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:35 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center in Frederick County

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello,

I am writing to request that the impacts of the data center being constructed on human, animal, and plant life be thoroughly studied and published. Our charm - our soul, even - as a county is inextricable from our conserved agricultural land, and no data center should encroach upon it. Additionally, myself as well as many of my friends and family who live in Frederick have experienced massive increases in our electric bills within the past couple of months - why are *we* the ones paying for this data center when it ought to be the center itself paying for its own electric generation?

We in the great county of Frederick, Maryland deserve better!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Dennis Bertrand
Frederick City, MD

From: Amelia J <ameliajones625@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:34 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: data center plan

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members:

Dear County Executive Jessica Fitzwater:

Our County and City are for residents: Our living expenses and quality of life must be first and foremost. Protect those, and data centers might be considered good neighbors! Citizens for Responsible Growth (CRG): CRG accepts that data centers are coming to the County at the Eastalco site, BUT STRONGLY disagrees with the assertions above because they ignore the well-documented costs generated by data centers in the U.S. and abroad.

These costs are not included in any of the revenue projections but must be documented in an INDEPENDENT, UNAFFILIATED cost-benefit analysis that, so far, the County and City Councils have not supported. As well, and disturbingly,

- data centers are under consideration with **no identified sources of power or water**.
- **private properties in Baltimore, Carroll, and Frederick counties, including long-term agriculture and businesses, are being lost through eminent domain for the proposed \$424M Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP) transmission line construction that powers N. VA data centers.**
- Maryland residents will cover the majority of the **MPRP transmission lines costs**. connecting the Doubs electric substation to a new substation for a permitted data center in the County has **a total cost of \$33M, with the data center picking up only 8% of the cost, and residents the remainder**.
- **electricity costs are projected to increase for residents from 5% to >20%. nearby property values** decline reducing property tax revenue and resale value. noise controls are inadequate.
- there is **neither adequate emission control nor protection from hazardous spills**. Stormwater impacts are ignored for recharging groundwater that fill neighbor wells and baseflow for local streams.
- **impervious surface runoff threatens flooding of neighboring properties and stream erosion**, and damage to shrub and down-slope tree buffers and floodplains will occur. And
- **electronic waste (e-waste)** is a growing problem that is made far worse by the equipment turnover required in huge, hyperscale data centers.

CRG would be on board IF these issues were addressed in comprehensive fiscal analyses and regulations that ensure our new Eastalco industrial neighbors will guarantee protections needed above. However, the smokescreen created in ignoring the threats and easily-adopted regulations must be countered. An option for the County would be to conduct an assessment of the above-noted threats, by gathering information for a year from the first data center built, and using those collected data to determine whether data centers create these issues, or if the business community's claims are supported.

In addition, the urgency for more data centers has to do with AI which AI technology leaders themselves promote as ending professional technology jobs. All of these and more are concerns that require our leaders to complete an independent, unaffiliated economic and environmental studies to discover the true costs. Your decisions will impact generations - please pause and consider carefully as did both chambers of the Maryland General Assembly that voted today to override Gov. Wes Moore's veto and enact a bill that requires the state to conduct an analysis of the environmental, economic and energy impacts of data center development.

Sincerely,
Amelia Jones
120 Burgess Hill Way, Unit 317
Frederick MD 21702

From: Lisa Minichiello <lminihansen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:22 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I am a concerned citizen who could not make the meeting tonight. I would like to express my strong opposition to going forward with plans for expanding the data center overlay zone. Please keep it to the existing Quantum Frederick data center campus until there can be an independent study of the environmental impact of this center as well as the economic impact.

To follow up on the latter point: I have already seen my electric bill increase greatly and this data center does not even exist yet. I am disabled on a low, fixed income. I have no idea how I can possibly pay higher bills in the future as energy costs are expected to increase with these data centers nearby. I value Frederick's farmland and my being able to exist on my income far more than any AI or supposed economic benefit Frederick County might see - I guarantee you, it won't be low income people who reap any economic benefit. The anticipated skyrocketing energy costs will cost poor people their homes and/or their health. Some people will become homeless because of these increased energy bills from data centers and some people will die when they cannot heat their homes (either from exposure or from trying to use unsafe alternative heat sources). I hope I am wrong. But these consequences have not been properly investigated. Please be proactive and conservative with what the data center is allowed to start with until more information is available about possible harms. Please don't go ahead with ambitious plans and hope for the best (County Executive/Wes Moore) and then have to be reactive after a mess is created that will be much more expensive to clean up.

Thank you very much for your attention.

From: lucyvioletmurasaki@yahoo.com <lucyvioletmurasaki@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:23 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello,

I am reaching out to you to request that you please prioritize putting the Data Center Study Bill back on the legislative docket.

We need to override Governor Moore's veto in order to ensure transparency and accountability with data center development in Maryland.

I am a full-time caretaker of my mother who has incapacitating multiple sclerosis, and our electric bill has gone up 400% in the last two months with little assistance available to help us out. We cannot afford to live like this. I ask that you push to place the economic burden on the data centers creating it for residents of Frederick.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Lucy Hansen

From: Tara DC <t.dewanczarnecki@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:25 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: NO data center

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

My name is Tara Czarnecki. I am a resident in Frederick Co and I am emailing in regards to the proposal to expand the zone for data centers in the county. You must reject this expansion, which will have massive ramifications for the economic and environmental health of the county. Those pushing this expansion are Big Tech corporations that do not care for the people living and working here, nor do they care for the ruin they will leave here once the complex is built.

These corporations are dangling a tiny fraction of the profit they hope to gain in front of you. There has been no objective economic analysis done, we are giving away with 1000 acres of protected and essential land, we cannot effectively regulate these facilities for their environmental impact, and there has been no plan in place to offset the energy usage of the existing complex, which is equivalent to two Baltimores. Put another way: we are adding a massive drain that will skyrocket already high energy prices, with no real understanding of how it will impact the economic health of the area, and we are destroying 1000s of acres of protected land and destroying over 15 years of environmental work, all to get a small fraction of their profits to try to undo all the damage that will have been done. It is a nonsensical plan.

Please remember that your job is to serve the people of Frederick County and make this area a vibrant place to live for working families. There is no part of this plan that serves that purpose. It will make life exponentially worse, both now and for generations to come. Reject this expansion and take action to prevent more damage than has already been done.

Thank you,
Tara Czarnecki
Resident of Middletown, MD

From: Christopher Rider <chris.r.2179@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:15 PM
To: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Higher Taxes For the DataCenter Proposal

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello,

Having listened to much of the meeting for the data center plan, a lot of the pro-datacenter people talk about how much money the datacenter can make Frederick County. None of them talk about how the electricity and water costs will be offset.

I propose raising a significant tax on their electric and water usage, and distributing it back to the county as rebates on their bills. If the data center is as profitable as the company promises, they should be more than willing to distribute that wealth to the local population and county. Any other proposal is simply looting the county for parts to send to California.

Christopher Rider
Resident of Frederick for 20+ years

From: S. Delaney <susanmarie.delaney@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 6:10 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data center expansion

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

The more that I read about data centers and their impact in other places, the more that I am against any expansion beyond what already is being built. The amount of energy required run these monstrosities is beyond what we have and the rising costs of energy is unsustainable to the citizens of this county. The impact on the beautiful farms, mature forests and land here in the county is not worth any monetary benefits. This high voltage transmission line should never happen. I live near a beautiful wetland, home to beaver and many different animals and birds. Maryland's land, waterways and forests are not expendable. We should not sacrifice them. Please do not approve this transmission line or the expansion of data centers in this county!

Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Susan Delaney
Monrovia, MD

From: Mary Perry <perry.mary.106@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:09 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Re: Enough is enough

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I agree with all the first dozen or so speakers. As for the construction industry, yes, we want to support it, but let's have them build something useful like schools, hospitals, and houses.

On Mon, Dec 15, 2025 at 1:58 PM Mary Perry <perry.mary.106@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Frederick County Council Members,

Please preserve the beautiful rural county we call home and limit data centers to the Planning Commission CDI-OZ recommendations.

Data centers at the East Alco site are an appropriate use for a former industrial area, but expanding them to include much more unspoiled and productive farmland is short-sighted, especially if we can't provide power or water to them without bankrupting ourselves.

The ineffective oversight of the present data center development makes it unacceptable to allow too many more data centers since the consequences may be fiscally and environmentally detrimental.

The Planning Commission made thoughtful recommendations about including the Windridge and Noffsinger properties in the CDI-OZ, and I support that recommendation. We all need data centers, but the proposed CD-OZ is more than enough.

Thanks for listening!

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Perry
8410 Peters Rd
Frederick, MD
21704

Sent from my iPhone

Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:20 PM

To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Cc: County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

This comment can be reviewed [here](#).

From: dtietze@protonmail.com

Subject: Public Comment Regarding Tuesday, December 16, 2025 Meeting Agenda Item IX.
Public Hearing on Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone and Proposed Zoning Map
Amendment

Public Comment Regarding Tuesday, December 16, 2025 Meeting Agenda Item IX. Public Hearing
on Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone and Proposed Zoning Map Amendment

Dear County Council Members McKay, Knapp, Keegan-Ayer, and Donald, Vice-President Duckett,
President Young, and Executive Fitzwater,

As the hour of the council meeting draws closer, I find myself looking for new ways to express this to
you, hoping that something will help you to see the concerns of myself and your other constituents
who oppose these data centers' expansion.

To read from the Frederick land management code, "The M1[light industrial] district is intended to
provide for offices and those industrial activities which do not require special measures to control
odor, dust or noise and which do not involve hazardous materials and whose environmental impacts
are contained within the property limits. Residential uses are not appropriate for this zone."

I can only believe that the council has been misinformed by staff, either by their misunderstanding of
the issue or deliberate action, in the addition of data centers to allowable use of light industrial
zones. Data centers do require special measures to control noise and air pollution, as we have seen
in countless cities across America as residents have cried out for relief from the data centers preying
on small communities. Moreover, data centers, including the one already being built here, repeatedly
call measures to verify that their pollution stays on their campuses too onerous, something which
wouldn't be the case if they truly had no ill effect on those around them.

I am concerned, therefore, that the council is being similarly misinformed when staff recommends
that the CDI overlay zone be massively expanded from the Frederick County Planning Commission's
proposed footprint. This expansion and the requests of additional property owners to be included in
the overlay zone, which I'm sure staff will be happy to recommend the council approve, put
datacenters adjacent to families, communities, and schools for which you are one of the few shields
against the deleterious effects of these facilities.

One only needs to look at the outcry against this expansion to see that the industry cannot deliver on
any promises they make of being a boon to the community. A boon to the community wouldn't have
all these people writing in to express their opposition against adding more of it.

The best thing you could do for Frederick is to put a moratorium on new data center construction and
put hard, verifiable limits on the data centers we currently have. That's what I want to see from this
council. Of course, we can't always get what we want, and at the very least what the communities of
Frederick need from this council is the acceptance of the Frederick County Planning Commission's
more limited CDI overlay zone proposal, rather than this staff recommendation that would more than
double the recommended zone in size and put it abutting residential communities directly.

Maybe someday in the future, once the existing data centers have gotten up and running, when we
the community will agree that we were wrong to be concerned, and that the data centers are in fact

good, and we will ask you to expand the CDI zone. I doubt it, but we could be wrong. I think of the consequences of us being wrong, and all I can think is that they pale in comparison to the consequences of us being right.

If the zone is expanded prematurely, we risk destroying a large swath of valuable farmland, displacing thousands of people, causing chronic health conditions, and having it come to nothing in a few years when these centers collapse. More and more businesses turn away from AI and the industry value is largely propped up by those selling the hardware to run AI for datacenters like this.

On the other hand, if we fail to expand the zone and these businesses turn out to be profitable, good neighbors, they'll be looking to expand in the future, and we can always expand the zone to meet them with residents' blessing.

The two scenarios hardly compare. Please, take the measured step and follow the Frederick County Planning Commission's recommendation.

Sincerely,
Derek Tietze
Frederick, MD

On Monday, December 15th, 2025 at 1:40 PM, Derek Tietze <dtietze@protonmail.com> wrote:

Public Comment Regarding Tuesday, December 16, 2025 Meeting Agenda Item IX. Public Hearing on Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone and Proposed Zoning Map Amendment

Dear County Council Members McKay, Knapp, Keegan-Ayer, and Donald, Vice-President Duckett, President Young, and Executive Fitzwater,

I am writing to express concerns about the proposed expansion of the CDI zone.

In October, I attended a Frederick County Planning Commission meeting regarding the CDI zone. I was there to advocate against the proposed expansions to the zone. There we witnessed an enormous outpouring of opposition for the expansion of data centers' footprints in Frederick county.

I saw person after person stand up and beg, plead, threaten, and argue that the data centers' expansion won't be in the service of Frederick county. The reasons for the concerns are myriad, and I'm sure the other comments have expanded on them effectively enough, but they include economics, environment, ecology, health, community, raising a family, pollution, traffic, and many more. People asked not to be forced to live in the shadow of these constructions in a place they had called home, or be forced to leave.

I also watched people stand up in favor of the data centers, and the reasons were just one: Money. I watched property owners planning to sell, the construction company building the centers, and lawyers from Bethesda stand up and tell us we should allow these data centers to expand so that the speakers could make more money.

The Frederick County Planning Commission, in its wisdom, decided to recommend a minimal expansion of the zone. I would have preferred none, but still I'm happy with their recommendation, recognizing that the government of Frederick doesn't exist just for me. Now the proposal comes to you, and I'm asking you to accept the Frederick County Planning Commission's recommendation and keep the sprawl of data centers in Frederick as little as possible.

The economic benefits of these data centers, the only ones they offer, are not outweighed by their potential detriments - detriments that we know little about at the moment, but momentum nationwide and in Maryland is shifting against them. More and more companies abandon AI implementations. More and more jurisdictions create limits or require studies for data centers.

Lawyers for Microsoft's data centers have admitted that data centers don't bring long-term jobs to the communities they exist in, and that the entire purpose of community agreements is to convince people to accept these monoliths that offer nothing in return. Well, the community agreement that we want is the lack of a data center.

In exchange for what we don't want, we would have to lose hundreds of acres of farmland, the lifeblood of a nation. With food prices rising we need our agricultural land now more than ever.

The expansion of the CDI zone beyond the already accepted campus is unnecessary, and should be postponed. If data centers truly are a boon to our community, we will be supporting the expansion in the future. If they are safe and good neighbors, our neighborhoods will welcome them. Right now, they are unproven and not properly analyzed for their effects. If fact, thus far their neighbors are decrying them. If they want to expand, let them show that they can be a good neighbor with the land they have first. Please, do not include any additional land in the CDI overlay.

Sincerely,
Derek Tietze
Frederick, MD

From: Eric Anderson <eric.anderson@frederickhabitat.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 5:19 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: Scott McCaskill <scott@mccaskill-financial.com>
Subject: Rowan Community Partnership Support

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear members of the Frederick County Council,

As you convene this evening as well as take public feedback regarding the CDI bill, we are sending this attached letter acknowledging what a strong community supporter and partner Rowan has been on behalf of Habitat for Humanity, and what a positive impact that can make in a county such as ours.

Thank you for taking this into consideration, as well as for your time and deliberation.

Sincerely,
Eric Anderson, Executive Director
Scott McCaskill, Board President

Eric Anderson

Executive Director
Habitat for Humanity of Frederick County
917 N. East Street, Unit G, Frederick, MD 21701
Office: (301) 698-2449 x2
Cell: (301) 514-2118
eric.anderson@frederickhabitat.org • frederickhabitat.org

Scott A. McCaskill CFP®
P: 301-668-7366
E: scott@mccaskill-financial.com

From: Kaitlyn May <kaitlynmay02@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 6:24 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center Comment

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council President and Members of the County Council,

I urge the Council to limit the data center overlay zone to the existing Quantum Frederick data center campus at this time.

Expanding the overlay to include additional tracts located in Priority Preservation and Rural Legacy Areas directly undermines the County's agricultural preservation goals and sets a concerning precedent for future land use decisions.

To date, there has been no independent, comprehensive State or County study evaluating the net economic benefits of data centers or their energy, climate, and environmental impacts. Proceeding without this analysis places the County and its residents at risk.

It's my understanding that when fully built out, the existing Quantum Frederick campus may include up to 1,000 backup diesel generators. This raises serious air quality and public health concerns.

Decisions about the size and boundaries of the overlay zone, and the policies governing data center operations, should be informed by a comprehensive and independent study before any expansion is considered.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Kaitlyn May

From: Primary <newhouse.sam@pm.me>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 6:46 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Transcript of Sam Newhouse Public Comments Dec 16th 2025

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Intro

Hello neighbors, my name is Sam Newhouse and I grew up in New Market, as the son of two Frederick County Public School Teachers.

And I am speaking to you today because the propaganda I received in the mail really pissed me off.

I received two pieces of propaganda from the Maryland Data Center Alliance, promoting the expansion of the Eastalco data center campus, and the first piece made me roll my eyes.

It states for a measly 3% of ALL of Frederick county's precious potable water supply, we COULD see up to 40% of our taxes paid for by the unnamed corporations running these data centers. That is before any expansion.

But the second piece of propaganda is why I am here today.

These pieces of propaganda attempt to distract from the core issues surrounding the expansion of the Eastalco data center project; their impact on our shared water and electricity.

The resources that the citizens of Frederick county will be forced to subsidize if this expansion is allowed.

Propaganda

The front reads, "Our kids deserve the best. Now they can get it."

And on the back....

"Data centers can help reduce class sizes, invest in great teachers."

And proposes that this data center's tax revenue could go to hiring teachers. \$215 million in annual tax revenue is mentioned, and references an economic analysis by HR&A advisors. In this economic analysis by HR&A advisors, this proposed tax income is only forecasted from 2036 onward. More than 11 years from now.

And this is all pretending as if the economic impact of this new generation of data centers is a well studied and guaranteed economic goldmine.

Pretending that all investment in this era of Artificial Intelligence has realized any profit, which it has not.

For every dollar invested in the current AI expansion, zero dollars is returned.

This manipulative marketing strategy is the first clue that this Data Center Alliance does not have our best interests at heart. So I dug some more into the Data Center Alliance of Maryland, Powered by the Maryland Tech Council.

Of the 42 members of the Board of Maryland Tech Council, all of them are corporate lobbyists, or lawyers.

They are all working for companies and industries that will directly benefit from the exploitation of our shared water and electricity resources.

None of them are teachers, educators, or community leaders.

The Maryland Tech Council cites one other source for all of its claims.

A paper commissioned from the SageGroup, run by CEO Dr. Anriban Basu.

Dr. Basu is also the Chair of the Baltimore County Economic Advisory Committee.

Baltimore county saw a 1000% electricity price increases due to the growing data center proliferation in the county.

Dr. Basu is also the Chief economist to Associated Builders and Contractors, the Maryland Bankers Association and is the chief economic advisor to the Construction Financial Management Association.

His interests are thusly aligned with the industries that he is paid by.

Dr. Basu includes in his conclusion

“The evidence presented in this primer demonstrates that data centers would provide immediate relief to Maryland’s construction industry ...”

Glaringly absent from any of these sources is any mention of power. Reading these pieces, you would be forgiven for thinking these hundreds of thousands of computers running constantly are running on dreams and magic.

Power

Energy demand is only rising, and demand is already outstripping supply. Energy prices in Frederick County have increased ninefold; I’m sure everyone here is very much aware.

PJM, the energy grid operator for Frederick County, cites data center demand as the number one reason for energy price increases.

An analytics firm, Monitoring Analytics, attributes data centers to 63% of the cost increase.

In Virginia, Data centers consume more than 26% of the state’s energy. Virginian’s energy prices have increased 50% in the last year.

The Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project was proposed in explicit response to Virginia’s proliferation of data centers, and their over exploitation of the energy grid.

Rolling brownouts are expected to be scheduled to compensate for the over exploitation of the energy grid.

Dr. Basu, as Chair of the Baltimore Economic Advisory Committee, notes in the July 7th meeting that rising energy costs are the leading category in cumulative inflation over the past 5 years.

The Livable Frederick Master Plan states that our goal for the energy economy is to use energy technologies that are designed to make communities more efficient, resilient, and sustainable, and to strive for energy independence.

Nothing about a data center contributes to this goal.

Once this data center is built, it's power usage is only going to increase. If this data center campus is expanded, so will it's power use. And our associated electrical costs will skyrocket. That is fundamental to the data center business model; exploit the most electricity and water possible to do as many statistical calculations as possible.

These data centers exploit our electricity, and once they start, they will never stop. These data centers will also exploit our potable water sources.

Water

According to the propaganda from the Data Center Alliance, the data centers at Eastalco will use less than 3% of the county's water supply! This is before any expansion is discussed.

Referencing the Water Resources in Frederick County element of the Livable Frederick Comprehensive Plan from January of 2025, All of Frederick County's livestock only use 1%, and all of our agriculture uses 14%.

3% of our water supply for one campus is huge! That's 480,000 gallons of water a day!

According to the Quantum Frederick Letter of Understanding, from August of 2024, this campus is authorized to pull up to 1.1 million gallons of water per day!

This data center campus likely makes use of evaporative cooling, one of the least efficient water cooling systems.

Evaporative cooling is conducted by spraying a fine mist of potable water onto radiators and left to evaporate into the atmosphere to cool down the radiators.

Data center water use peaks during the summer months, during the same season that has recently been impacted by frequent droughts.

This data center is using Frederick county's water supply from the Potomac. This is our shared water resource.

The Livable Frederick Master Plan states that our goal for our water is to remain safe, reliable, and sustainable, and to thoroughly evaluate development based on the impacts to drinking water supplies.

That a reliable source of clean, potable drinking water that is available and affordable is foundational to ensuring that all Frederick County's citizens can lead safe, productive, and enjoyable lives.

Closing

JPMorgan Chase recognizes that the data center expansion will take years to generate returns, and may not generate returns at all. In response, leaders are attempting, at an increasing rate, to shift their risk to other investors

Goldman Sacs has recently paused a \$1.3 million mortgage bond sale to a data center operator after data center customers abandoned their providers.

Morgan Stanley is investigating and discussing investor options to mitigate their data center and AI infrastructure risks.

These large institutions were sold on the propaganda of the industry, and are now realizing that they were played for fools, and left holding the costs.

These data centers have a high possibility of being left vacant, potentially even before construction is finished.

These data centers will not be profitable. These generative machines use more than ten times the energy of any other internet technology created to date. They are not sustainable.

There isn't a single AI company that makes more money than they spend.

The problems that our community is actively trying to solve, affordability, housing and healthcare, and preserving our green infrastructure are not benefited from building more AI data centers.

From: Nick Carrera <mjcarrera@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 8:10 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: Carrera, Alexandra <sasha.carrera@gmail.com>; Carrera, Johnny <johnnyquercus@me.com>
Subject: Dec 16 comments

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good morning, Council Members,

I'm attaching, for the record, the comments I came prepared to read last night. My oral comments were briefer, since in the time I waited I was able to cut out several lines and phrases to get within 6 minutes.

I read Steve Poteat's letter to you this morning, and see we had the same theme, but his language was more direct. I often feel similar spleen, because the whole way of doing things is frustrating. There's little or no opportunity for back and forth. We offer comments and we ask, seeking your views and inviting a kind of dialogue, yet we only get your opinions when you vote and give some explanation of your vote. There are so many valid questions raised by this data center venture, yet no answers that I consider fully honest and believable.

The common theme with Steve Poteat I refer to is cost and its corollary, net financial benefit. We, and I'm afraid you, don't really know how this will pan out. The divergent figures from Sage and HR&A really say it all -- how can you conclude anything meaningful when their estimates of revenue, that is gross revenue, differ so largely. I was kind in my remarks last night; I think you've been irresponsible in not asking further, to insist on careful study and results that you can trust, including honest estimate of costs and net financial benefit. You are neglecting your duty to the county in being so lax. Now, if you answer that you have such data and are satisfied that data centers will be a net benefit, then you are wrong in not sharing that information with citizens. Either way, I am disappointed in how you are handling the situation. Jan Gardner promised better citizen participation in major county projects (see Vision 2 on page 10 of the LFMP), yet 3 months before LFMP was issued she had entered into the NDA with Amazon. What can I possibly say, in a kind way, about such contradictory action? Does something fall over a person's character when she enters public office? Our new Council/Executive government was going to be such a welcome change from the earlier Commission government, yet in many ways it has become the "same old, same old." In fact, I think sometimes I had better back-and-forth communication with Blaine and the others than I have with our current administration.

I'll end; I need to start trimming my tree. There are many small things that endear me to Frederick County; cutting my own tree at Mayne's farm and chatting with him is one. Another is the Christmas lighting and boats on the creek. There are many good

people here, concerned for the good of the county, and not just their personal good. I hope you can distinguish which they are as you listen to our testimonies. One statement of Buddy Rizer's to the DCW is apt. When he spoke of the data center community, he referred to "good citizens" and "those that don't care as much." Here are a couple of his quotes; the time mark is when they occur in the archived video of the DCW meeting:

1:07:19 "Don't leave it to chance where they [data centers] might go, set your boundaries."

1:08:03 "But if you don't define the area of opportunity early on, then you're going to run into some of the issues where we have, where the good citizens in the data center industry will go where you want them to go, the citizens in the data center industry that maybe don't care as much are going places where we would prefer they would not be. So I would make sure that you draw those lines pretty securely, and define what your opportunity is if you decide to go down that road."

I guess we'll see one another again Dec 23. Be well, do good work, as Garrison Keillor used to say.

Nick Carrera

From: S&D Kurdziolek <krazykurds4@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:31 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center Overlay

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Council Members,

I am unable to attend todays meeting so I have to depend on email to attempt to describe my position
on the matter.

1. You need to honor land preservation.
2. Do Not allow data centers to be built next to homes.
3. Do Not open 4,000 acres.
4. Stop the destruction of farmland or any land.
5. Stop giant power lines that are needed to deliver electricity.
6. Residents are already paying high electric bills and adding data center electric consumption will increase all County residents' electric bill.
7. Large companies are able to pay for their power consumption.
8. Don't be blinded to potential tax revenue.

Steve and Daphne Kurdziolek
Frederick County Residents

From: Eric Johnson <ericj@audiovideogroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 2:00 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Re: Support for Staff-Recommended CDI Overlay Map

Dear Council Members,

I am writing as a small business owner headquartered in Frederick County and as an active member of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. I want to express strong support for adoption of the CDI Overlay Map reflecting the recommendations of County staff, and not the amendments proposed by the Planning Commission.

The staff-recommended map strikes an appropriate balance: it allows Frederick County to realize the tremendous economic opportunities associated with data center development, while ensuring these facilities are properly situated, regulated, and sequenced.

Data centers should not proliferate countywide. They should be built where their impacts can be responsibly managed. The Eastalco property - and the surrounding area - is uniquely positioned for this type of development. It is already an industrial site with compatible infrastructure, large acreage, substantial electrical capacity, and existing utility corridors. Few locations in Maryland have the ability to support modern, hyperscale data facilities in such a responsible manner.

As Rick Weldon, President/CEO of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce recently wrote, the former Alcoa/Eastalco site represents a “once-in-a-generation opportunity.” The Quantum Frederick development is already transforming a dormant industrial property into a major economic engine. HR&A Advisors estimate \$24.5 billion in economic output during construction alone and nearly \$5 billion in annual economic activity once complete - representing roughly a quarter of the County’s current GDP. The projected fiscal impact for the County - \$215 million annually at buildout, and \$3.55 billion over 30 years - illustrates just how consequential proper siting and regulation can be. These revenues will allow major infrastructure and operational priorities to advance without increasing tax burdens on residents.

Importantly, siting these facilities within the CDI Overlay does not mean uncontrolled expansion. The timing of future construction can be regulated to ensure that projects currently underway are operational before new ones are approved. The County retains - and should continue to exercise - its regulatory authority to manage impacts related to energy demand, emergency generator use, stormwater management, and cooling water requirements.

County Executive Fitzwater's structured, transparent review and approval process for the current development demonstrates that responsible oversight is not only possible but already occurring. The community's concerns regarding infrastructure, energy use, and environmental effects are valid - and they must continue to shape regulation and performance standards. But these are long-term issues that can be addressed effectively through existing and strengthened regulatory tools, rather than through broad prohibitions or unbounded siting.

The path forward should allow Frederick County to control where and how data center development proceeds - without sacrificing the extraordinary economic and fiscal benefits that responsible development in the appropriate location can deliver.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Council to support the staff recommendations for the CDI Overlay Map, ensuring that Frederick County secures this transformational opportunity while preserving its ability to regulate and mitigate community impacts.

Thank you for your consideration and continued commitment to a transparent and balanced process.

*Ask me about our **System Preservation Program**.*

Eric Johnson, CTS-D, President



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From: jx2h25@comcast.net <jx2h25@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 1:47 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: CDI-OZ

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To Council Members,

I attended the hearing last evening but had to leave before I could express my views. I am certain you have heard all you need to hear about data centers etc in Frederick County. However, I feel compelled to forward my thoughts by email hoping you may find the time to read them.

During the council meeting held on December 2nd, I presented the reasoning for including our 150-acre property at 4719 Ballenger Creek Pike within the proposed CDI-OZ. I will not repeat that at this time; however, it is important to review and address some of the rationale that has been presented by County staff regarding the staff's proposed Overlay.

1. One of the justifications for including some of the properties along New Design Road in the overlay is their proximity to the quarry across the road. If this logic is consistently applied, then the Argos property should also be considered for inclusion in the Overlay. If Argos is approved for inclusion, it would result in our 150-acre parcel sharing boundaries not only with Parcel #J5 but also with the Argos property. This would provide an additional justification for including our parcel in the overlay due to these "significant changes in the neighborhood."

2. It was previously implied that our property was not initially included due to its proximity to residences located just south of our parcel. However, the pertinent ordinance enacted by the County Council requires a 500-foot setback plus other shielding and mitigation measures, which are designed to address concerns related to locating data centers near residences. Furthermore, some of the properties proposed for inclusion in the overlay are also close to areas that can be considered residential in nature. Therefore, I do not believe that proximity to residences is a valid argument for excluding our property from the overlay.

Instead, the focus should remain on the overall planning objectives and consistency in the application of criteria, ensuring that decisions about inclusion are based on logical and equitable factors. By adhering to a fair and balanced approach, the County can foster thoughtful development that reflects both current conditions and future growth potential in this area.

Thank you,
Tom Hormann

From: Theresa Furnari <tafurnari10@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 1:49 PM
To: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Do not expand

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi: Last night, like the members of the Council, I listened to nearly 6 hours of public comments regarding the overlay bill. I found the comments for not to expand the development area to be well researched and thoughtful. I did not find the comments in favor of expanding the development area to be honest or genuine. As a result, I request that the Council make the responsible decision and postpone any decision until a Data Study has been completed. And the Maryland Legislature gave the Council that option. Please don't ignore the value of this study.

On my ride home, I thought of something I brought up to the council in a public comment in June of 2025 which is even more relevant now. "The value of data centers will diminish. Data Centers are being built all over the world, the supply eventually exceeding demand. This will reduce the value of data centers, which would incentivize companies to shop around for the least expensive venue. And if Frederick County is not the cheapest venue and is unable to provide more financial breaks, thereby reducing its revenue, companies will leave."

I now believe this will happen with greater conviction. I hope you appreciated these facts of the people who testified in favor of the expansion. I recall of the 15 or so who testified in favor, approximately four represented or were the landowners who sought to have their land included in the overlay. Four were either in real estate or were real estate developers, one of whom lives in Potomac, Maryland, two business owners, a tech representative, two union representatives and one or two employees. None of whom confirmed that they lived in Frederick County. They may operate businesses, but it was unclear as to where they lived. When it was asked of all the employees present, how many live in Frederick County, only one person raised his hand. In fact, late in the evening one man testified and admitted that he lives in Baltimore City but travels to Frederick County to work on constructing data centers. The union representative who testified that he manages 10,000.00 employees, lives in Washington and it is not clear that he represents any employees working in Frederick County. Those opposed testified to the

number of out of state plates they see at the construction site. This all confirms the belief that the construction workers are not home grown Frederick residents, but out of state employees who are most likely familiar with the construction of data centers, so there is little training involved. This also dismisses the claim that working at data centers offers training for future careers.

When there are no longer financial advantages for the out of state developers of data centers to continue to operate in Frederick they will leave. All we had to offer them was abundant land and a sweetheart deal full of tax incentives that they wrangled from the county. But they will continue to ask for more and if they don't get it they will leave because they have no interest in Frederick County.

Once they leave, I repeat here from that same June 2025 comment: "However, once the buildings are built and then left empty, the rural character of our beautiful county will be changed forever. The agricultural land will be unfarmable for anybody. The land will be further stripped of valuable environmental forests. Residents living within 500 feet of the proposed overlay will be deprived of their once quiet bucolic view, to be replaced with abandoned 75 feet high buildings, concrete and metal fences. If they have not already moved, how many will eventually leave. This will be the legacy of this county council."

If this is not enough reason to postpone your decision, the many many other comments made last night should give you ample reason to postpone. Wait for the findings of the study.

Please!!

Respectfully Submitted
Theresa Furnari
Jefferson, Maryland

From: Stephen Jones <president@iafflocal3666.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:49 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Letter of support-data centers legislation

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Councilmembers,

Please see attached letter of support for Council President Young's data center legislation.

Regards,

Stephen Jones
President, IAFF Local 3666



Career Fire Fighters Association of Frederick County, MD Inc.

International Association of Fire Fighters Local 3666

Affiliated with:

Maryland State Professional Fire Fighters Association and The Central Maryland labor Council / AFL-CIO



Date: December 15, 2025

To: Members of the County Council

From: Stephen Jones, President Career Firefighters Local 3666

Re: Support for Data Center Legislation Introduced by Council President Brad Young

Dear Members of the Council,

On behalf of the members of Career Firefighters Local 3666, I write to express our strong support for the data center legislation introduced by Council President Brad Young.

As professional firefighters, we approach new and emerging land uses through the lens of public safety, emergency preparedness, and long-term community resilience. Data centers across the country are rapidly expanding and we understand them to have unique operational and safety considerations that require regulation. Clear, well-considered legislative standards are essential to ensure that these facilities are developed responsibly and in a manner that protects both first responders and the communities we serve.

Council President Young's legislation reflects a thoughtful and proactive approach to these challenges. By establishing clearer definitions, siting considerations, and regulatory expectations for data centers, this proposal helps local governments better plan for emergency response needs, infrastructure demands, and coordination between developers and public safety agencies. These measures are critical to ensuring that fire suppression systems, power redundancy, water usage, hazardous materials management, and access for emergency personnel are addressed upfront rather than after construction is complete.

Local 3666 believes that smart, forward-looking legislation benefits everyone—residents, workers, first responders, and responsible developers alike. The ordinance strikes an appropriate balance by recognizing economic realities and requirements for infrastructure of data centers while affirming the county's responsibility to safeguard public safety and public resources.

We commend Council President Brad Young for his leadership on this issue and urge the Council to support and advance this legislation. Career Firefighters Local 3666 stands ready to serve as a resource as this proposal moves forward and as implementation considerations are discussed.

Thank you for your continued commitment to public safety and responsible growth.

Respectfully,


Stephen Jones
President
Career Firefighters Local 3666

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From: Marcie Zampini <marciezampini@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 3:35 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Data Center Comments

You are misguided if you think data centers will help Frederick County. The economic impacts are only at the outset, when the datacenters are being built. Once they are built, the economic impacts decrease as shown in the study linked.

If you build data centers, you will likely cause water and energy costs to increase beyond what the county can support. I cannot believe you all get paid to consider this, and yet none of you have reviewed the economic impacts and what happened to NOVA. You should be removed from your roles if even I, a simple constituent, is able to understand this in about 15 minutes.

I will be sure to spread this study around the Frederick community so the people know what you're trying to accomplish and how it will make their lives more expensive based on what happened to NOVA. People are LEAVING NOVA because of this? How do I know? I live up here but work in NOVA and I hear the homeowners down there discussing this.

You're going to steal the water from Frederick citizens, and the data center won't produce jobs for them. This is asinine to me.

<https://jlarc.virginia.gov/landing-2024-data-centers-in-virginia.asp>

Economic Impacts

- **Benefits are mainly from construction:** Data centers provide substantial positive economic benefits, primarily through the massive **capital investment** during their initial construction phase.
- **High-paying jobs, fewer employees:** Data center jobs are generally high-paying, but the facilities employ relatively few full-time operational staff compared to other industries. Construction, however, supports a much larger number of workers (around 1,500 at the height of building a typical center).
- **Overall contribution:** The industry is estimated to contribute 74,000 jobs, \$5.5 billion in labor income, and \$9.1 billion in GDP to Virginia's economy annually, concentrated mostly in Northern Virginia.
- **Local Tax Revenue:** Data centers can generate substantial local tax revenue, mainly from business personal property and real property taxes. In mature data center markets, this revenue can account for up to 31% of a locality's total revenue.
- **Sales Tax Exemption:** Virginia's retail sales and use tax exemption for data center equipment (servers, cooling, etc.) is a critical incentive for attracting the industry, providing \$928 million in tax savings in FY23.

Energy & Infrastructure Challenges

- **Immense Energy Demand:** Data centers consume vast amounts of energy. The industry is the main driver of a forecast that predicts **unconstrained power demand in Virginia could double within the next 10 years.**
- **Infrastructure Difficulty:** Building enough new power generation and transmission infrastructure to meet this unconstrained demand will be "very difficult." Even meeting half of the projected demand will be challenging and requires substantial new solar, wind, and battery storage/natural gas plants.
- **Cost Impacts on Customers:** While data centers currently pay their full cost of service, their growing demand will likely increase system costs for all customers, including residential users. A typical Dominion Energy residential customer could see generation- and transmission-related costs increase by an estimated **\$14 to \$37 monthly** by 2040 (in real dollars).

Local and Environmental Concerns

- **Residential Conflicts:** One-third of data centers are currently located near residential areas. The industrial scale of the facilities, especially when coupled with inadequate local planning, has sometimes led to adverse impacts on residents.
- **Noise Pollution:** The constant, low-frequency noise from data centers can affect the well-being of nearby residents. Localities often lack clear authority or appropriate metrics to regulate this noise effectively through zoning ordinances.
- **Water Use:** Data centers require water for cooling. While Virginia is generally water-rich, some localities have limited water availability, and there is less oversight on how available water should be shared across various uses in those areas.
- **Air Pollution:** Data centers use diesel generators for backup power, which emit pollutants. However, current regulations and minimal use (mostly for maintenance testing) mean they are a relatively small contributor to overall regional air pollution.

The study also recommends legislative actions to:

- Clarify utilities' authority to delay (but not deny) service when capacity is insufficient.
- Expressly authorize local governments to regulate water use and establish **maximum allowable sound levels** for operational data center facilities.
- Require Dominion Energy to plan for the risk of infrastructure costs being stranded with existing customers if demand forecasts do not materialize.

Respectfully,
Marcie Zampini
marciezampini@gmail.com



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN DATA CENTERS COME TO TOWN?

Terry Nguyen

BA Public Policy

Ben Green

Assistant Professor, School of Information and
Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy

Partner: Michigan Environmental Justice
Coalition

Introduction

The rapid growth of data centers, with their enormous energy and water demands, necessitates targeted policy interventions to mitigate environmental impacts and protect local communities. To address these issues, states with existing data center tax breaks should adopt sustainable growth policies for data centers, mandating energy audits, strict performance standards, and renewable energy integration, while also requiring transparency in energy usage reporting. “Renewable energy additionality” clauses should ensure data centers contribute to new renewable capacity rather than relying on existing resources. If these measures prove insufficient, states should consider repealing tax breaks to slow unsustainable data center growth. States without tax breaks should avoid such incentives altogether while simultaneously implementing mandatory reporting requirements to hold data centers accountable for their environmental impact. Broader measures should include protecting local tax revenues for schools, regulating utility rate hikes to prevent cost-shifting to consumers, and aligning data center energy demands with state climate goals to avoid prolonging reliance on fossil fuels.

Key Findings

Increased Utility Rates: Data centers increase local electric utility rates by driving up overall energy demand, which can strain grid capacity and force utilities to invest in costly infrastructure upgrades. These costs are passed on to residents through higher rates. Data centers have also secured long-term power agreements, which reduce the available supply and push prices up for other consumers.

High Resource Consumption: A single data center can consume up to 2 megawatt hours of power—equivalent to the power used by 2,000 homes—and millions of gallons of water annually for cooling, straining local resources and infrastructure.

Ineffective Tax Incentives: Tax breaks for data centers do not deliver the promised economic benefits, such as high-paying jobs, and they reduce local tax revenues, while shifting financial burdens onto communities and schools.

Climate and Energy Challenges: Data centers' massive energy demands are prolonging the operation of fossil fuel plants and undermining state renewable energy goals, as seen in states like Michigan, Virginia, and Nebraska.

Resource Efficiency Trade-Off: While advanced cooling methods like liquid immersion and direct-to-chip cooling offer energy efficiency improvements, current technologies force a trade-off between energy and water efficiency, limiting sustainable solutions.

Policy Solutions: To mitigate data centers' environmental impacts and align their growth with sustainability goals, policymakers should adopt model laws like the German Energy Efficiency Act, add requirements for new renewable energy, and enforce transparency through mandatory reporting.

Background: Data Centers and the Environment

What is a data center?

A data center is a specialized facility designed to house and manage an organization's IT infrastructure, including servers, storage systems, networking equipment, and other hardware essential for processing, storing, and distributing vast amounts of data. These facilities serve as the backbone of modern digital services, enabling everything from cloud computing and online transactions to streaming platforms and artificial intelligence (AI) applications. Data center designs incorporate advanced cooling systems, backup power, and in-house cybersecurity measures to ensure efficiency, reliability, and security. As data centers continue to grow in scale and complexity, their energy use and environmental footprint are also expanding.

Why are data centers growing so rapidly?

Data centers are growing rapidly due to the exponential increase in data generation and consumption occurring across industries. The proliferation of cloud computing, internet of things (IoT) devices, artificial intelligence, and big data analytics has created an insatiable demand for storage, processing power, and connectivity. AI has largely driven increases in data center electricity demands as advanced machine learning models require massive computational power for training and inference. One estimate suggests that a prompt on ChatGPT requires 10 times more energy than a traditional Google search.¹ Businesses and consumers rely on seamless and instantaneous access to online services, streaming platforms, and real-time applications, necessitating server infrastructure to support these needs. Additionally, the shift to remote work and hybrid models during the COVID-19

pandemic further accelerated the reliance on cloud-based solutions, pushing data center expansion.



Photo credit: andrei310 - stock.adobe.com

Why do data centers consume water for cooling?

For higher-density data centers, liquid cooling is required to maintain performance requirements. Data centers generate heat primarily due to the electrical energy consumed by servers, storage systems, and networking equipment. When electricity powers these components, a significant portion is converted into heat due to resistance in circuits, semiconductor switching losses, and other inefficiencies. High-performance computing tasks, such as AI training, cloud computing, and large-scale data processing, further intensify heat generation because they demand continuous, heavy workloads.

If this heat is not removed, rising temperatures lead to hardware malfunctions, reduced efficiency, and even permanent damage. Water cooling is often used because it absorbs heat more effectively than air thanks to water's high specific heat capacity (ability to store thermal energy) and thermal conductivity (ability to transfer heat). Twenty-two percent of data

center facilities use water-based cooling systems to absorb and dissipate heat more efficiently than air alone.² Systems like chilled water loops, liquid immersion cooling, or evaporative cooling circulate water to capture and carry away heat and maintain safe operating temperatures while improving energy efficiency compared to air-based methods.

How much water and electricity do data centers use?

Data centers are rapidly growing consumers of electricity and water, driven by their energy-intensive operations and cooling requirements. On average, a single data center can consume up to 2 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity, which is roughly the equivalent power consumption of a small town. Data centers consumed more than 4% of U.S.

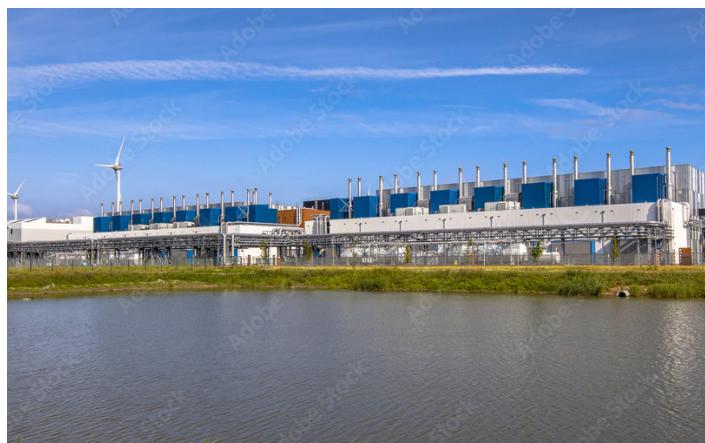


Photo credit: creativenature.nl - stock.adobe.com

electricity in 2023, with estimates suggesting that this consumption could rise to 12% by 2028.³ This massive electricity demand is matched by equally staggering water consumption, as cooling these power-hungry facilities requires vast amounts of water—some individual data centers use hundreds of millions of gallons annually, dwarfing the usage of entire communities the data centers are within. Most facilities use over 10 million gallons (38 million liters) of water per year.⁴ Google's Council Bluffs data

center in Iowa uses around 980 million gallons (3709 million liters) of water per year, which is equivalent to the annual water usage of over 4 million homes.⁵

How does data center cooling work?

Data center cooling relies on six main technologies to manage heat dissipation and maintain optimal performance.

1. Water-cooled systems are water-intensive but energy-efficient.⁶ Chilled water cooling systems use a refrigeration cycle to cool air via chilled coils.
2. Air-cooled systems rely on fans and compressors, consuming more electricity but less water, while Direct Expansion (DX) cooling uses refrigerant to absorb heat directly from the air, making it suitable for smaller data centers.
3. Computer Room Air Handlers (CRAHs) circulate chilled water and air in separate loops, offering efficient temperature and humidity control for larger spaces.
4. Emerging technologies like liquid immersion cooling and direct-to-chip liquid cooling use dielectric fluids to cool components directly, enabling higher power densities and energy savings but requiring specialized equipment.

While these cooling technologies each offer distinct trade-offs between water and energy use, the fundamental challenge remains. Data centers must prioritize either water efficiency or energy efficiency, as existing systems cannot yet optimize both simultaneously. Data center cooling can be optimized for either energy efficiency or water efficiency, but with current cooling technology, achieving both is not possible.



Photo credit: Sepia – stock.adobe.com

The impossibility of an environmentally friendly data center

Data centers cannot fully operate on renewable energy alone. Renewable energy sources like solar and wind are inconsistent and cannot meet the uptime (time during which a machine, especially a computer, is in operation) requirements of data centers. Tier 1 data centers require 99.671% uptime while Tier 4s demand 99.995%. These factors make it impossible for data centers to depend solely on renewables without compromising reliability.

As demand for cloud computing and AI-driven technologies accelerates, data centers are being constructed at a rapid pace, often in areas where existing power infrastructure is insufficient to meet their enormous energy needs. **To ease concerns about environmental impact, data center operators frequently pledge that their facilities will eventually run on clean energy, including next-generation nuclear sources such as small modular reactors (SMRs). However, these SMRs remain largely theoretical, with no commercially viable models yet in operation.⁷** In the interim, companies claim they will rely on fossil fuels as a temporary “bridge” until greener solutions become available. Yet in practice, this transition is often delayed or abandoned

altogether, resulting in the direct commissioning of new fossil fuel power plants to keep these facilities online.

This gap between promise and reality underscores the fundamental contradiction in labeling data centers as “environmentally friendly.” Battery storage is essential for balancing the intermittent nature of renewable energy generation, but batteries rapidly degrade and are reliant on rare minerals like lithium, nickel, cobalt, manganese, lead, and copper. These minerals are already in short supply due to high demand from the electric vehicle industry. Data centers will also always have an environmental footprint through material resource consumption, water usage, and electricity demands. This makes it unfeasible for them to be completely environmentally friendly.

The Effects on Local Communities

Data centers do not bring in high-paying tech jobs

Data centers do not bring high-paying tech jobs to local communities because they operate as infrastructure projects rather than traditional job-creating businesses. Although the construction of data centers can create many jobs, those are short-lived. Once data centers are built, they require relatively few employees since the facilities primarily house computers and servers.⁸ The jobs that data centers do create locally are typically low-wage, term-limited, non-technical positions such as security, maintenance, and janitorial work. These roles are often filled by contractors rather than full-time employees, meaning they lack union protections, benefits, and job security. As a result, these positions tend to be short-term and do not contribute to sustained economic growth or long-term career opportunities for local residents.

Subsidies intended to encourage job creation result in corporate benefits without local hiring. For example, tax breaks for data centers in Washington State were intended to create jobs in rural areas but primarily benefited large corporations like Microsoft.⁹ Since the inception of the incentives, more than \$300 million in tax revenue has been forgone—money that would otherwise have supported public services such as education, emergency services, and infrastructure. In exchange, the data centers have created few jobs and have required limited staffing for operations. In Quincy, a small town that hosts several large data centers, the local fire department is so underfunded that it struggles to retain personnel and replace outdated equipment—even as Microsoft and other tech giants operate multimillion-dollar facilities nearby. In some cases, the cost to taxpayers for each

job created can exceed \$1 million. Furthermore, the state has little oversight or enforcement mechanisms to ensure that the tech companies deliver on promised benefits. Despite initial legislative goals to boost local employment and economic vitality, the reality is that taxpayers are heavily subsidizing wealthy corporations with minimal transparency or accountability regarding the actual economic impact.



Photo credit: timofeev - stock.adobe.com

Data center tax breaks only benefit corporations

Data center companies locate sites based on electricity prices, land availability, and climate conditions. Although tax breaks are often justified as a way for communities to attract data centers, these policies do not affect data center location decisions. As an executive responsible for Microsoft's North American data centers stated in 2024, "I can't think of a site selection or placement decision that was decided on a set of tax incentives."¹⁰

A new data center in Genesee County, Alabama, could reduce revenues to schools and the local government by \$1.7 million each year.¹¹ Developers are seeking a

minimum \$167 million in tax breaks for the creation of 200 jobs, or \$838,000 per job. These figures far exceed reasonable benchmarks for economic development incentives, making it unlikely that taxpayers will ever see a return on investment. These subsidies would come on top of approximately \$100 million in state funding already spent on preparing the STAMP (Science and Technology Advanced Manufacturing Park) site, making the per-job cost difficult to justify. The high subsidies for STAMP would serve only to boost corporate profits rather than provide meaningful economic benefits to the local community.

Reduced tax revenue for independent school districts

In the case of Switch's data center in Michigan, the company sought exemptions from property taxes that funded school districts. This move directly reduced the revenue streams for Caledonia Community Schools and Kent Intermediate School District, resulting in a prolonged legal dispute.¹²

In Michigan, tax breaks for data centers exempt them from paying personal property taxes, including on machinery and computers, some of the most valuable assets in their operations.¹³ While they may still pay real property taxes on land and buildings, the overall tax contribution to schools is significantly diminished. This loss of revenue means less funding for educational programs, teacher salaries, and facility improvements, directly impacting the quality of education for students. These tax incentives have shifted the financial burden onto residents and other businesses, who must make up for the lost revenue through higher taxes and reduced public services. Michigan lawmakers initially considered legislation that would have required school districts to reimburse

the company for taxes already paid, further straining school finances.



Photo credit: Monkey Business – stock.adobe.com

Higher energy rates for consumers

When data centers are built, they raise utility rates for nearby communities. As demand surges, utility companies often pass the costs of infrastructure upgrades and increased energy procurement onto residents and small businesses through higher rates.¹⁴

Many communities, especially in rural or suburban areas, do not realize the connection until their monthly bills spike. Companies and legislatures also withhold information about the electricity and water use of data centers, preventing consumers from realizing that increased utility costs are often associated with the arrival of energy-intensive facilities. By keeping usage data confidential or vaguely reported, corporations and policymakers avoid public scrutiny, even as these facilities strain local resources. Without clear disclosures, residents remain unaware of how much water is diverted for cooling systems or how much electricity is consumed—information that could help communities

push for fairer cost distribution or sustainable practices.

This lack of accountability allows data center operators to expand rapidly while shifting the financial and environmental burdens onto utility customers. As a result, many residents must pay higher bills without understanding the cause, leaving them unable to advocate for better regulations or compensation.¹⁵ The financial strain caused by data centers most severely impacts lower-income households, whose utility bills represent a disproportionate share of their income, exacerbating economic inequality in the region.

and 39.0% in Laffite, Louisiana.¹⁸ Data centers and utility companies frequently collaborate to lobby state regulators for rate increases, exacerbating the disparity. In Michigan, DTE and Switch have spent over \$2 million lobbying the state house, senate, and Public Service Commission to raise electric rates; residential electricity rates have increased by 25% since the construction of the Switch data center in 2017 and are now 17% higher than the national average.¹⁹ This figure has yet to include the additional \$217.4 million rate hike approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission this year.²⁰ This dynamic leaves communities bearing the brunt of higher utility prices without reaping the economic benefits promised by data center development.



Photo credit: agnormark - stock.adobe.com

While communities face higher bills, data centers frequently negotiate lower rates through bulk Power Purchasing Agreements (PPAs) with investor-owned utility companies.¹⁶ These agreements allow data centers to operate at reduced costs despite their massive energy consumption, further shifting the financial burden onto local households and businesses. In August 2024, Meta signed two long-term PPAs with German power producer RWE for a combined 374 megawatt production in Illinois and Louisiana.¹⁷ Despite solar PPA prices holding steady, energy prices for residential consumers have increased by 20.7% in Clark County, Illinois,

Data Centers Keep Fossil Fuel Plants Open

The rapidly growing energy demands of data centers have forced states to delay the retirement of coal and gas plants and even consider building new fossil fuel facilities.

Michigan

Data centers undermine Michigan's climate plan by increasing electricity demand to a level that justifies keeping fossil fuel plants online. The state's climate law includes an "offramp" provision, allowing fossil fuel generation to continue if renewable energy capacity is insufficient.²¹ As artificial intelligence and cloud computing drive higher energy consumption, utilities like Consumers Energy have warned that meeting renewable portfolio standards may become more challenging. Similar data centers have derailed climate goals in other states.²²



Photo credit: Parilov - stock.adobe.com

Virginia

Data centers have prolonged the use of coal and led to new natural gas proposals in Virginia.²³ PJM Interconnection announced that Virginia's coal power plants will continue

operating to meet electricity requirements of data centers while waiting for renewable energy infrastructure to catch up. This situation is especially acute in Virginia, which hosts about half of all U.S. data centers and faces projected power demand increases of 85% over the next 15 years.²⁴ While renewable energy projects, like the Sumitomo Corp's 1.5 gigawatt solar and battery initiative are being developed, the immediate power requirements are so substantial that coal plants in West Virginia and Maryland are being kept operational well beyond their planned retirement dates.²⁵ PJM Interconnection has proposed a \$5.9 billion project to build new transmission lines that would deliver electricity across multiple states to Virginia.²⁶ The transmission network would transport power from several West Virginia coal plants that are scheduled to shut down.

Nebraska

The 644-MW North Omaha Station coal plant, originally scheduled to close in 2023, will now remain active until at least 2026 due to increased power needs from nearby data centers.²⁷ Meta's facility alone consumes nearly as much power as the entire North Omaha station produces, while Google's data center in Papillon is an even larger power consumer. The problem is compounded by local resistance to renewable energy projects and regulatory hurdles slowing the transition to natural gas. Meanwhile, state officials have actively courted these tech companies with special electricity rates.

Utah

Lawmakers in Utah have cited the power demands of data centers as justification for extending the life of the Intermountain Power Project coal plant.²⁸ This trend is part of a broader strategy where tech companies are

repurposing coal sites to power data centers, attracted by their existing infrastructure including power lines, water access, and workforce availability.

Georgia

Georgia Power, facing power shortages by 2025 due to increasing data center development, has arranged to purchase 750 MW of electricity from Mississippi Power's Plant Daniel, which was originally scheduled to retire its coal units in 2027.²⁹ This arrangement will extend the life of inefficient 50-year-old coal-burning facilities for an additional 5–10 years.

Washington

Since the state's hydropower capacity is reaching its limits, counties are increasingly forced to rely on energy from the open market, where utilities buy electricity from a mix of carbon-emitting energy sources to meet the growing demand. In Grant County, Washington, data centers now account for nearly 40% of the county's total electricity demand, equivalent to the power used by 190,000 households.³⁰ To meet this demand, utilities have been forced to rely on "unspecified" power sources, which include fossil fuels like natural gas, purchased from the open market. This shift has reduced the share of renewable energy in the state's power mix, despite Washington's ambitious clean energy goals. The finite capacity of hydropower, combined with the rapid growth of data centers, has created a situation where utilities must either risk blackouts or continue to depend on fossil fuels to meet energy needs.

Indiana

Indiana's House Bill 1007 will keep coal and gas plants running while subsidizing small nuclear reactors to guarantee the power supply for AI data centers.³¹ The bill creates financial incentives for SMR (Small Modular Reactors) development through tax credits funded by energy generation cost savings brought about by keeping fossil fuel plants online. Additional provisions will keep fossil fuel plants open for even longer, even when they are

economically or environmentally unviable, by requiring regulatory reviews before any major retirements. If regulators determine that retiring a plant would threaten grid reliability, utilities will be barred from shutting it down and allowed to pass the full cost of continued operation onto consumers through rate hikes. At the same time, the bill encourages utilities to fast-track new generation projects to meet surging demand from data centers. These investments will further drive up electricity prices as the costs of construction, subsidies, and guaranteed returns for utilities are recovered from ratepayers. By prioritizing uninterrupted power for large corporate consumers over a managed transition to cleaner energy, the bill locks Indiana into higher electric rates and prolonged dependence on fossil fuels, leaving households and small businesses to bear the financial burden.

Michigan recently passed a data center tax exemption bill; what is in it?

Public Act 207 of 2024 grants tax exemptions for data center equipment purchases for brownfield sites (sites that are previously developed properties that are abandoned, underutilized, or contaminated due to past industrial or commercial activities) until 2050 or 2065.³² These exemptions apply to both the construction and operational phases of data centers. To qualify, facilities must meet certain criteria, including capital investment of at least \$250 million and creating at least 30 jobs that pay 150% of the region's median wage.



Photo credit: New Africa - stock.adobe.com

The tax breaks will reduce state revenue, raise utility prices for local communities, and create minimal employment benefits for a niche industry with limited job creation potential. AI data centers typically have lifespans of around 15–20 years.³³ A tax exemption for qualifying data centers until 2050 is expected to completely exempt these facilities from all construction and operating taxes throughout their life cycle.

The increased demand for resources by data centers strains local grids, which leads utilities to invest in infrastructure upgrades while passing the costs to

consumers through higher rates. Some data centers negotiate special rates or exemptions, creating a situation where other customers, including households, bear the cost of maintaining the grid's stability.

In Grand Rapids, a data center is already contributing to higher utility prices for residents. Since the construction of the Switch data center in 2015, the city has announced its 10th consecutive year of water supply rate increases for households, averaging an increase of 3.438% annually, a 49% greater increase than the statewide average during the same period.³⁴ Meanwhile, Switch has secured a 22-site, 200-megawatt, tax-exempt utility deal with Consumers Energy with plans to expand further starting January 2025.³⁵ The construction of the data center has enabled DigitalBridge, the parent company of Switch, to exploit the favorable regulatory environment while shifting the costs to residential consumers.

Policy Recommendations For States With Existing Tax Breaks

There are currently no state or federal laws that directly restrict or deter the construction of data centers. Over a dozen states have implemented tax break laws specifically designed to incentivize their development. The rapid expansion of data centers has also placed a strain on local utility and grid infrastructure. In all states with data center tax breaks, households who share utility and grid infrastructures with data centers have been pushed toward relying more on non-renewable energy sources and have experienced higher electricity rates.³⁶

States with existing tax breaks for data centers should consider adopting elements from the model laws described below. The strongest of these laws is the German Energy Efficiency Act.

year binding contracts to cover transmission and distribution costs, with provisions for exit fees and insurance bonds to mitigate financial risks if they cease operations or underutilize energy. They would need to prepay for necessary grid infrastructure upgrades in exchange for expedited interconnection, with potential reimbursement over time. By January 1, 2030, 100% of electricity delivered to data centers would need to come from zero-carbon resources, without increasing emissions elsewhere in the western grid. The bill would define data centers as large-scale energy consumers which house servers and related equipment for data processing, storage, and distribution.³⁷

California SB 222: Data center energy usage reporting and modeling

California's SB 222 would mandate that data centers estimate and report the total energy used for developing "covered models" (AI models requiring significant computing power) to developers upon contract termination or request. Developers would be required to publish this energy usage data on their websites before commercial use or third-party availability. The bill would also require data center operators to annually report energy consumption and performance data to the California Energy Commission, including metrics on total energy use, efficiency, renewable energy usage, and energy used for AI development. The commission would set energy efficiency standards for data centers, prioritizing cost-effectiveness, technological feasibility, and alignment with California's greenhouse gas reduction targets, while requiring new or significantly altered data centers to incorporate load-management and demand response capabilities.³⁸



Photo credit: Thongsuk - stock.adobe.com

California SB 57: Data center tariffs

California's Ratepayer and Technological Innovation Protection Act would impose specific requirements on data centers to align with California's climate and grid reliability goals. By July 1, 2026, data centers would need to operate under a special tariff system designed to ensure they do not shift costs to other ratepayers.

Data centers would also be required to enter into 12-

Virginia SB1234: Prohibiting data center costs from being passed on to customers

Virginia's SB1234 would establish a provision to regulate how costs associated with the construction or extension of electric distribution infrastructure for data centers are handled. The bill stipulates that no costs related to building or expanding such infrastructure can be allocated to or recovered from any other utility customer. This includes expenses for land acquisition tied to the infrastructure. This means that the financial responsibility for these costs must fall entirely on the data center or the entity benefiting from the infrastructure and cannot be passed on to other customers through their utility rates or charges. The provision aims to ensure that other customers are not burdened with the costs of infrastructure projects that primarily serve data centers.³⁹

Virginia HB2578: Retail sales and use tax for data centers

HB 2578 would expand eligibility requirements for their existing sales and use tax exemption by mandating that data centers purchase a certain percentage of their annual electric load from clean energy resources and demonstrate sufficient investment in energy efficiency measures that provide system-wide benefits. It would also require that backup generators meet specific emissions standards. It would require the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation to examine the cost and feasibility of data centers using non-diesel-fired, onsite backup and primary generation and report their findings to the General Assembly. The Department of Energy would be tasked with identifying opportunities for the beneficial use of data center waste heat, creating an interactive map of data centers and potential heat users, developing a strategic plan to accelerate heat reuse, designating an employee to lead these efforts,

and convening a stakeholder group to prepare a report for the General Assembly.⁴⁰



Photo credit: jeson - stock.adobe.com

The German Energy Efficiency Act

The German Energy Efficiency Act (Energieeffizienzgesetz, or EEffG) establishes a sustainable growth model for data centers. It mandates energy audits, performance standards, renewable energy use, and public reporting to drive sustainability and efficiency while supporting national energy transition goals. One major requirement is that large data centers must conduct regular energy audits to identify opportunities for reducing energy consumption and improving efficiency. The Act also mandates that data centers meet specific energy performance standards, encouraging the adoption of advanced cooling technologies, server virtualization, and other energy-saving measures. Operators of data centers are incentivized to use renewable energy sources, either through on-site generation or procurement from certified green energy providers. The Act further promotes transparency by requiring data centers to publicly report their energy usage and efficiency metrics. These provisions ensure that data centers contribute to Germany's broader energy transition

goals by minimizing their environmental impact while maintaining operational efficiency.⁴¹

Recommendation: Adopt the German Energy Efficiency Act model

States with existing data center tax breaks should adopt the German Energy Act model to most effectively deter the rapid expansion of data center construction. The act prioritizes the integration of renewable energy sources and imposes strict efficiency standards on data centers, ensuring that their growth does not disproportionately burden the grid or increase reliance on non-renewable energy. U.S. states that adopt similar provisions would require data centers benefiting from tax incentives to meet high energy efficiency benchmarks, invest in on-site renewable energy systems, and contribute to grid modernization efforts. This would not only mitigate the negative impacts on ratepayers but also ensure that data center growth aligns with broader climate and sustainability goals through renewable energy portfolio requirements.

One Step Further: Require new renewable energy production

To prevent the increased use of fossil fuels resulting from data center construction and operation, a policy should be implemented requiring data centers to produce or procure 100% of their energy from renewable sources. This mandate would ensure that data centers do not contribute to rising demand for non-renewable energy. To address the risk of data centers' monopolizing renewable energy supplies and shifting consumers onto fossil fuel-based grids, the policy should include a "renewable energy additionality" clause. This clause would require data centers to generate new renewable energy capacity (e.g., by building on-site solar farms or funding new wind projects) rather than relying on existing renewable infrastructure. This approach ensures that

data centers expand the overall supply of renewable energy rather than competing with consumers for limited resources. The policy should also include provisions for grid modernization and energy storage investments to stabilize renewable energy availability and prevent price spikes that could disproportionately affect consumers. By prioritizing both renewable energy procurement and expansion, this policy would support data center growth while safeguarding consumer access to clean energy.

If all else fails, repeal

If all other measures to manage the environmental and infrastructural impacts of data center growth prove ineffective, states retain the option to repeal tax breaks for future data center construction. Although repealing tax breaks would not encourage data center operators to prioritize sustainability, it would eliminate a policy that benefits companies at the expense of communities.

Policy Recommendation For States Without Data Center Tax Breaks

Do not enact data center tax breaks

For states that have not passed data center tax breaks, the most simple policy recommendation is to avoid implementing such incentives in the first place. Legislators should refrain from passing laws that grant tax breaks to data centers, as these incentives often fail to deliver promised economic benefits and impose significant costs on state and local budgets. Despite claims of job creation, data centers typically generate few permanent positions relative to the scale of public subsidy they receive. The high energy consumption and environmental impact of data centers can strain local infrastructure and undermine climate goals. Redirecting public resources toward initiatives with more substantial and equitable economic returns, such as education, workforce development, or renewable energy, offers a more responsible and effective use of taxpayer dollars.

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From: Nichola Early <nickycacc@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:20 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Comments I Wasn't Able to Make at the 12/16/25 Meeting

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members,

It was encouraging to see how many of your constituents came to the Dec. 16 meeting. You are blessed with an involved, concerned, community.

They presented the so many facets of concern regarding the expansion of the data center overlay.

I thought one of the more poignant comments was that the Council has been given an "off ramp" for the expansion with today's vote by the Maryland General Assembly to override Gov. Wes Moore's veto of the Data Center Study Bill. To decide not to expand the overlay at this time would put you in good company with the rest of the state.

I needed to leave at 10 so I wasn't able to make my comments.

Please read my thoughts, attached, regarding the tax impacts for individuals vs corporations, attached.

Bless you as you make a vote based perhaps not on your own desires, but on that of your constituents.

Nichola Early

Nichola Early
Ball Rd, Ijamsville
Data Center Overlay Hearing
Fredick County Council Meeting
Dec 15, 2025

First I want to thank Steve McKay for truly listening to his constituents – his constituents who, from the beginning of the CDI overlay debate and since a year ago July when we were sucker punched by the MPRP, have shown up to these hearings, time after time, including on this evening when we should all be home preparing for the holiday, to overwhelmingly oppose both the expansion of the CDI overlay and the MPRP. Now I feel for the electricians who show up in droves to these hearings. I want them to be prosperous, and live good lives, but from what I understand, very few of them are your constituents. Your constituents voted for you to represent the will of the people who currently live and pay taxes to Frederick County.

Council Member McKay has always represented his constituents. He arrives at these hearings thoroughly prepared, asking important questions, and listens to and informs the people. You have done your constituents proud, Council Member McKay, and we will miss you. I wish you all good things in your future.

I feel like what's going on in Frederick County is the classic Chasing the Tail scenario. We build housing developments, so we need more schools, so we need to increase taxes to pay for those new schools, so we find business to pay for them with real estate taxes, but that cost gets passed on to the consumers. This scenario makes it so the government is not the bad guy who makes their constituents pay high real estate taxes, but the cost of living for their constituents still increases because the corporations aren't going to take that real estate tax hit. They'll pass it on.

But here's the thing about that scenario. Without these data centers, residents can take a deduction on their tax return for increased real estate taxes. With these data centers, we're told our real estate taxes will go down. But what will go up? Utility costs to power the data centers. Individuals cannot take a deduction for utility costs the way they can for real estate taxes, especially now, since the state and local tax deduction was recently increased from \$10,000 to \$40,000.

Guess who can take a deduction for utility costs? Businesses – data centers. So these data centers take away a deductible expense for the individual, and give it a non-deductible expense.

Let's also not forget that the corporate income tax rate is a flat 21% no matter what their profit is.

Individuals, who give those corporations their discretionary dollars, will have tax rates that go above the 21% as soon as their income is higher than just \$48,476 for 2025, and can rise to a maximum tax rate of 37%, a full 16% more than corporations.

So conceivably, these data centers can reduce our property value, and therefore reduce our generational wealth, reduce our tax deductions, increase our utility costs, increase pollution, reduce our quality of life, AND get taxed at a lower rate than we do.

Not to mention, if we end up finding it intolerable to live in a county decimated by data centers, the data center investors will get to purchase our property at a bargain basement price for their next investment that will further the destruction of what was one an envitably pristine county.

Please vote NO on the expansion of the data center overlay.

From: Jimmy Schneider <jimmytheawesome90@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 8:52 AM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: My Concerns for the Future of Frederick

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good evening council members of Frederick, my name is James Schneider and I live in the Frederick area. I am sending this email because I am very concerned about the recent development of data centers in Frederick and the ideas of expanding them. I was one of the many people who signed up for the public testimony last night to give my voice regarding the matter. However, since there were so many people there to voice their own concerns and disapproval, the time I had planned to spend at the meeting had run up and I needed to go home to take care of other issues. I am very concerned about the environmental damages these datacenters bring with them along with the additional costs to my family's utility bills. One other issue I am especially concerned about is the noise pollution as it could ruin the lives of the people who live close to these data centers and disrupt Fredericks natural ecosystem. I am trying to keep this email short as I respect your time but please know me and all the other residents who know of the data centers are worried sick, if you have any questions on how these datacenters bring harm or what my sources are please shoot me a follow up email.

Thank you again for listening,

James Schneider

From: Amanda Haddaway <amanda@hranswerbox.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 2:11 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Support for CDI Overlay Map Reflecting Staff Recommendation

Dear Members of the Frederick County Council,

I am writing in my capacity as a member of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors to express my support for adoption of the Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Map as recommended by County planning staff, rather than the amendments proposed by the County Planning Commission.

From both an economic development and land-use perspective, it is critical that data center development be intentionally planned and geographically controlled, rather than allowed to proliferate across the County. The staff-recommended CDI Overlay accomplishes this by clearly designating where this infrastructure may be located, while protecting the vast majority of Frederick County's land from incompatible use.

The Eastalco site and surrounding properties represent the most appropriate location for this development. The area benefits from existing infrastructure, a history of industrial use, and proximity to the Northern Virginia data center corridor. Concentrating development in this location minimizes impacts elsewhere in the County while allowing Frederick to participate in a growing sector that supports long-term fiscal stability.

Importantly, the County retains the ability to regulate the timing and sequencing of future data center construction. This ensures that projects currently under construction can be brought online and evaluated before additional facilities are approved, allowing infrastructure capacity and operational impacts to be managed responsibly.

I also want to acknowledge that County Executive Fitzwater employed a structured and transparent process in evaluating and allowing the current development. This approach balanced economic opportunity with preservation priorities and provided clarity to both residents and the business community.

While data centers present long-term infrastructure considerations, including power demand, emergency generators, and cooling water, these issues can and should be addressed through the County's existing regulatory authority. Zoning controls, development conditions, and operational requirements give the County the tools needed to manage these impacts effectively.

Finally, data centers can generate significant financial resources that support major infrastructure investments and ongoing operational priorities. These revenues can help fund public services while reducing pressure on residential taxpayers, an outcome that benefits the entire community.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Council to adopt the CDI Overlay Map as recommended by staff. This approach reflects thoughtful planning, fiscal responsibility, and a commitment to balancing innovation with preservation.

Thank you for your leadership and careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Haddaway

Board of Directors, Frederick County Chamber of Commerce

Amanda Haddaway, MA, MJ, SPHR, SHRM-SCP
Managing Director, [HR Answerbox](#)
amanda@hranswerbox.com
c: 703.338.7176

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From: William H Jamison <WilliamHJamison@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 2:26 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: CDI overlay Zone & Proposed zoning Map

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Frederick County Council Members: I attended the public meeting last evening at Winchester Hall. I am of the opinion that you should not move forward with an overly zone. I am not at all comfortable that the Electrical power needed to serve the site is available at affordable rates. The water needed to cool the data computers may compromise the residential communities and commercial properties. The health, safety and welfare of the Adamstown area and the Carroll Manor Elementary School are also at risk with the diesel generators that are proposed for the site.

Senator Karen Lewis Young was successful in getting Senate Bill 116 back in place and I took time today to print and read BILL 116.

Please allow for the delivery of the Data Center Impact Analysis and Report to be completed and reviewed by the County Council and your Staff. The Analysis is completely warranted and will make your final decision to be arrived at with the benefit of more knowledge about the Pros and Cons of Data Centers in Southern Frederick County.

Best Regards and Merry Christmas, Bill Jamison

William H. Jamison
912 Greenfield Rd.
Dickerson, Md. 20842
240-388-0721 Cell#
williamhjamison@outlook.com

From: James Coulombe <duetto14@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 2:27 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: CDI zone

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear County Council members,

You have heard testimony and seen reports of the many benefits that expanding data center development will bring to Frederick County. There have been optimistic industry financed reports from SAGE and HR&A promising thousands of jobs and massive tax revenues, ironically coming to wildly different numbers based on yet to be substantiated assumptions. County residents have also been bombarded with glossy mailers filled with photo agency stock images extolling the benefits of data centers. These investments from the deep pockets of the data center industry, private meetings, as well as the testimony from those employed in construction and those hoping to increase the value of their properties have seemingly convinced several of you to facilitate the expansion of data center development in Frederick County from the start.

While bragging about tough regulations this Council has left the data center industry to police their own sound , vibration, and diesel emissions. However, for all their seemingly good stated intentions, this industry is yet to demonstrate that it can even control its own construction contractors.

We have heard County staff virtually ignore the recommendations of the Planning Commission in their presentation to expand the CDI zone and casually dismiss a warning letter from the County's Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board about removal of prime farmland from areas previously favored for preservation.

Although replacement acreage in preservation zones for farmland consumed by data centers has been proposed, there are no legal means to enforce those provisions.

On the other hand, you have also heard many County residents speak out about their concerns and future costs associated with these massive hyper-scale data centers and AI cloud computing:

None of the industry-sponsored reports address the substantial health consequences and costs to Frederick residents for the increased pollution and noise produced by the many hundreds of massive diesel generators the industry says it needs.

None of those reports take into account the updated analysis of Peter Micheal outlining the hundreds of millions of dollars in lost property values for those living within the vicinity of these massive industrial developments.

None of these favorable estimates consider how much extra County Residents will have to pay for these transmission lines and increased electrical rates - subsidizing these corporate facilities.

None of these rosy estimates consider how much of the County's land- how many farms and homes will be sacrificed for the power lines to feed expansion of hyper-scale data centers.

Additionally, you have not addressed the safety aspects concerning the massive amounts of diesel fuel your lax regulations allow the data centers to store nor addressed who will be responsible for responding to fires potentially involving millions of gallons of fuel and the computers housed within these massive buildings that you've allowed to be potentially higher than any other buildings in Frederick County

Several times I've heard testimony that land speculators and developers would like certainty when they invest. While this is certainly understandable, county residents who have invested in their homes and farms also deserve some certainty. County residents expect that provisions of long-term planning efforts- such those written into Livable Frederick- will be respected and guide development. Should you expand the CDI zone beyond the current EastAlco Community Growth Area boundaries you will be actively ignoring specific provisions of the Livable Frederick plan. The only certainty such an expansion would provide for County residents is the certainty that this County Government's planning efforts cannot be trusted.

There is also increasing uncertainty as to whether the nation-wide boom in data center construction is a boom or a bubble. Monday's New York Times featured an article on how data companies were maneuvering to shield themselves against the very real possibility of the bubble bursting. Rowan's reported openness to the sale of its ongoing projects fits into this industry pattern.

Across this country there is also a growing recognition that the costs of allowing unfettered data center development are substantial and the local officials who facilitate these corporate developments are increasingly paying a political cost.

The fact is that you really don't know whether the benefits for Frederick County Residents will outweigh the costs. There has been no comprehensive and certainly no unbiased analyses of the costs and benefits to our County and our County's current tax structure fails to return much of the potential benefits to the County. Nor do you know whether the unfortunately lax regulations you have enacted will be adequate.

The prudent way forward is to confine the CDI zone to the existing EastAlco growth area. This will still represent an expansion of properties for data centers and there will still be additional skilled construction jobs needed and additional tax revenues coming to the County.

Confining data center development to the existing growth area will allow time to judge from the track record of data centers developed and operated there whether further CDI expansion is a net benefit to Frederick County residents or an unfair burden.

Thank you for your consideration,

James Coulombe
2770 Lynn Street
Frederick, MD 21704

From: Meg Menke (Gmail) <menkemeg@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 12:25 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Regarding your vote on data centers

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Cash-strapped Americans shouldn't fund Big Tech's data centers

The right time to expand beyond the EastAlcoa site is when the data center industry is prepared to solve their own energy demands. We have not yet arrived at that time.

M E Menke
130 E 3rdSt
Frederick MD. 21701

From: Rachel Mandel MD <rachelmandelmd@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 12:43 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Cc: Rick Weldon <rweldon@frederickchamber.org>
Subject: data center issue

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good afternoon,

As a member of the Board of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, I feel compelled to express my opinion and observations regarding the data center issue.

Obviously there has been a lot of discussion on this issue, and that this is a hot topic across not only the County, but the entire Country. I believe that Frederick County has done an outstanding job of working through this process that includes listening to all voices and stakeholders, keeping the overall health and wellbeing of the County in mind at all times.

These are the things that seem clear to me:

- Data centers are coming, and can't (and shouldn't) be avoided.
- Data centers should be built and controlled in specific areas for the good of everyone
- The Eastalco site (and properties surrounding it) are the best place to build these facilities.
- The timing of future data center construction can be regulated, so the sites currently under construction can be brought online before adding new facilities
- The County used a structured, transparent process to allow the current development, a process which has been evaluated and used by other jurisdictions because of the thorough and thoughtful nature of the process. They want to replicate our process.
- While there are certainly long-term infrastructure issues associated with data centers, such power, emergency generators and cooling water, all of these issues can be dealt with using the regulatory powers of the County
- Data centers can (and will) contribute significant financial resources to allow major infrastructure projects and operational funding priorities to advance.
- The financial resources coming from the data centers will help Frederick County provide important services to the rest of the county. This is especially important during these times when budget cuts are imminent at the federal and state level.

Please consider all of these points.

Thank you for your time,

Rachel I. Mandel, MD MHA

Rachel I. Mandel MD Consulting LLC

301-964-1780

www.rachelmandelmdconsulting.com



From: Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 1:06 PM
To: Judy Rosey <jprosey@hotmail.com>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Re: Last night's meeting

Judy,

Thank you for your email. Also, thank you for your kind act of giving him a place to stay. I pray that all people in both sides can acknowledge that everyone has good intentions and Frederick County's best interest at heart. I certainly do. I am 10th generation and now generations 11 & 12 are here. It will always be my home. I do not support rezoning the Suzanne Trust property or including it in the overlay. Thank you for your advocacy and I pray we will not be there until midnight again tonight. Have a great day!

Brad

From: Judy Rosey <jprosey@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 10:46 AM
To: Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Last night's meeting

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello council members,

My name is Judy Rosey and I live on East Basford right across from the proposed industrial zone. First of all, I want to thank you for staying until after midnight last night. I was beyond exhausted after listening to all the pros and cons of this decision. Although we don't necessarily agree on everything, we took home the data center worker from Baltimore to sleep at our home last night since he had to get up so early this morning. There are so many emotional people on both sides of this issue and I understand your difficult decision. I do want to reiterate where I stand. When we arrived home late last night, the stars were so vivid in the sky and the view was phenomenal with the snow covered fields. It made me appreciate all that I have that so many people don't have. I love my home. I don't have an opposition to the data center that has already been built because it can't be changed at this point. But to rezone the priority preservation area (Suzanne Irrevocable Trust) can be stopped and I plead with you **not to rezone** this area to an industrial zone. Thank you for reading this and considering the view of myself and my neighbors.

Judy Rosey

From: PHM <phmichael@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 10:40 AM
To: Kelly Le <kellyod518@aol.com>
Cc: Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; vicki07@hotmail.com; whitesands12@gmail.com; santahsu@comcast.net; olssons@gmail.com; Dogmom65412@gmail.com; billbeam4th@gmail.com; briansweeney8911@gmail.com; coseycool@gmail.com; dale.franklin@yahoo.com; Eschaub101@aol.com; elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com; Jackqle@hotmail.com; jason_norris301@hotmail.com; Rymer67@msn.com; csanddenterprisesllc@gmail.com; jprosey@hotmail.com; 1momof5@gmail.com; beamery@comcast.net; rachel.frymark@gmail.com; gillie111@gmail.com; satuomey@comcast.net; steveblack2313@gmail.com; ctv1027@gmail.com; tonylchecchia@gmail.com; vickimichael@comcast.net; wsrkwest@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Vote NO on Overlay and Rezoning for Suzanne Irrevocable Trust

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Supurb, Kelly. Let me encourage you to speak Tuesday evening.

What this boils down to is whether any now-fully informed County Commissioner will knowingly vote to harm. They were elected to protect, not harm

With best regards,

Pete

2455 Ballenger Creek Pike
Adamstown, Maryland 21710

E> phmichael@comcast.net

T> 301.874.0235

W> peterhmichael.com

From: Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 12:21 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; STEVE MCKAY <stevemckay@comcast.net>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: Delegate April Miller: Letter for County Council -

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear County Council Members,

Good afternoon.

After presenting the letter from Senator Folden to the County Council yesterday, I discovered I had also received a letter from Delegate April Miller that was intended to be read at the same meeting. I have attached the document for your review.

Given my schedule, I am currently unsure if I will be able to attend and speak this evening again.

Could you please confirm if it would be possible to have this letter from Delegate Miller officially entered into the public record?

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Elyse Wilson

APRIL FLEMING MILLER

Legislative District 4
Frederick County

Ways and Means Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates

6 Bladen Street, Room 226

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410-841-3288 • 301-858-3288

800-492-7122 Ext. 3288

April.Miller@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Frederick County Council,

Good evening, I apologize for not being able to attend this meeting in person. As many of you know, we were called into a special session to elect a new Speaker of the House of Delegates. I offer my congratulations to Speaker Jocelyn Pena-Melnyk. The convening of this special session required us to address several of Governor Moore's vetoes, one of which has a direct impact on the discussions here tonight. This afternoon, I supported the Maryland General Assembly's vote to override the veto of House Bill 270/ Senate Bill 116: Data Center Impact Analysis and Report. This critical legislation mandates the analysis of the likely environmental, energy and economic impacts of data center development in Maryland.

Just last week, at both our District 4 community forum and the MDE/Amazon public hearing, I heard the concerns of my constituents loud and clear. There are many more unanswered questions and concerns about the impact of the data center campus in Adamstown from the community. There are concerns about noise, vibrations, power, water, the impact of large diesel generators – especially with the very close proximity to Carroll Manor Elementary School as well as homes and farms.

The possible answers to the questions asked last Monday night will not be available until a report is done after the vote. I would encourage the County Council to consider a pause on overlay expansion as we take on this important study.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive ink that reads "April F. Miller".

Delegate April Fleming Miller

From: Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 2:17 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: MDE Groundwater Data Adamstown Test Completed from last June

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good afternoon County Council,

I am writing to share information regarding a separate water quality study conducted by the MDE.

This study's data was not previously released to the public. Heather Fletcher secured this information by traveling to Baltimore, obtaining it directly from supervisors, and initiating a Public Information Act (PIA) request.

See attached .

Since these are large documents, I sent the air separately than the water

Thanks,

Elyse

GW-SW Sampling To Support EMPs Data vs MD LRP GW Screening Criteria
 Quantum Loophole
 Frederick, Maryland
 Page 1 of 3

Client Name: Tetra Tech, Inc. - Germantown Lab: Eurofins Lancaster																																				
Specific Method	CASH	Matrix	Analyte	Results Basis	MD LRP Cleanup Stds, Tbl 1, GWs Aquifers, Oct2018				410-165229-1 QL-DA11-SW-20240325				410-165229-2 QL-DA2-SW-20240325				410-165398-1 QL-MW-60-GW-032624				410-165398-2 QL-MW-52-GW-032624				410-165398-3 QL-GEI-07-20240326				410-165398-4 QL-GEI-11-20240326				410-165398-5 QL-GEI-14-20240326			
					Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier					
218.6_Pres_Q	18540-29-9	Water	Cr (VI)	Dissolved	0.035	<5.0	ug/L	<5.0	ug/L		<5.0	ug/L		<5.0	ug/L		<5.0	ug/L		<5.0	ug/L		<5.0	ug/L		<5.0	ug/L		<5.0	ug/L						
6020B	7429-90-5	Water	Aluminum	Dissolved	2000	13	ug/L	J	23	ug/L	J	<12	ug/L		<12	ug/L		<12	ug/L		<12	ug/L		<12	ug/L		<12	ug/L								
6020B	7439-89-6	Water	Iron	Dissolved	1400	45	ug/L	J	59	ug/L	J	25	ug/L	J	40	ug/L	J	26	ug/L	J	22	ug/L	J	>20	ug/L		>20	ug/L								
6020B	7439-92-1	Water	Lead	Dissolved	15	0.14	ug/L	J	0.20	ug/L	J	<0.12	ug/L		<0.12	ug/L		0.14	ug/L	J	0.14	ug/L	J	0.19	ug/L	J	0.19	ug/L	J							
6020B	7439-95-4	Water	Magnesium	Dissolved	2500	ug/L		6400	ug/L		16000	ug/L		7900	ug/L		12000	ug/L		9800	ug/L		5600	ug/L		5600	ug/L									
6020B	7439-96-5	Water	Manganese	Dissolved	43	3.6	ug/L		7.1	ug/L		<0.95	ug/L		<0.95	ug/L		7.3	ug/L		12	ug/L		410	ug/L		410	ug/L								
6020B	7440-02-0	Water	Nickel	Dissolved	39	0.43	ug/L	J	<0.40	ug/L		<0.40	ug/L		<0.40	ug/L		1.2	ug/L		0.62	ug/L	J	<0.40	ug/L		<0.40	ug/L								
6020B	7440-09-7	Water	Potassium	Dissolved	1800	ug/L		2200	ug/L		1200	ug/L		1600	ug/L		1900	ug/L		1900	ug/L		1400	ug/L		1400	ug/L									
6020B	7440-22-4	Water	Silver	Dissolved	9.4	<0.10	ug/L		<0.10	ug/L		<0.10	ug/L		<0.10	ug/L		<0.10	ug/L		<0.10	ug/L		<0.10	ug/L		<0.10	ug/L								
6020B	7440-23-5	Water	Sodium	Dissolved	3200	ug/L	^2	10000	ug/L	^2	79000	ug/L		94000	ug/L		130000	ug/L		9400	ug/L		9700	ug/L		9700	ug/L									
6020B	7440-28-0	Water	Thallium	Dissolved	2	<0.13	ug/L		<0.13	ug/L		<0.13	ug/L		<0.13	ug/L		<0.13	ug/L		<0.13	ug/L		<0.13	ug/L											
6020B	7440-36-0	Water	Antimony	Dissolved	6	<0.20	ug/L		<0.20	ug/L		<0.20	ug/L		<0.20	ug/L		0.39	ug/L	J	<0.20	ug/L		<0.20	ug/L		<0.20	ug/L								
6020B	7440-38-2	Water	Arsenic	Dissolved	10	<0.68	ug/L		<0.68	ug/L		<0.68	ug/L		<0.68	ug/L		<0.68	ug/L		<0.68	ug/L		<0.68	ug/L		<0.68	ug/L								
6020B	7440-39-3	Water	Barium	Dissolved	2000	9.4	ug/L		19	ug/L		43	ug/L		36	ug/L		39	ug/L		50	ug/L		22	ug/L		22	ug/L								
6020B	7440-41-7	Water	Beryllium	Dissolved	4	<0.12	ug/L		<0.12	ug/L		<0.12	ug/L		<0.12	ug/L		<0.12	ug/L		<0.12	ug/L		<0.12	ug/L		<0.12	ug/L								
6020B	7440-43-9	Water	Cadmium	Dissolved	5	<0.15	ug/L		<0.15	ug/L		<0.15	ug/L		<0.15	ug/L		<0.15	ug/L		<0.15	ug/L		<0.15	ug/L		<0.15	ug/L								
6020B	7440-47-3	Water	Chromium	Dissolved	100	<0.55	ug/L		<0.55	ug/L		<0.55	ug/L		1.1	ug/L	J	<0.55	ug/L		<0.55	ug/L		<0.55	ug/L		<0.55	ug/L								
6020B	7440-48-4	Water	Cobalt	Dissolved	0.16	ug/L		0.18	ug/L	J	0.30	ug/L	J	0.40	ug/L	J	0.16	ug/L		0.33	ug/L	J	0.77	ug/L		0.77	ug/L									
6020B	7440-50-8	Water	Copper	Dissolved	1300	1.8	ug/L		2.8	ug/L		<0.36	ug/L		2.1	ug/L		2.0	ug/L		1.1	ug/L		1.1	ug/L		1.1	ug/L								
6020B	7440-62-2	Water	Zinc	Dissolved	8.6	<0.79	ug/L		<0.79	ug/L		<0.79	ug/L		<0.79	ug/L		<0.79	ug/L		<0.79	ug/L		<0.79	ug/L		<0.79	ug/L								
6020B	7440-70-2	Water	Chloride	Dissolved	600	7.1	ug/L	J	8.6	ug/L	J	4.0	ug/L		4.0	ug/L		5.0	ug/L	J	4.1	ug/L	J	4.0	ug/L		4.0	ug/L								
6020B	7440-72-3	Water	Sulfate	Dissolved	22000	ug/L	^2	38000	ug/L	^2	70000	ug/L		70000	ug/L		100000	ug/L		64000	ug/L		64000	ug/L		64000	ug/L									
7470A	7439-97-6	Water	Mercury	Dissolved	50	<0.28	ug/L		<0.28	ug/L		0.47	ug/L	J	0.72	ug/L	J	0.30	ug/L	J	<0.28	ug/L		<0.28	ug/L		<0.28	ug/L								
7470A	7439-97-6	Water	Cyanide, Free	Total	2	<0.079	ug/L		0.10	ug/L	J	<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L								
200_ORGFM	16984-48-8	Water	Fluoride	Total	0.58	mg/L		0.58	mg/L	J	0.58	mg/L		2.4	mg/L		0.45	mg/L	F1	0.23	mg/L		0.30	mg/L		0.18	mg/L									
7470A	7439-97-6	Water	Mercury	Total	2	<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L		<0.079	ug/L								
8015D_DRO	N/A	Water	DBQ (C10-C28)	Total	47	47	ug/L		46	ug/L		45	ug/L		45	ug/L		46	ug/L		46	ug/L		46	ug/L		46	ug/L								
8015D_GRO	N/A	Water	DBQ	Total	47	<23	ug/L		<23	ug/L		<23	ug/L		<23	ug/L		<23	ug/L		<23	ug/L		<23	ug/L		<23	ug/L								
8081B	1024-57-3	Water	Heptachlor epoxide	Total	0.2	<0.0024	ug/L		<0.0024	ug/L		<0.0023	ug/L		<0.0023	ug/L		<0.0023	ug/L		<0.0024	ug/L		<0.0024	ug/L		<0.0024	ug/L								
8081B	1031-07-8	Water	Endosulfan sulfate	Total	0.0061	ug/L		0.0060	ug/L		0.0059	ug/L		0.0059	ug/L		0.0059	ug/L		0.0061	ug/L		0.0060	ug/L		0.0060	ug/L									
8081B	309-00-2	Water	Aldrin	Total	0.00092	ug/L		0.00021	ug/L		0.00021	ug/L		0.00020	ug/L		0.00020	ug/L		0.00020	ug/L		0.00021	ug/L		0.00021	ug/L									
8081B	319-84-6	Water	alpha-BHC	Total	0.0072	<0.0031	ug/L		<0.0031	ug/L		<0.0031	ug/L		<0.0030	ug/L		<0.0030	ug/L		<0.0032	ug/L		<0.0031	ug/L		<0.0031	ug/L								
8081B	319-85-7	Water	beta-BHC	Total	0.025	<0.012	ug/L		<0.011	ug/L		<0.011	ug/L		<0.011	ug/L		<0.011	ug/L		<0.012	ug/L		<0.011	ug/L		<0.011	ug/L								
8081B	319-86-8	Water	delta-BHC	Total	0.0036	ug/L		0.0035	ug/L		0.0035	ug/L		0.0034	ug/L		0.0035	ug/L		0.0036	ug/L		0.0035	ug/L		0.0035	ug/L									
8081B	33213-65-9	Water	Endosulfan II	Total	0.016	ug/L		0.016	ug/L		0.015	ug/L		0.015	ug/L		0.015	ug/L		0.015	ug/L		0.015	ug/L		0.015	ug/L									
8081B	50-29-3	Water	p,p'-DDT	Total	0.23	<0.054	ug/L		<0.054	ug/L		<0.054	ug/L		<0.053	ug/L		<0.053	ug/L		<0.055	ug/L		<0.054	ug/L		<0.054	ug/L								
8081B	5103-71-9	Water	alpha-Chlordane	Total	<0.0031	ug/L		<0.0031	ug/L		<0.0031	ug/L		<0.0031	ug/L		<0.0030	ug/L		<0.0030	ug/L		<0.0032	ug/L		<0.0031	ug/L									
8081B	5103-74-2	Water	gamma-Chlordane	Total	<0.0073	ug/L		<0.0072	ug/L		<0.0071	ug/L		<0.0071	ug/L		<0.0071	ug/L		<0.0074	ug/L		<0.0072	ug/L		<0.0072	ug/L									
8081B	53494-70-5	Water	Endrin ketone	Total	<0.0052	ug/L		<0.0052	ug/L		<0.0051	ug/L		<0.0051	ug/L		<0.0051	ug/L		<0.0053	ug/L		<0.0052	ug/L		<0.0052	ug/L									
8081B	58-89-9	Water	gamma-BHC (Lindane)	Total	0.2	<0.0021	ug/L		<0.0021	ug/L		<0.0021	ug/L		<0.0020	ug/L		<0.0020	ug/L		<0.0021	ug/L		<0.0021	ug/L		<0.0021	ug/L								
8081B	60-57-1	Water	Dieldrin	Total	0.0018	<0.0055	ug/L		<0.0055	ug/L		<0.0054	ug/L		<0.0054	ug/L		<0.0054	ug/L		<0.0056	ug/L		<0.0055	ug/L		<0.0055	ug/L								
8081B	72-20-8	Water	Endrin	Total	0.004	<0.0085	ug/L		<0.0084	ug/L		<0.0083	ug/L		<0.0082	ug/L		<0.0082	ug/L		<0.0085	ug/L		<0.0084	ug/L</											

GW-SW Sampling To Support EMPs Data vs MD LRP GW Screening Criteria
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Client Name: Tetra Tech, Inc. - Germantown Lab: Eurofins Lancaster																														
Specific Method	CAS#	Matrix	Analyte	Results Basis	MD LRP Cleanup Stds. Tbl 1_GWs Aquifers. Oct2018	410-165229-1 QL-DA11-SW-20240325			410-165229-2 QL-DA2-SW-20240325			410-165398-1 QL-MW-50-GW-032624			410-165398-2 QL-MW-52-GW-032624			410-165398-3 QL-GEI-07-20240326			410-165398-4 QL-GEI-11-20240326			410-165398-5 QL-GEI-14-20240326						
8082A	11096-82-5	Water	PCB-1260	Total	0.0078	<0.082	ug/L	<0.081	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.079	ug/L	<0.079	ug/L	<0.082	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L			
8082A	11097-69-1	Water	PCB-1254	Total	0.0078	<0.082	ug/L	<0.081	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.079	ug/L	<0.079	ug/L	<0.082	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L			
8082A	11104-28-2	Water	PCB-1221	Total	0.0047	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8082A	11141-16-5	Water	PCB-1232	Total	0.0047	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8082A	12672-29-6	Water	PCB-1248	Total	0.0078	<0.082	ug/L	<0.081	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.079	ug/L	<0.079	ug/L	<0.082	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L	<0.080	ug/L			
8082A	12674-11-2	Water	PCB-1016	Total	0.14	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8082A	53469-21-9	Water	PCB-1242	Total	0.0078	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8151A	120-36-5	Water	Dichloroprop	Total		<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.16	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L			
8151A	1918-00-9	Water	Dicamba	Total		<0.26	ug/L	<0.25	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L	<0.27	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L			
8151A	75-99-0	Water	Dalapon	Total	200	<5.4	ug/L	<5.4	ug/L	<5.5	ug/L	<5.4	ug/L	<5.5	ug/L	<5.7	ug/L	<5.5	ug/L	<5.5	ug/L	<5.5	ug/L	<5.5	ug/L	<5.5	ug/L			
8151A	87-86-5	Water	Pentachlorophenol	Total	1	<0.026	ug/L	<0.025	ug/L	<0.026	ug/L	<0.026	ug/L	<0.026	ug/L	<0.027	ug/L	<0.026	ug/L	<0.026	ug/L	<0.026	ug/L	<0.026	ug/L	<0.026	ug/L			
8151A	88-85-7	Water	Dinoseb	Total	7	<0.27	ug/L	<0.26	ug/L	<0.27	ug/L	*1	<0.26	ug/L	*1	<0.27	ug/L	*1	<0.28	ug/L	*1	<0.27	ug/L	*1	<0.27	ug/L	*1	<0.27	ug/L	
8151A	93-65-2	Water	MCPA	Total		<0.48	ug/L	<0.47	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	<0.47	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	<0.48	ug/L	
8151A	93-65-2	Water	Styrene (2,4,5-TP)	Total	50	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.022	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	<0.021	ug/L	
8151A	93-76-5	Water	3,4,5-T	Total		<0.062	ug/L	<0.061	ug/L	<0.063	ug/L	<0.061	ug/L	<0.063	ug/L	<0.063	ug/L	<0.065	ug/L	<0.062	ug/L	<0.062	ug/L	<0.062	ug/L	<0.062	ug/L	<0.062	ug/L	
8151A	94-74-6	Water	MCPA	Total		<48	ug/L	<47	ug/L	<48	ug/L	<47	ug/L	<48	ug/L	<48	ug/L	<50	ug/L	<48	ug/L	<48	ug/L	<48	ug/L	<48	ug/L	<48	ug/L	
8151A	94-75-7	Water	2,4,0	Total	70	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.25	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	<0.24	ug/L	
8151A	94-82-6	Water	2,4-0B	Total		<0.60	ug/L	<0.59	ug/L	<0.61	ug/L	<0.60	ug/L	<0.61	ug/L	<0.60	ug/L	<0.63	ug/L	<0.60	ug/L	<0.60	ug/L	<0.60	ug/L	<0.60	ug/L	<0.60	ug/L	
8260D	100-01-4	Water	Ethylbenzene	Total	700	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	
8260D	100-02-5	Water	Styrene	Total	100	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	
8260D	10061-01-5	Water	cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	Total		<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	
8260D	10061-02-6	Water	trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	Total		<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	
8260D	106-46-7	Water	1,4-Dichlorobenzene	Total	75	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	
8260D	106-93-4	Water	1,2-Dibromoethane	Total	0.05	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	
8260D	107-06-2	Water	1,2-Dichloroethane	Total	5	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	
8260D	108-10-1	Water	4-Methyl-2-pentanone	Total	630	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	
8260D	108-87-2	Water	Methylcyclohexane	Total		<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	
8260D	108-88-3	Water	Toluene	Total	1000	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	
8260D	108-90-7	Water	Chlorobenzene	Total	100	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	
8260D	110-82-7	Water	Cyclohexane	Total		<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	<1.0	ug/L	
8260D	120-82-1	Water	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	Total	70	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	
8260D	124-48-1	Water	Dibromochloromethane	Total		<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	
8260D	127-18-4	Water	Tetrachloroethene	Total	5	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	*1	1.9	ug/L	2.8	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L
8260D	1330-20-7	Water	Xylene	Total	10000	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	
8260D	156-59-2	Water	cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	Total	70	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	
8260D	156-60-3	Water	trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	Total	100	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	
8260D	1634-04-4	Water	Methyl tert-butyl ether	Total	20	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	
8260D	541-73-1	Water	1,2-Dichlorobenzene	Total		<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68</td																		

GW-SW Sampling To Support EMPs Data vs MD LRP GW Screening Criteria

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Specific Method	CAS#	Matrix	Analyte	Results Basis	MD LRP Cleanup Stds_Tbl 1_GWs Aqueous_Oct2018	410-165229-1 QL-DA11-SW-20240325			410-165229-2 QL-SW2-SW-20240325			410-165398-1 QL-MW-0-GW-032624			410-165398-2 QL-MW-0-GW-032624			410-165398-3 QL-GEI-07-20240326			410-165398-4 QL-GEI-11-20240326			410-165398-5 QL-GEI-14-20240326				
						Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier	Result	Units	Qualifier		
8260D	78-87-5	Water	1,2-Dichloropropane	Total	5	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L			
8260D	78-93-3	Water	2-Butanone	Total	560	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L	<0.50	ug/L			
8260D	79-00-5	Water	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	Total	5	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L			
8260D	79-01-6	Water	Trichloroethene	Total	5	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L			
8260D	79-20-9	Water	Methyl acetate	Total	0.076	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L			
8260D	79-34-5	Water	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	Total	0.076	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L			
8260D	95-50-1	Water	1,4-Dichlorobenzene	Total	600	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L			
8260D	96-12-2	Water	1,4-Dibromo-3-Chloropropane	Total	0.02	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L			
8260D	96-30-8	Water	4-Chlorobiphenyl	Total	45	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L	<0.30	ug/L			
8270E	120-10-7	Water	Anthracene	Total	180	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	120-00-0	Water	Pyrene	Total	12	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	191-24-2	Water	Benzol[g,h]perylene	Total	0.11	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	193-39-5	Water	Indeno[1,2,3-c]pyrene	Total	0.25	<0.12	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L			
8270E	205-09-2	Water	Benzol[b]fluoranthene	Total	0.25	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	206-44-0	Water	Fluoranthene	Total	80	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	207-08-9	Water	Benzol[k]fluoranthene	Total	2.5	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	208-96-8	Water	Acenaphthylene	Total	0.11	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	218-01-9	Water	Chrysene	Total	25	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	50-32-8	Water	Benzol[a]pyrene	Total	0.2	<0.12	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L			
8270E	53-70-3	Water	Dibenzo[a,h]anthracene	Total	0.025	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	56-55-3	Water	Benzol[a]anthracene	Total	0.03	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	83-32-9	Water	Acenaphthene	Total	53	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
8270E	85-01-8	Water	Phenanthrene	Total	12	<0.12	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L	<0.11	ug/L			
8270E	86-73-7	Water	Fluorene	Total	29	<0.13	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L			
8270E	91-20-3	Water	Naphthalene	Total	0.17	<0.11	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L			
9040C	N/A	Water	Corrosivity	Total	no	NONE	HF	no	NONE	HF	no	NONE	HF	no	NONE	HF	no	NONE	HF	no	NONE	HF	no	NONE	HF			
9040C	N/A	Water	pH	Total	7.4	S.U.	HF	7.8	S.U.	HF	7.4	S.U.	HF	7.3	S.U.	HF	7.5	S.U.	HF	7.4	S.U.	HF	7.3	S.U.	HF			
9040C	N/A	Water	Temperature	Total	20.4	Degrees C	HF	20.4	Degrees C	HF	20.3	Degrees C	HF	20.2	Degrees C	HF	20.1	Degrees C	HF	20.3	Degrees C	HF	20.2	Degrees C	HF			
6020B	7429-90-5	Water	Aluminum	Total Recoverable	2000	720	ug/L	280	ug/L	16	ug/L	J	14	ug/L	J	960	ug/L	53	ug/L	16000	ug/L	28000	ug/L	16000	ug/L			
6020B	7439-89-6	Water	Iron	Total Recoverable	1400	670	ug/L	390	ug/L	24	ug/L	J	51	ug/L	J	740	ug/L	85	ug/L	28000	ug/L	16000	ug/L	16000	ug/L			
6020B	7439-85-4	Water	Magnesium	Total Recoverable	15	0.35	ug/L	0.32	ug/L	0.32	ug/L	J	0.12	ug/L	J	0.35	ug/L	0.12	ug/L	J	0.12	ug/L	J	0.35	ug/L	16000	ug/L	
6020B	7439-86-5	Water	Manganese	Total Recoverable	4200	6100	ug/L	A2	6100	ug/L	25	ug/L	8000	ug/L	12000	ug/L	9400	ug/L	12000	ug/L	9400	ug/L	12000	ug/L	9400	ug/L		
6020B	7439-86-5	Water	Manganese	Total Recoverable	43	13	ug/L	21	ug/L	21	ug/L	0.95	ug/L	2.5	ug/L	20	ug/L	13	ug/L	24	ug/L	910	ug/L	12000	ug/L	910	ug/L	
6020B	7440-02-0	Water	Nickel	Total Recoverable	39	0.78	ug/L	J	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	<0.40	ug/L	1.5	ug/L	1.5	ug/L	1.1	ug/L	24	ug/L	16000	ug/L	16000	ug/L
6020B	7440-09-7	Water	Potassium	Total Recoverable	1800	ug/L	2200	ug/L	1200	ug/L	1200	ug/L	1600	ug/L	2000	ug/L	1900	ug/L	2000	ug/L	1900	ug/L	2000	ug/L	1900	ug/L		
6020B	7440-22-4	Water	Silver	Total Recoverable	9.4	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	<0.10	ug/L	
6020B	7440-23-5	Water	Sodium	Total Recoverable	3400	ug/L	10000	ug/L	70000	ug/L	92000	ug/L	130000	ug/L	130000	ug/L	93000	ug/L	110000	ug/L	110000	ug/L	110000	ug/L	110000	ug/L		
6020B	7440-28-0	Water	Thallium	Total Recoverable	2	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	<0.13	ug/L	
6020B	7440-36-0	Water	Antimony	Total Recoverable	6	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	<0.20	ug/L	0.32	ug/L	J	<0.20	ug/L	0.33	ug/L	J	<0.20	ug/L	0.33	ug/L	J
6020B	7440-38-2	Water	Arsenic	Total Recoverable	10	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	<0.68	ug/L	
6020B	7440-39-3	Water	Barium	Total Recoverable	2000	12	ug/L	19	ug/L	44	ug/L	36	ug/L	43	ug/L	50	ug/L	87	ug/L	12000	ug/L	12000	ug/L	12000	ug/L	12000	ug/L	
6020B	7440-41-7	Water	Beryllium	Total Recoverable	4	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	<0.12	ug/L	
6020B	7440-43-9	Water	Cadmium	Total Recoverable	5	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15	ug/L	<0.15																

From: Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 2:13 PM
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>
Subject: MDE Report Quantum Maryland Frac Tanks for Dust Control 6-20-2025 Adamstown

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Frederick County Council,

Please find attached the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Dust Report, which documents environmental data related to recent construction activities.

I must draw your attention to the extraordinary effort required to obtain this information. The report was only secured following a Public Information Act (PIA) request and the persistent action of Ms. Heather Fletcher, who engaged with two supervisors in Baltimore to compel the release of this data. This lack of transparency regarding environmental safety is highly concerning, and it is regrettable that citizens must resort to such extensive measures to gain access to critical environmental information, particularly concerning harmful substances detailed within this document.

The content of the attached document strongly suggests a lack of transparency by the contractor, [Contractor Name], regarding safety issues impacting residents and your constituents in South Frederick County.

I urge you to review the report in its entirety.

Sincerely,

Elyse Wilson

VIEW THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT:

<https://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DocumentCenter/View/358842/QuantumPublicComment>