

**From:** [Roger R. \[REDACTED\]](#)  
**To:** [CZA, Program \(MailBox Resources\)](#)  
**Subject:** Data Center Project  
**Date:** Saturday, January 10, 2026 1:41:53 PM

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Secretary Gregory Patterson  
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)

Dear Sec. Patterson:

I wish to comment on the "Project Washington Data Center" Status Decision. I do believe that the project should not be allowed to move forward as it is incompatible with Delaware's legendary Coastal Zone Act (CZA). The proposed scope of the data center – the amount of land, the number of buildings, the electrical demand, the back-up generators and the diesel fuel they require - surely are on-scale with heavy industry. The authors of the CZA could have in no way been able to forecast such a project, as computing at the time was in its early infancy and the internet as it is today was unimaginable. Data centers of the day were using punch card sets and teletypes as inputs! (I know because back then I was submitting programs that way).

The CZA authors were motivated by the industrialization of coastal lands and therefore wisely made the decision to prioritize resource preservation over heavy industry. We do not want our coastline to look like the notorious polluted coastlines of Texas and Louisiana.

I understand that the Data Center application lists a number of impacts in its scope. I want to comment on one number which seems oddly low: the water discharge set at 2,737,500 gallons per year. I worked in my career at industrial sites that routinely discharged 3 million gallons per day. It is hard to believe a water impact so low for such a large facility.

I strongly believe the Data Center is incompatible with the Coastal Zone, has the potential to cause significant environmental harm, and therefore, it should not be permitted. The prohibitions in the CZA were meant to protect the fragile ecosystems within Delaware's coastal corridor; therefore, DNREC should prohibit this use in the Coastal Zone. I urge you to protect Delaware's Coastal Zone from this proposed use, and I thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Roger R. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]