

From: Suzanne S [REDACTED]
To: CZA, Program (MailBox Resources)
Subject: STOP PROJECT WASHINGTON IN DELAWARE
Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026 10:56:58 AM

Dear madam or sir:

The reasons to prohibit the building of data centers in Delaware are many; most of us are unwilling and/or unable to subsidize the insatiable amount of energy data centers consume. The impact on the local environment as well as the global climate cannot be overstated. The only possible benefit to the local economy—to create jobs—is completely undermined by the sheer cost to local communities where these things get built. (I won't even get into the dystopian future of people who work at these data centers only to have their paychecks decimated every month by utility companies forcing everyday citizens to pay for the data centers's gluttony, all while technocrats rake in the profits.)

Let's address, for now, the simple fact that this project breaks the rules. The Coastal Zone Act (hereinafter, the "Act") BANS new heavy industry except at 14 specific sites grandfathered in 1971. Even the 2017 amendments only opened those 14 sites to new heavy industry—nowhere else. Project Washington isn't at one of those sites. It has no legal pathway.

Data centers do not "manufacture" anything. The Act permits manufacturing—the physical transformation of materials into new products. Data centers largely support AI, which is an unregulated Wild West industry which is unbelievably fraught... but that's besides the point. They do not "manufacture" anything. They process data and nothing more. If it's not manufacturing and not at a grandfathered site, the Coastal Zone Act prohibits it.

Two-hundred and fifty diesel generators poison the air. The Act explicitly bans refineries, incinerators, and industrial polluters. These backup generators create the same toxic emissions the law was written to stop.

The grid can't handle it. Project Washington would drain 1.2 gigawatts—more power than every Delaware home combined. The Coastal Zone Act protects our coast "primarily for recreation and tourism," not industrial energy extraction that drives up everyone's bills.

Eventually, rising seas will swallow it. Coastal zone permits now require proof that the site can withstand sea level rise and coastal storms. Delaware City sits in a flood zone facing decades of climate threats.

The law demands zero harm. Permit applicants must prove "no negative environmental impact on the Coastal Zone." Project Washington's energy drain, water use, diesel emissions, and industrial noise make that impossible.

Do legislators really think any data center in our state is GOOD for Delawareans? If so, then I grossly misjudged the ethos of our state. We are a state of neighbors, and while we don't always see eye-to-eye, we ultimately look out for one another. **ANY data centers permitted in Delaware will cause irreparable harm, but I am especially opposed to Project Washington.**

Suzanne S [REDACTED]

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Sent from my iPad