

Culpeper Democrats

RESOLUTION OF THE CULPEPER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE (CCDC)

Calling for a Moratorium on New Data Center Approvals

Recitals

WHEREAS, Culpeper County has approved multiple large-scale data center projects whose full impacts on public resources, infrastructure, and community well-being have not yet been observed or evaluated; and

WHEREAS, residents across Culpeper County have raised substantial concerns regarding industrial noise, extreme energy consumption, water resource pressures, and the potential construction of high-voltage transmission infrastructure that threatens rural communities, farmland, and historic landscapes; and

WHEREAS, independent studies and documented cases in other localities demonstrate serious risks associated with rapid data center proliferation, including noise pollution, light pollution, air quality degradation, electric grid instability, and water security issues linked to heavy industrial consumption; and

WHEREAS, the promised fiscal benefits from data centers vary widely across Virginia due to depreciation schedules, state tax exemptions, and local incentive structures, and further study is required to determine whether Culpeper County's current tax and revenue framework adequately offset long-term infrastructure, environmental, and community impacts; and

WHEREAS, major industrial projects should contribute to strong local employment standards, and Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) ensure fair wages, safe working conditions, skilled labor, and reliable project delivery while supporting union labor and strengthening Culpeper County's workforce; and

WHEREAS, a period of analysis and independent review is necessary to fully understand the cumulative impacts of already-approved data center projects before considering any additional industrial development; and

Resolution

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Culpeper County Democratic Committee hereby:

1. Calls for an immediate moratorium on any new data center approvals, rezonings, or permits until Culpeper County can thoroughly observe, analyze, and mitigate the impacts of existing and previously approved projects.
2. Demands that the county conduct comprehensive, independent studies evaluating environmental and health impacts, water usage, energy demand, and long-term effects on rural landscapes and historic resources.
3. Calls for all data center development proposals to include a PLA ensuring the use of skilled, union labor; fair wages; strong safety standards; and workforce practices that provide meaningful local employment and long-term economic value to Culpeper County.