

DOCKETED	
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RB Inyokern Data Center (26-SPPE-01) Comment and A Proposed Path Forward for Future Data Centers in Indian Wells Valley (IWV)

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

5/5/2026

To: California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Charlie Hattendorf

Re: RB Inyokern Data Center (26-SPPE-01) Comment and A Proposed Path Forward for Future Data Centers in Indian Wells Valley (I WV)

To Whom it May Concern,

The following comments outline an anticipated negative impact upon the commerce, environment, and living conditions existent in the townsite of Inyokern and the I WV. Concerns include:

- 1) Adequate water availability for data center cooling is a major concern, with the supporting aquifer of the valley already in a severe drawdown state. Water costs to consumers have skyrocketed to support California's SGMA requirement to sustain the I WV water basin. Additional costs associated with providing Data Center project's water supply will no doubt require an upgrade to Indian Wells Valley Water District's (I WVWD) water transmission capability into Inyokern, with those costs transmitted to current I WVWD customers residing in Ridgecrest and the surrounding area.
- 2) Elevated sound and noise associated with the proposed 40 diesel generators providing 99 Mega Watt emergency power, and the periodic operational testing which would be required.
- 3) Light pollution generated by the proposed 24hour / . 7day operational schedule of the data center.
- 4) Increased traffic on an already poor city support structure
- 5) Location is immediately adjacent to the proposed Timbisha Shoshone Tribe casino, which could exacerbate the adverse impacts.
- 6) Exhaust fumes and dust associated with the facility would be detrimental to the surrounding inhabitants.
- 7) A detrimental impact to the existing quality of life of Inyokern citizens, most of whom are retired or are young families with limited means.

In order for any proposed Data center in the I WV to garner a favorable opinion, certain criteria must be met:

- 1) A Data Center's physical location must be in a minimally-impacting area to inhabitants of the valley which would then help mitigate dust, exhaust fumes, noise, traffic and lighting inherent in data center operation.
- 2) Water should be appropriated from the Los Angeles aqueduct, not the I WV aquifer.
- 3) Any tax income related to the Data Center must be applied to infrastructure within Inyokern, not Bakersfield.
- 4) An EIS must be generated

Inyokern could then be the "Gateway to the World's Data"!

Respectfully,

Charlie Hattendorf