

DOCKETED

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Comments in opposition to granting exemption

I am a resident of Kern county and live just south of Inyokern. I oppose the proposed data center on the following grounds:

1. The Indian Wells Valley groundwater is currently in a critical overdraft status, and not in compliance with SGMA. Regardless of what the investors claim, a closed loop cooling system will use substantially more water than the valley can sustain. With a major US Navy RDT&E facility already situated there, this is not only an environmental issue, but one of national security as well.

2. 40 generators onsite will create an air quality risk that is unacceptable. These backup generators will need to be tested regularly, so they will all have to be started and run with a load at least monthly. That amount of diesel particulate will generate unacceptable air quality in the valley.

3. This area is on an active seismic fault, last experiencing a major earth quake series in 2019. Placing a facility of this size in that environment presents an unacceptable environmental, safety and human life hazard.

Given these concerns, I ask that the Commission deny permit on this project.