

DOCKETED

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Comment Received From: Paul Wood
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Updated Concerns and Comments

Please enter the attached file as my updated Concerns and Comments.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Date: May 26, 2026

To: The California Energy Commission

CC: Kern County District Supervisors; Senator Grove; Senator Padilla; Senator Schiff;
Assembly Member Ellis; Congressman Fong; Senator Padilla; Senator Schiff;

Regarding: RB Data Center - CEC Docket 26-SPPE-01

I live in the affected area where the Inyokern RB Data Center is being proposed. I have several urgent concerns which need to be addressed. These seem simple enough but deserve your attention and consideration when preparing an analysis for a project like this.

My primary concerns are:

- 1) Water & groundwater: Is the projected water use accurate? Can the proposed water supply be sustained? What could additional groundwater pumping mean for our valley?
- 2) Air quality & public health: What will 40 massive diesel generators mean regarding emissions, testing, and our nearby schools?

As a pulmonary patient I am also concerned about the degradation of our air quality not only in Inyokern but the entire valley.

In addition, backup generators must be exercised and maintained on a monthly basis. The noise and pollution from the estimated number of forty diesel generators will be detrimental to the area. The valley is just that. A valley. History shows us that pollutants such as dust from the Owens Lake have been trapped in the valley and sometimes remain for days, and weeks. The Owens Lake is a prime example of a project gone wrong and it took years of litigation and hundreds of millions of dollars to try to mitigate the hazards. And the mitigation process continues to this day.

- 3) Power & infrastructure: Are the proposed electrical connections, utility routes, and other infrastructure fully defined and properly analyzed? If not, when will this occur and who is responsible to fund it?
- 4) Military & aviation impacts: This project sits directly adjacent to NAWS China Lake and between it's air field and the Inyokern air field which they utilize for training. What impact to NAWS China Lake and Inyokern airport has been identified including thermal plumes, electromagnetic interference, and aviation safety? If none, why hasn't this been addressed? Once again, who will fund this study? And who will oversee the study to ensure non bias?
- 5) Biological & cumulative impacts: Has the full construction footprint, and the potential for future development, been adequately considered?

I have seen two different marketing examples, and disagree with the placement of this project so near a residential area and a historical town. The entire project including both market examples is in appropriate for this area.

Date: May 26, 2026

6) Environmental review & accountability: Are important studies and mitigation decisions being pushed into future permits instead of being addressed *before* approval? And who will be responsible for enforcing those protections? In my many years of life, I have seen studies rubber stamped and even violations waived in favor of a project for tax revenue and profit.

I am skeptical that this project will be pushed through without these issues being fully researched and 100% mitigated before the CEC grants approval.

Remember, the valley is in a critical overdraft condition. No surface water, no lakes or streams.

I appreciate you taking the time to read my concerns and respectfully ask that you act on them.

Sincerely,
Paul Wood

Long time resident of the Indian Wells Valley, since 1962