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If You Wouldn't Sleep Next to It, Don't Approve It: Formal Opposition to Docket 26-SPPE-01

To: the California Energy Commission and the Kern County Board of Supervisors

Subject: Public Comment: Strong Opposition to Docket 26-SPPE-01 (RB Inyokern Data Center)

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed ninety nine megawatt data center in Inyokern. This project is a predatory attempt by developers to exploit outdated zoning rules and bypass a thorough extensive environmental review. If the decision makers(CEC) on this panel are not willing to sleep next to a massive industrial complex in their own backyards then you have no business forcing one onto the community respectfully.

The public is being asked to bear all the financial and environmental burdens of this project for zero benefit. A facility of this scale requires massive upgrades to high voltage transmission lines. Under current utility rules, these costs will be passed down to the community, driving up electricity bills and water bills. Furthermore, as groundwater levels drop, the community here as a whole(Inyo Kern, Ridgecrest, Trona) will face steep surcharges just to keep running water into our to homes and taxpayers here should not be forced to subsidize a massive tech companyâ€™s utility bills.

The desert is a fragile ecosystem not a dumping ground for industrial warehouses. This massive complex will destroy local habitats and kick up toxic dust. The Indian Wells Valley groundwater basin is already in a critical overdraft. Allowing a private tech company to pump twelve to sixteen million gallons of water every single year just to cool computer servers and some hardware is wrong, environmentally irresponsible and it risks running the wells completely dry for residents of Inyo Kern and brings into question the uncertainty of stability to our singular shared water source in the surrounding areas since we all use the same aquifer as the proposed tech structure.

We also cannot ignore the noise, sound travels, and the low frequency hum from these industrial cooling fans and forty diesel generators will pass straight through home walls and windows. In flat desert terrain, this noise will carry for miles, directly impacting neighborhoods and the children at Inyokern Elementary School. The people living in this valley are real people, not just lines on a developers blueprint. The community refuses to sacrifice its water, energy peace and environment for a tech corporation's profit margins. I strongly urge the California Energy Commission to deny the Small Power Plant Exemption and demand that Kern County halt this project permanently.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Nileeteeia Chambers
Ridgecrest, CA