A GUIDE FOR NEIGHBORS

FIVE QUESTIONS TO ASK *ABOUT DATA CENTERS*

If a data center is proposed near you, these five questions help you ask for clear answers before decisions are made.

1. **Where will the power come from?**
   Some use the local power grid. Others build a power plant on site, which can add pollution to the air nearby.

2. **How much water will it use?**
   Cooling can take a lot of water. Ask how many gallons a day, where it comes from, and where it goes afterward.

3. **How loud will it be, and how bright?**
   Fans and generators can run day and night. Lights can shine toward homes after dark.

4. **Who pays for the new power lines and equipment?**
   Big power needs can mean grid upgrades. Ask whether those costs could reach household electric bills.

5. **How many jobs will last after construction?**
   Building brings many short-term jobs. Ask how many permanent jobs remain, what they pay, and who gets hired.

DEEPSOUTH CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

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BRING THIS PAGE TO THE MEETING

WHAT TO *LISTEN FOR*

Answers can sound friendly and still leave out the details. Here is what a clear answer sounds like next to a vague one.

	A CLEAR ANSWER	A VAGUE ANSWER
1 Power	Names the power source and the backup generators, in writing.	"Power needs are still being worked out."
2 Water	Gives gallons per day, the water source, and a plan for dry seasons.	"Water use will be minimal."
3 Noise and light	Gives a sound limit in decibels, a sound study, and lighting plans.	"It will blend into the area."
4 Cost to you	States in writing that the company pays for the upgrades it causes.	"Costs are still being studied."
5 Lasting jobs	Gives permanent jobs, pay ranges, and hiring plans in writing.	"Thousands of jobs," with no split between short-term and lasting.

How to ask

1. Write your question on a card and bring it to the meeting.
2. Ask out loud or send it in writing. Ask for the answer to be added to the public record.
3. Bring a neighbor and share this page. Clear questions asked together lead to clearer answers.

Next meeting

Date _____

Time _____

Place _____

Contact _____