



CITY OF SALEM

585 Liberty St SE
Salem, OR 97301

Written Testimony #2

City Council

Monday, August 3, 2026

6:00 PM

**Loucks Auditorium/
Salem Public Library**

Item 2.1

Consideration of the initiation of a moratorium on AI data centers and the initiation of amendments to the City zoning code to regulate AI data centers.

Add - Written Testimony received through August 2, 2026.

Page
Break

From: oboeduet@gmail.com
To: [citycouncil](#)
Cc: [Julie Hoy](#); [Paul Tigan](#); [Linda Nishioka](#); [Shane Matthews](#); [Deanna Gwyn](#); [Dr. Irvin M Brown](#); [Mai Vang](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Micki Varney](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Written Testimony for 8.3.26 CC mtg
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:34:47 PM
Attachments: [Testimony_City Council Mtg 8_3_26.pdf](#)

City Recorder,

Please add the attached file, Testimony_City Council Mtg 8_3_26, to the Agenda Packet for tonight's council meeting. I am copying each councilor to expedite their consideration of my request.

Please reply confirming receipt.

Thank you,
Andie Andeen

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

Mayor and Councilors,

Thank you for your time and for extending last week's meeting so all voices could be heard. I want to speak to two urgent issues: timing and trust.

First, timing.

The sequence of events this past week is concerning. An application was submitted immediately after public opposition intensified and just before you consider a moratorium. That raises a real risk this project is moving forward under outdated code, before you have the chance to act.

Even initiating a moratorium may not be enough if there's a delay before it takes effect. That gap creates a window for additional applications - we've seen this happen in other Oregon cities.

I urge you to take whatever lawful action is necessary to prevent applications from vesting under outdated code, including interim or emergency measures if appropriate.

Second, process and trust.

Based on my past interactions with Salem land use processes and given the scale of this project, I have serious concerns about whether procedures are always followed consistently or transparently. I urge you to direct an independent review of the process and staff actions - not to assign blame, but to ensure integrity and maintain public confidence.

Even if procedures were technically followed, there may have been a **serious error in judgment** in treating a project of this scale and impact as routine. This is not a typical development, and it should not be handled as one.

I also urge you to ensure that the **task force** is balanced, independent, and free from real or perceived conflicts of interest. Organizations like SEDCOR play an important role, but their perspectives must be balanced with independent technical experts and community voices to maintain public trust.

Finally, projects of this scale should not proceed through administrative approval. **At a minimum:**

1. Require discretionary review with meaningful public input
2. Ensure full cost recovery for technical analysis
3. Adopt updated standards before allowing further applications

This is a narrow window to act. Once it closes, it may not reopen.

Thank you,

Andie Andeen
Ward 3

From: [Ashlie Chatfield](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: City-Wide Data Center Moratorium
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 4:44:00 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, people from Salem and across Oregon as a whole gathered to share testimonies against the construction of a data center in Salem. There were hundreds of people present, and five hours worth of spoken protest. No one wants this data center, and only you have the power in this city to stop it. More than zoning complaints and tax levies, this is why Salem chose you for this position. We need you to act decisively, and before it is too late.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." The city council needs to adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting.

Study after study shows the damage a center such as this will do not just to Salem, but to the entire surrounding area. If construction begins, we will not be able to prevent the environmental, economic, public health, and public infrastructure devastation that is to come. The capital of Oregon will become permanently changed for the worse. Please make the correct decision for your constituents.

Ashlie Chatfield
chatfieldrt@gmail.com

Corvallis, Oregon 97333

From: [Alyssa Cokinis](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 4:22:13 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Alyssa Cokinis
alyssacokinis@gmail.com
467 1/2 18th St NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

From: [Alyssa Cokinis](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [Julie Hoy](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Paul Tigan](#); [Mai Vang](#); [Micki Varney](#); [Dr. Irvin M Brown](#); [Deanna Gwyn](#); [Shane Matthews](#); [Linda Nishioka](#); [SALEM Manager](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Vote YES to a data center moratorium and to no more NDAs
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 6:59:01 AM

Hello Mayor Hoy, City Council, and City Manager:

Please vote YES for a moratorium on data centers, for amending the city zoning codes, and for no more NDAs by the City.

I did see Verrus submitted their application. However, it is quite bare bones and does not go into water usage, environmental impact, projected jobs, and even appears to be partly on different property than originally anticipated. It is discouraging that council members won't take a firm stand either way on this project. Mayor-elect Nordyke, I'm specifically speaking to you. You were the only one to respond to my email, yet I felt it was merely glossing over facts and did not provide any insight into what you actually believe.

The citizens of Salem have spoken en masse: NO DATA CENTERS. We expect our elected officials to represent us or we will vote you out!

Alyssa Cokinis
Ward 1
writing as a private citizen

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Amy Hughes](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 8:11:23 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Amy Hughes
teacupoutlaw@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [Alyssa Meltzer](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 7:52:14 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Alyssa Meltzer
meltzean@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [Autumn Mortensen](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:03:44 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

I wish to add that I am concerned about the potential impact on residents of which I am one who would be affected by proposed data centers. I am concerned for my health and the health of my community and ecosystem.

Autumn Mortensen
Abmort93@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97306

From: [Arianna Payson](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Proposed AI data center
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:15:54 PM

I have a sinking feeling your communities protests will mean absolutely nothing, as you have had a year to make underhanded decisions while the public has had no clue of your plans due to that atrocious NDA. Every one of you who was under that should be ashamed of yourselves.

Tonight you'll hear many incredibly well researched, data backed arguments as to why this city should reject the scourge of AI. Arguments about the AI bubble already collapsing. Arguments about noise pollution, water pollution, environmental concerns, native land concerns. All of these incredibly fair and valid arguments that I both support and echo.

Im an activity director for a memory care facility. On a daily basis I work with residents with dementia, early onset and otherwise. And when I say that AI has been a daily detriment to both myself, my job, and my residents, I am making the understatement of the century. My residents do not understand that the videos they are watching aren't real. The photos they see do not depict actual events. The answers they find online aren't true. They have this inherent trust that if it's on the Internet it must be true. And as much as I firmly believe old dogs can be taught new tricks, teaching an old dog to recognize an AI photo when they can't see half the colors and have glaucoma or other sight concerns is a whole other story. It's an insidious creeping replacement of things they can trust for things made of flights of fancy.

From a moralistic standpoint, it is on you to encourage your citizens to reach for better, for brighter, to aim to better themselves. It is on you to encourage education, to encourage growth.

Data centers not only cull any possibility of growth in an environmental sense, but also in a personal, societal sense. It is infuriating to see our governing body support a technology that is an active hindrance to its peoples. It is infuriating to see you be willing to hand over our common sense, our critical thinking, our knowledge and humanity for something so pathetically and entirely soulless. For what? Possibly 75 permanent jobs? At the cost of everyone else?

What a fucked up trade.

You should be ashamed of yourselves. Truly ashamed. We are beyond disappointed with the quality of leadership we find ourselves with.

-Arianna Payson
Ward 3, Salem OR
The Turtle Moves

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Andrea Meyer](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]No Data Centers: Significant, Holistic Harm Impending for Salem, Oregon
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:24:12 PM

Hello, Salem City Council,

My name is Andrea Smart, and I live in Ward 8. I am writing to express my rage, disappointment, and grief at how the Verrus data center bid and application have been handled. Verrus, after experiencing the people of Salem's HOT MAD opposition to their proposed data center, gave us all a big, fat, middle finger by slipping their application in just before the moratorium could be passed. Verrus clearly cannot be trusted to be a good neighbor, and I insist that ANYONE with any authority to reject their application on any grounds (like SIGNIFICANT HUMAN HARMS) do so, and without delay. They are going to come in, suck up our resources, get a big tax break, and leave us to clean up the mess, likely driving more business AWAY from Salem than bringing it in, all while significantly decreasing our quality of life. This is unacceptable.

Salem is my hometown. I've watched it dry up over the years with drought upon drought. Where are our farmers, who grow all of our favorite, delicious berries, grapes, and hops, going to get their water once it's all polluted or frittered away by this stupid data center? You've no doubt fielded comments from other residents who have decried the impending data center's most certain desolation of our water quality (and volume!) and air quality, and rampant noise pollution. So, I'm not going to repeat those things here. The bottom line: Salem needs to put a stop to this and all future data centers. In fact, Oregon needs to do this for the whole state. This is bad money, not good. And it will ruin us.

As for human harm, I have been harmed personally by the unchecked, move-fast-and-break-things nature of the AI revolution. For 3 decades, I worked as a writer in the corporate sphere, churning out millions of personally written and researched pieces for my clients' websites, press releases, proposals, etc. When ChatGPT debuted, my writing jobs literally evaporated, just as our water supply will. I went from being able to pay my bills to having no idea how I was going to pay my bills, and even going into arrears on some of them.

I made a pivot to substitute teaching after that, and am still struggling to catch up with the evaporation of a job I trained for and enjoyed. Speaking of teaching, many of my good friends are teachers here in the Salem-Keizer School District, and they are alarmed at the rapid decline in thinking skills they are seeing in their students who have now come to rely on AI for their schoolwork. Teachers get very little support for implementing controls on this, and they are struggling to figure out how to stop the large-scale shrinking of the next generation's brains! I am not against technological advancements. As a member of Gen-X, I've adopted pretty much all of them... until now. I have drawn a line at AI, and I can proudly say that I have never used AI to write anything, and you are getting words from a real human here. A real angry, terrified human who is watching a dystopian future unfold in her hometown and is none too pleased about it.

Vote yes (OBVIOUSLY) on the data center Moratorium. But also, PLEASE do whatever you can to throw sand in the gears of this rude, bad-neighbor Verrus data center application. Just because it's "legal" doesn't mean it's the right thing for Salem AT ALL. Do something! Find a way! None of us want this, except the out-of-state rich bastards who will desolate our

resources and our town with impunity. Please.
I love my hometown.
Andrea Smart, Ward 8

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

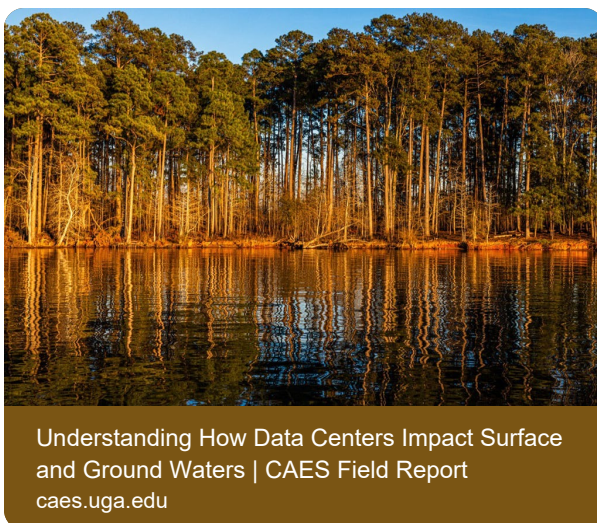
From: [April Waters](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Please don't let this happen to our water. Where was the Environmental Impact Report? Stop it now.
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 3:02:50 PM
Attachments: [favicon.png](#)

Dear Members of the City Council,

Where was the Environmental Impact Report? How could Julie Hoy and prior city council agree to the data center before finding out how much of the community's water, the data center would take, evaporate and pollute? Please stop it now. We need clean fresh water and a healthy environment more than we need to make the rich richer with their fast-growing and consuming AI.

Sincerely,

April Waters
1859 Alta View Dr. S
Salem, OR 97302



Data Centers and Water Consumption |
Article | EESI



CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Zuzana Holcova](#)
To: [Carl Hoffman](#); [Amy Johnson](#)
Subject: FW: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:16:37 PM

From: Brooke Corbin <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:06 PM
To: Julie Hoy <JHoy@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

Data centers are not good for OR and they are definitely not good for Salem. As a citizen of Zone 8, I am begging you to look towards the long term good of NOT allowing at data center in Salem. The ecological cost and damage to our quality of life FAR outweigh the pittance of economic gain and scant amount of jobs that Verrus is dangling as a benefit.

I moved to Salem from UT to escape the water conservancy issues. I have re-built my life here with the hope that OR would make better long term decisions. Please be the leaders we need you to be!

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Brooke Corbin
brooke.cotbin@yahoo.com

Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [Ben Corrado](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#); [Micki Varney](#)
Subject: Interest in serving on the Data Center Task Force
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 3:45:40 PM

Dear Councilor Varney and Mayor Hoy -

I would like to put my name forward for consideration to serve on the committee regarding data centers in Salem as Councilor Varney and I discussed briefly on Monday. Thank you both for your time and effort at the meeting on Monday. I stayed until the very end and was proud of how you handled the meeting despite the challenging circumstances.

I have been an active member of Salem's technology community since 2008. I began as a project manager and design engineer at Garmin and later co-founded Rigado, which grew here in Salem and helped bring technology jobs associated with u-blox and Walmart to the community. While I was CEO, Rigado was recognized as the tenth-fastest-growing private company in Oregon. In 2017, I also received the Oregon Entrepreneurs Network's Entrepreneurial Achievement Award.

Today, I run two Salem companies that work in and around the data center industry.

The first is NerdNode, which develops an alternative model for distributed data hosting and processing. We build software and hardware that allow individuals to operate servers using excess internet and computing capacity in their homes. Our software manages those servers as a reliable global computing network that can provide capabilities similar to those of traditional data centers. During the company's early development, we also operated equipment in colocation data center facilities in Hillsboro.

The second is Santiam Labs, which develops hardware and software for tracking and managing data center assets throughout their lifecycle. We currently have contracts with a major hyperscaler to provide this asset-management technology.

Through these companies, and through my broader career in technology, I have gained an inside view of how companies plan, build, scale, and operate data centers. I understand both the legitimate technical requirements of these facilities and how technical and economic claims can sometimes obscure important tradeoffs. I believe I can bring useful industry knowledge to the task force, help it ask the right questions, and identify where proposals and claims require deeper examination.

I have also spoken with local landowners whose properties are adjacent to the Turner Road and Deer Creek area to better understand their concerns and perspectives.

Neither I nor either of my companies has any financial interest in the proposed Salem data center project.

I have lived here since 2008 and I am passionate about our city, its people, and the legacy we leave for future generations.

If you have any questions for me, please reach out at 503-342-8842 or via this email.

Thank you,

Ben Corrado

From: [Brian Hudgins](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 10:53:18 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

While y'all are elected to your positions you are nonetheless volunteers. Kudos to all y'all for taking up the responsibilities of these positions with no monetary compensation. Your focus is supposed to be representation of Salems population. You have the moral commitment to perform your roles without pay, cool, but that does NOT put you above the city populace in any way shape or form. Representing We The People of Salem means that there WILL be a moratorium against data centers. Not just Salem but it would be great if y'all were to reach out to the governor's office and make the case for a moratorium on any new data centers in the entire state.

The people you supposedly represent have spoken.
Will you listen?

Brian Hudgins
brian.hudgins58@gmail.com

SALEM, Oregon 97302

From: [Bethany Kersey](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 1:27:41 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Bethany Kersey
bethany.k.kersey@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97302

From: [Brandon Long](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 11:41:15 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Brandon Long
einherjarium@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [Bridget Losch](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 7:07:57 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Bridget Losch
bridgetlosch@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97301

From: bstencel26@gmail.com
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]No data center!
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 6:17:20 AM

Please listen to the people and do not allow a data center to dirty up our city. We do not want this!

Bethany

Sent from my iPhone

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: cb@claudiaburton.com
To: [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public comment for August 3, 2026 meeting
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 8:02:54 AM

My name is Claudia Burton, and I have lived in Salem for 30 years. I live in Ward 3. These are my public comments for the August 3, 2026 meeting.

Due to the filing by Alderstone on July 31, the city needs **emergency action** on data centers and cannot wait for a moratorium or code amendments. Alderstone and Verrus are essentially the same entity; Nelson Abramson, listed as the contact person on Alderstone's application, lists an email address at verrusdata.com, appears on Verrus' website as its CEO, and signed the NDA on behalf of Verrus.

ORS 401.309(2) states that "A city or county in this state may, by ordinance or resolution, establish procedures to prepare for and carry out any activity to prevent, minimize, respond to or recover from an emergency." "Emergency" is defined by ORS 401.025(1): "Emergency" means a... circumstance that causes or threatens widespread ... injury to person or property, human suffering or financial loss..."; and includes drought. ORS 401.025(1)(a). The city of Salem has **already declared a water emergency**. It is well known that water use is a major concern regarding data centers. In addition, the Cheyenne, Wyoming "closed loop" cooling system discharged bacteria into that city's water supply. The application on file contains no information whatsoever about how much water that project would use. Verrus, while claiming in its pre-application materials that it would not use water to cool its data center, has also stated that it has not completed engineering and cannot say how much water it would use. The city should adopt an emergency resolution, effective immediately, and applying to new and pending applications, to require any data center applicants to provide full details as to their water use, including full technical and engineering details. The required details should include any anticipated discharge into the city's water system as well as water use. The resolution should further provide that data center applicants shall be required to pay for an expert of the city's choosing to review and comment on those details. Finally, the resolution should provide that no data center use will be considered

unless it can establish that it will not threaten Salem's water supply. This is neither a code amendment nor a moratorium. It is an appropriate action to address an emergency which the city has already declared. Other data center issues can be addressed later.

The council also must address the NDA that was signed with Verrus/Abramson because it is directly relevant to the emergency. Had the council and the public been aware of the Verrus proposal when the City Manager was, there would have been time to address water and other data center issues via code amendments or a moratorium. Instead, because no one found out about the proposal until it had been in development for over a year, the city faces a situation where an application has been filed and code amendments or a moratorium likely won't apply to that application. I have serious questions about the legality of this NDA.

The only authority I could find for the city manager to contract on behalf of the city is SRC 2.380(a). That provides that the city manager is the contracts and procurement manager for the city. Those responsibilities are to be executed in compliance with the City of Salem's public contracting rules and other applicable law. I have been unable to locate the City's public contracting rules; however a review of ORS 297A addresses public contracting as it applies to public agencies' procurement of goods and services. I have been unable to locate any authority that authorizes NDAs as public contracts. Several members of the Council have stated that they were unaware of the NDA, thus it does not appear that the Council delegated authority to the City Manager to execute this NDA.

Even if executing the NDA was within the City Manager's authority, she was still required to comply with Oregon's Public Records Act. That law provides that a "public record" is "any writing that contains information relating to the conduct of the public's business." ORS 192.311(5)(a). The Act further provides a general right of the public to inspect any public record. ORS 192.314(1). It is true that there is a conditional exemption for trade secrets. ORS 192.345(2). However, this is a conditional exemption which applies "unless the public interest requires disclosure...." ORS 192.345. Given the issues surrounding data

centers and the time constraints on the city's ability to adopt rule changes or impose a moratorium, the public interest absolutely requires disclosure of the existence of a pre-application process for a data center. However, the pre-application materials do not even constitute trade secrets. See ORS 192.345(2). The pre-application materials do not contain any proprietary details which give Verrus a competitive advantage. It is obvious that the purpose of the NDA was not to maintain a competitive advantage but to sneak the project through before anything could be done to stop it.

If there is some other basis of which I am unaware which makes the NDA legal, I would appreciate being advised what it is. If there is not, however, the city council needs to confront the fact that an unlawful contract executed by its city manager has led to an application being filed before the city can enact a moratorium or code amendments. This is completely unacceptable and the city must do whatever it can, on an emergency basis, to remedy this.

Even if there was a lawful basis for the NDA, it was still a spectacular error in judgment. The NDA was signed on behalf of the city by the current city manager (at the time, interim city manager) shortly after the previous city manager had been fired in violation of the Public Meetings law. The public is outraged; and the Council may be backed into a corner where it can do little to regulate a project that could seriously harm the community. This is a particularly bad look when the council has already been found to have violated the public meetings act. The city manager should be fired; and if she is not, the entire council and Mayor should be recalled.

A moratorium would be an entirely appropriate step to allow time for the state and city data center task forces to complete their work and provide appropriate recommendations. **Both the cities of Hillsboro and Woodburn initiated their DLCD requests for a moratorium prior to a council vote.** The request to DLCD should have happened after last week's city council meeting.

The request for a moratorium and proposed code amendments should include but not be limited to AI or hyperscale data centers. The current

provisions regarding data centers were added to the city's code in 2014. Leaving AI aside, no one in 2014 anticipated the current cloud demands of Facebook, Google, and Amazon; not to mention banks, health care providers, and other retail sellers. And if a "non-AI" data center is approved, how will the city monitor what its computers are actually doing?

Regarding code amendments, the code should address water and electricity usage.

With regard to noise, the code should consider not just the noise produced by the center but the ambient already existing noise level at the proposed site. For example, the proposed Verrus and Alderstone sites are very close to the I-5 freeway.

For "closed loop" cooling, the code needs to consider how often the system needs to be flushed or cleaned and what the emissions of such a system will be. The code should also address whether "closed loop" cooling systems will use toxic chemicals, including PFAS; and if those are allowed, impose appropriate safety measures to prevent discharge of those chemicals.

There is evidence that data centers produce so much heat, they actually increase the ambient temperature. [Data centers raise nearby temperatures by up to 4 degrees in Phoenix](#) The code should address what steps data centers will be required to implement during heat emergencies where emergency cooling shelters for the public are required.

Data centers will connect to city infrastructure – who will pay the cost of those infrastructure improvements? It should not be the city ratepayers.

Should data centers be allowed at all in Enterprise zones – is it appropriate to grant such substantial tax benefits, and allow so much land to be used, when so few jobs compared to the size of the land used will be created? Many Oregon school districts are losing millions of dollars due to property tax exemptions granted to data centers.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2025/08/21/oregon-property-tax->

[breaks-for-corporations-cost-schools-275-million-last-year-study-finds/](#)

The quality of the schools affects the quality of life for city of Salem residents.

The city should review ORS 227.600. That statute addresses siting of garbage dumps. It contains many provisions which would be appropriate here, including extensive pre-application public notification procedures.

Finally, the code should authorize immediate revocation of permission to operate for any data center that does not comply with its pre-approval representations. For example, if the center's noise exceeds the noise estimate in its approved application, the city should have immediate authority to shut down the data center until it complies with the conditions under which it was approved.

Thank you for the opportunity to express these concerns.

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Cat DeMira](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I support a city-wide data center moratorium
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 12:37:44 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. I wasn't at the meeting but I agree with and wholeheartedly support the demand for end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

You would properly represent me, my voice, and my interests by adopting at the 8/3 Special Meeting of the City Council the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS."

Stand with Salem's working class, not shady Big Tech oligarchs and their dystopian, bubble-adjacent future. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Cat DeMira
weirdonian47@proton.me

Salem, Oregon 97301

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Snickers5988@aol.com
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Contact City Recorder
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 8:07:16 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Chad Evans
Your Email	Snickers5988@aol.com
Your Phone	3038592146
Street	1711 Waln Dr SE, Apt 101
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97306
Message	This is in regards to data centers being built in Salem. We are in a drought and inundated with wildfires; how is it a good idea to be building a massive data center that will consume our valuable resources? What benefit could these data centers possibly provide that would offset their negative impacts? The answer to that is there is no benefit. Verrus and other data center operators do not care about the communities they operate in. Please do the right thing and protect our resources and our communities. Thank you.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 8/3/2026.

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of cristinahall1111@gmail.com
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 3:01:06 PM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Cristina Hall
Your Email	cristinahall1111@gmail.com
Your Phone	5039178157
Street	1257 Ronelle St S
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97306
Message	Unfortunately because of my inability to be in and out of heat and cold, I will be unable to attend tonight's very important Council meeting regarding the Data Center proposal being submitted by Verrus in Southeast Salem. Not only do I oppose all Data Projects in Salem in the future, I vehemently oppose this one in particular. The company with no record, the way they have handled themselves, the risk to the community and the cost to taxpayers if we have to take them to court, and of course the shady NDA. The train already echoes through the valley, can you imagine the screeching sound and the EMF waves echoing through the valley as well. Killing the wildlife, making the population sick, and making our energy rates soar and our grid fail. Factor in the water issues Salem already has and the risk is substantial. Make Salem HUMAN again and save our City from this evil whatever the cost. Thank you for your service and leadership, your dedication to keeping ALL data centers out of Salem are appreciated very much.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 8/3/2026.

From: [Carol Johnson](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: No Data Center in Salem
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 5:18:26 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Carol Johnson
carol.delapp@gmail.com

Keizer OR, Oregon 97303

From: [Mike McAnelly](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Cc: [Claudia McAnelly](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]NO DATA Centers
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:56:40 PM

Please we cannot afford to ruin our community with these Data Centers!!! Stop this investor!

Claudia McAnelly

Sent from my iPhone

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Catherine Patty](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 2:13:04 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Catherine Patty
catherine.patty@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [Zuzana Holcova](#)
To: [Amy Johnson](#); [Carl Hoffman](#)
Subject: Additional Written Testimony
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 11:19:24 AM
Attachments: [Public Comment for City Council Meeting 727 No Verrus Data Center no data centers at all! Public private land protection over profits!.msg](#)
[Moratorium on AI Data Centers in Salem.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[City-Wide Data Center Moratorium.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I support a city-wide data center moratorium.msg](#)
[City-wide data center moratorium.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[Data Center Task Force.msg](#)
[NO data centers in Salem until tech sector is owned and controlled by the public.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[City-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[Salem deserves more information and better regulations.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[No Data Center in Salem.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[Interest in serving on the Data Center Task Force.msg](#)
[Data Center.msg](#)
[Data Center Comment.msg](#)
[Feedback on Verrus Data Center.msg](#)
[Data Center Input - Ward 3 Resident.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[Data center.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[Re I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[ATTENTION Reject environmental harm and creative theft.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!.msg](#)
[Governor"s Data Center Advisory Committee is happening NOW 073126 from 900 am to 400 pm.msg](#)
[Data Center NDA.msg](#)

Attached are additional emails with written testimony sent directly to the Mayor and or

individual councilors.

Thank you!

Zuzana

Zuzana Holcova

Mayor and City Council Support

City of Salem|Mayor/City Manager's Office

440 Church Street SE, Suite 400

Salem, Oregon 97301

zholcova@cityofsalem.net | 503-588-6255

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | CityofSalem.net

From: [Eleanor Arnett](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Comment
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 1:40:33 PM

The City of Salem approved an emergency declaration on July 28, 2025 with the expectation that we might face insufficient water supply this summer. If we are already concerned about the ability to meet Salem's water needs then we should not be approving a data center to be built that will place a great demand on our water and resources. I am a home owner in Salem and want to continue to live here, but how can we do that if there is not enough water? This project does not provide anywhere close to enough long term benefit to the community to outweigh the harmful health and environmental impacts this data center will cause.

Eleanor Arnett, Ward 1

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Sky Blaw](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: Data Center Comment
Date: Monday, July 27, 2026 6:01:39 PM

Hello,

My name is Sky and I write this as a resident of Salem with a deep concern over the proposed Data Center project announced recently.

The potential effects from the noise, the heat (data centers raise ambient temperatures around them 3-5 degrees) and the usage of valuable and fragile resources like fresh water and electricity cannot be overstated. Many other cities have experienced rolling blackouts because of data centers.

There is also something to be said about a 5.1 billion dollar project promising 75 jobs, nearly 68million per job. atrocious and shameful, Salem deserves better.

I cannot more strongly implore for the plans for this project to be slowed or halted until city residents are able to fully gather information and the full usage amounts can be calculated.

Thank you for your time.

Emma Sky Blaw

From: [Elaine Broskie](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Re: NO AI CENTER IN SALEM OR
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 11:28:17 AM

Please vote yes for a moratorium on data centers. Do all you can to resist new data center "grandfathered in" "under your noses" . Ask PGE not to serve them.

N. Elaine Broskie M.D., Psychiatrist, Physician
503-364-7049
525 Glen Creek RD NW #240
Salem OR 97304

From: Elaine Broskie <ebroskie@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2026 6:03 PM
To: citycouncil@cityofsalem.net <citycouncil@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: NO AI CENTER IN SALEM OR

We must say NO to a new AI center .
AI centers have a way of RUTHLESSLY maximizing community costs while minimizing their own responsibilities in spite of assurances by thousands of other city councils.
Salem City Council had 1.33 years to prepare to approve this with their non-disclosure agreements. The public is given 0.03 years to have an opinion about this.

Thanks to AI power usage, 7/16/26 the largest power grid in America covering 70 million Americans including Washington DC failed to secure enough power contracts due to 1000% (not a typo) higher costs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJ1oCq56Xv4> AI stole a community of multimillionaires' electricity access.
<https://fortune.com/2026/05/12/lake-tahoe-data-center-49000-residents-power-source/>

Like cancer, once this center is here we cannot get rid of it easily if it is a bad neighbor.

City council seems to support that billionaires own our city. That WE as people have no right to protect ourselves. CitY Council seems to feel their job is to sell out its community.

N. Elaine Broskie M.D., Psychiatrist, Physician

503-364-7049

525 Glen Creek RD NW #240

Salem OR 97304

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Erica Davis](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 5:18:08 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Erica Davis
davisERICA503@gmail.com
2341 Blacktail Deer Ct NW
Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [Evan West](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [Julie Hoy](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Linda Nishioka](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Re Data Center Moratorium etc.
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:33:30 PM

Mayor Hoy and Members of City Council:

I find no need to mince words. Your only responsible course of action is to pass an immediate moratorium on data center development. If the City Attorney is doing his job he will tell you that moratorium can be written to apply to applications in process or previously submitted.

With that being said, trust in the City Attorney, City Manager, and the Planning Administrator has been lost. The best thing that Council can do to demonstrate a covenant of trust with the voting public is to immediately move to dismiss these three positions.

The public is watching.

Evan West

--

Evan West, M.A.

He/Him/His

evanwest714@gmail.com

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [lvsj](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]NO AI DATA CENTERS IN SALEM OR ANYWHERE ELSE
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 1:01:16 PM

my name is Elysia, I am a high school student living in the 2nd ward of Salem Oregon and for the past years I have seen our environment, our community, and our wellbeing be worn down by the inclusion of corrosive AI centers across the country. As someone who was born and raised in this city, I know for a fact that these data centers will do nothing to boost Salem's economy or help any of the 180 thousand people who live and rely on clean water, safe utilities, and transparent authority. AI data centers take up useful land that could be used to help our community and instead extract resources from our land to speed up the unnecessary process of ai development and enhancement.

When the city hides behind NDA's, the people who do the real work to keep this city alive get their resources, trust, and integrity stolen by the very people who claim to look out for them. I ask you with everything in me to prioritize the people that put you in power of this city, not the rich company owners who sneak behind your back to gain momentary capital.

Thank you, Elysia.

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Faith To](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 6:06:16 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Faith To
faithddto@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97305

From: [Howard Bell](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Written Testimony and Data Center Concept Design – August 3, 2026 Special City Council Meeting
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:17:55 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Data Center Heat Recovery and Community Energy Concept.docx](#)

Dear Mayor, Council Members, and City Recorder,

Please accept the attached written testimony regarding tonight's Special City Council Meeting on the proposed data center moratorium.

In addition to my testimony, I am submitting a **Data Center Concept Design** that illustrates how Oregon can pursue responsible data center development while creating family-wage jobs, reducing carbon emissions, and maximizing community benefits through innovative infrastructure.

Rather than viewing data centers solely as consumers of electricity, the concept demonstrates opportunities to capture and reuse waste heat, integrate renewable and low-carbon energy resources, support grid reliability, and create long-term value for Oregon communities.

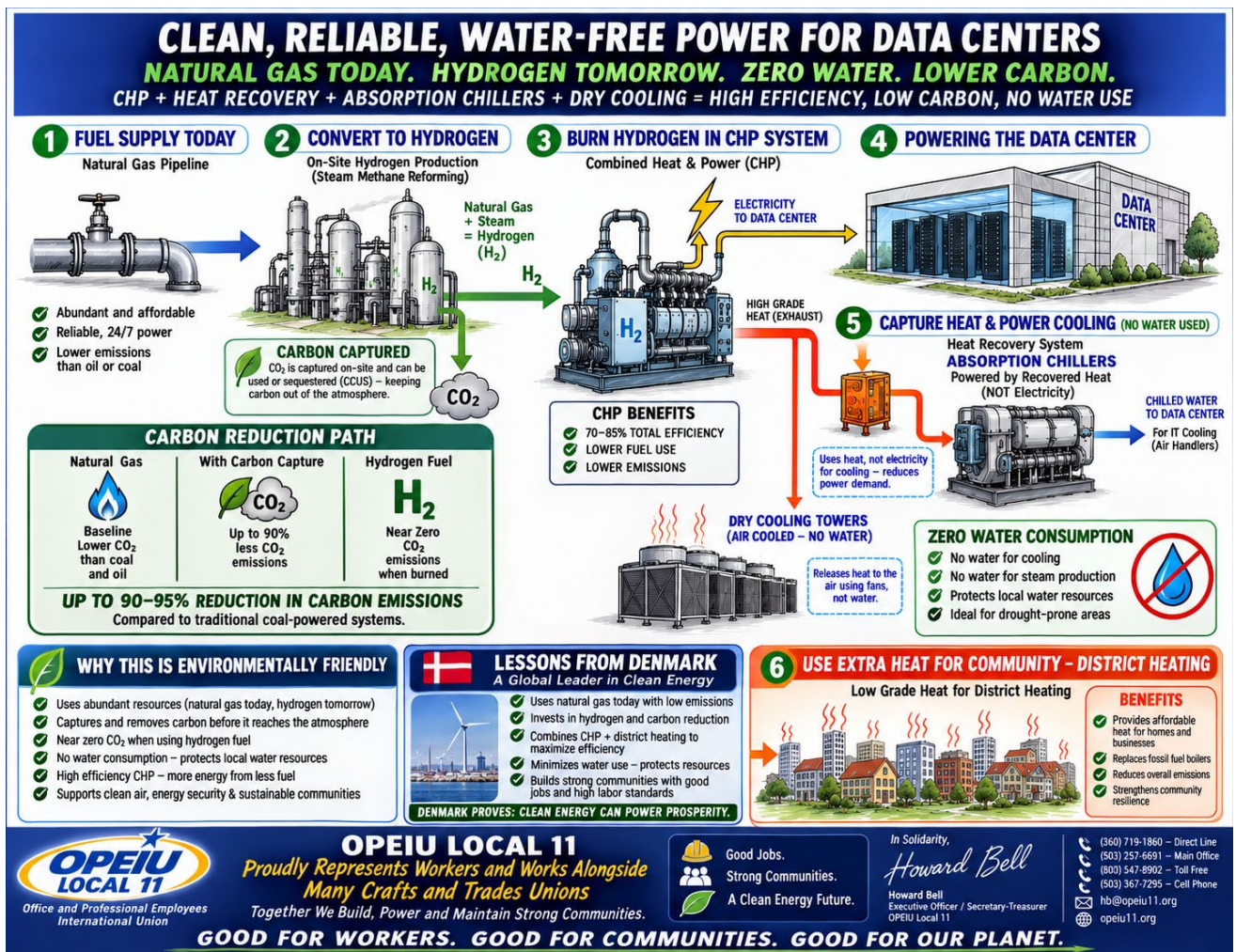
I appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments and look forward to speaking during public testimony this evening.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully and In Solidarity,
Howard Bell
Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer
OPEIU Local 11
(360) 719-1860 – Direct Line
(503) 257-6691 – Main Office
(800) 547-8902 – Toll Free
(503) 367-7295 – Cell Phone
hb@opeiu11.org



CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.



Clean, Reliable, Water-Free Power for Data Centers

A Flexible Concept for Oregon's Energy Future

Executive Summary

This concept illustrates one possible way to power future data centers while reducing carbon emissions, improving energy efficiency, conserving water, and creating family-wage jobs. It is intentionally presented as a flexible framework rather than a single prescribed design. Individual projects may implement all of the components shown in the diagram or only those that make technical and economic sense for a particular site. The central idea is to capture as much value as possible from every unit of energy by producing electricity, recovering heat that would otherwise be wasted, reducing emissions through carbon capture or lower-carbon fuels, and putting recovered heat to productive use throughout the surrounding community.

The Concept

Traditional power plants often waste more than half of the fuel's energy as heat. Combined Heat and Power (CHP) systems recover that heat and use it for productive purposes while generating electricity where it is needed. The concept shown in the diagram combines CHP with hydrogen-ready equipment, renewable natural gas, carbon capture, heat recovery,

absorption chillers, dry cooling, and district energy systems. These technologies are modular and can be deployed independently or together.

How the Concept Works

1. **1. Reliable Fuel Supply:** Natural gas provides dependable 24/7 energy using existing infrastructure. Over time, renewable natural gas and hydrogen can be blended or substituted as supplies expand.
2. **2. Transition to Lower-Carbon Fuels:** Hydrogen production and carbon capture provide pathways for steadily lowering emissions without abandoning reliable generation assets.
3. **3. Combined Heat and Power:** CHP simultaneously produces electricity and usable thermal energy, achieving significantly higher overall efficiency than conventional power generation.
4. **4. Reliable Electricity:** Electricity is supplied directly to the data center, reducing transmission losses and improving grid resilience.
5. **5. Capture and Reuse Heat:** High-grade heat drives absorption chillers to produce chilled water for cooling, while additional heat can be recovered for other beneficial uses.
6. **6. Community Energy:** Lower-temperature heat can support district energy systems serving nearby homes, businesses, and public facilities.

Recovered Heat Creates New Opportunities

Recovered thermal energy is a valuable community resource rather than a waste product. Depending on temperature and local demand, it can support:

- District heating systems serving neighborhoods, apartments, schools, hospitals, universities, and government buildings.
- Domestic hot water for residential developments, hotels, healthcare facilities, correctional institutions, and commercial buildings.
- Commercial greenhouses, nurseries, and controlled-environment agriculture, extending growing seasons and reducing heating costs.
- Fish hatcheries and aquaculture operations that require stable water temperatures.
- Food processing, lumber drying, paper manufacturing, breweries, and other industrial processes requiring low- or medium-temperature heat.
- Absorption chillers that use recovered heat instead of electricity to provide air conditioning and chilled water.
- Snow and ice melting systems for sidewalks, transit facilities, airports, and critical infrastructure.
- Thermal energy storage systems that capture excess heat for use during periods of high demand.

Why This Matters for Oregon

- Supports responsible data center growth without relying entirely on the electrical grid.
- Creates skilled union jobs in engineering, construction, operations, maintenance, and manufacturing.
- Improves overall energy efficiency by putting waste heat to work.
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions through CHP, renewable fuels, hydrogen, and carbon capture.

- Conserves water through dry-cooling technologies and reduced evaporative losses.
- Strengthens local economies by creating new business opportunities around district energy and heat utilization.
- Provides flexibility—projects can adopt only the technologies that fit their location, budget, fuel supply, and community needs.

A Flexible, Technology-Neutral Framework

This diagram should be viewed as a menu of complementary technologies rather than a blueprint for a single facility. A project may incorporate CHP and heat recovery without hydrogen, begin with natural gas and later transition to renewable fuels, or focus primarily on district heating and industrial heat reuse. The objective is to maximize efficiency, minimize emissions, reduce water consumption, and capture additional economic value from energy that would otherwise be wasted. By treating recovered heat as an asset, Oregon can support data centers while creating opportunities for agriculture, manufacturing, community heating, aquaculture, and future industries.

From: [SALEM Manager](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: Contact City Manager's Office
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 11:09:41 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net <noreply@cityofsalem.net> **On Behalf Of** hkallio.1111@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 12:57 PM
To: SALEM Manager <MANAGER@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Contact City Manager's Office

Your Name	Heather Kallio
Your Email	hkallio.1111@gmail.com
Your Phone	4135758111
Street	405 Jefferson St. NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	Greetings Ms. Namburi, I'm contacting you regarding the moratorium that will be discussed on Monday, August 3rd. I'm pleased that there was an immediate response to Salem residents' negative responses regarding the potential data center at Mill Creek. My hope is that not only will the moratorium be approved without question, but the city will also discuss next steps, and what will happen during the 4-month moratorium to prevent the data center from being built. Also, I'd like to extend an offer of help. I am willing to do my part to keep this data center and others from being built in and around Salem and all of Oregon. Please let residents know what we can do to make this process an effort we can all be proud of. Thank you. Heather Kallio, Ward 1 resident

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 7/31/2026.

From: [Isabel del Castillo](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 1:22:47 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Isabel del Castillo
imdelcastillo28@icloud.com

Turner, Oregon 97392

From: [Isabella Freitas](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 4:56:37 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Isabella Freitas
izzy.f524@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97301

From: [Jared Bynum-Lewis](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 4:22:05 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Jared Bynum-Lewis
jared.michael.bynum@gmail.com
1773 Talawa Ct NE
Keizer, Oregon 97303

From: [Jennifer Carley](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Data Center Concerns
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 10:55:06 AM

Dear Mayor Hoy and City Council members,

I am writing in support of the proposed moratorium on data centers in Salem. I am also writing to oppose the Verrus data center project. I am concerned about the environmental impact of data centers and would like to have an environmental impact study required before approval of any data center. In particular, I am concerned about the current proposal and the noise pollution and resulting health effects on all people and wildlife in the vicinity. The proximity to Corban University and negative impact on their students is of particular concern. I am also concerned about the excessive use of our water and electricity resources. In general, I do not find AI to be something that is helpful enough to be using the amount of resources required.

The NDA that was a part of this project is very distressing and I agree with the proposal to not allow NDAs when it comes to data centers or any project with potential detrimental environmental consequences.

Thank you for doing all you can to deny or at least slow down the current data center project and put a moratorium on future data centers.

Jennifer Carley
970 Windgate St. S.
Salem, Oregon 97302

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Julia Cleary](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Comment on City Council Agenda Item 2.1 for 8/3/2026
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:40:01 PM

Good afternoon,

I believe this is how I submit public comment for the meeting tonight, but please let me know if I'm doing this the wrong way. Thank you!

8/3/26

Comments on the August 3rd Salem City Council Meeting

My name is Julia Cleary and I am from the Four Corners neighborhood in SE Salem.

I would like to thank the Salem City Council and Salem City Manager for acknowledging the data center activity planned within Salem and impartially listening to public feedback. Obviously, I am disappointed that our local government has inadequate protections for our community, but I believe that you have the power remedy this. I think we are all learning about what we can do together, and I really appreciate that you are paying attention.

First off, I support your resolution to apply for a data center moratorium. Better late than never. It should at least help the community buy time to focus on next steps.

Next, I agree that the vote to ban NDAs dealing with data centers was a good start, but to improve transparency and public engagement throughout the process (and avoid large-scale upsets) we really need a broader NDA ban with more guardrails. If a Nondisclosure Agreement is truly necessary, we should always maintain availability of key data such as the fact an NDA was signed, what date it was signed, who in the City of Salem claimed the authority to sign the NDA, and the potentially impacted area. I want to know exactly how this impacts public records requests, and we need to make sure all data is made public the moment the NDA expires. The length of an NDA should be as short as possible. We never want this to happen again, and we need to make sure that the people representing us know exactly what developments may impact our community as soon as contact is made. I am positive none of you want to go through that again. As it is, I put in a records request for the Verrus NDA over a week ago and still have not gotten anything back.

Third, I would fully support a decision to change zoning rules to exclude AI datacenters as allowable. This includes the decision not to rezone the property on Front Street. We do not need a data center in that area due to the concerns of noise pollution, increased energy usage, water usage and pollution, and limited beneficial utility to the local community. You are probably already aware that Salem is quite vocal on our opinions about AI data centers. Right now, Oregon has more data centers than the country of Ireland, or more than Mexico and Saudi Arabia combined (<https://www.statista.com/statistics/1228433/data-centers-worldwide-by-country/?srsltid=AfmBOopPfBl8uQ7OXWF8oWGwIM1eKsosO5YoK6DxG5236lfnv9tCFJBJ> and <https://www.datacentermap.com/usa/>)

Fourth, we may want to work with Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission to update the requirements of an enterprise zone. Right now, a new business may apply for

use of an area so long as it creates one job. Verrus' plan to take up 75 acres in exchange for 75 jobs was an obvious abuse of a loophole. One job per acre does very little to fulfil an Enterprise Zone's stated goal of increasing employment in Oregon. If we could raise the permanent, local job criteria to something like 8 jobs per acre, it would be more in keeping with industrial job creation averages while keeping in mind Oregon's Statewide Land Use Planning Goals (specifically Goal 9 on Economic Development). Keep in mind, projected job growth calculations in regards to data centers seems like it can absolutely skew calculations of job growth data (see <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=325432>). I want to make sure that LCDC is keeping in mind that data centers as they are built for AI are very different than what we knew in the past—there is far less return on investment, and the AI bubble is not at all a reliable source of future growth for our community.

In addition, there need to be more legal protections against environmental impacts in enterprise zones. I know the goal is to attract employers, but it should not be at the expense of our resources and heritage. Again, please look at the criteria in Oregon Statewide Land Use Planning, and Salem's Comprehensive Plan—right now it is best practices to follow for land use planning, but there need to be concrete statutes against excessive water usage, energy usage (closed loop data centers use more electricity than their water-wasting counterparts), diesel usage, and so on.

I could go on indefinitely about steps I'd like taken, but overall, I want public feedback to count for something. In my time canvassing Salem to raise awareness of these meetings, I have not met even one person in support of this AI data center. How do we have a process that brings one into our community when it is against our explicit desire? As was suggested in last week's meeting, please consult resources like the League of Oregon Cities and legal experts to find ways to shore up our statutes and protect us from *any* business that wishes to exploit our community.

Lastly, I would very much appreciate if during this meeting's agenda you help educate people on how they can appeal to a land use application and the time limit they would face. People will be searching for what to do, and how to make their words heard.

Thank you again for taking my comments into consideration.

--

Sincerely,

Julia Cleary

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Julia Drizin](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: Salem deserves more information and better regulations
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 7:42:03 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

Verrus is a brand new company with no completed projects to point to as proof of concept. Their claims about being "different" from conventional data centers are completely aspirational at this point. The people of Salem deserve clear evidence behind these aspirational claims.

There is also very little legislation right now to help us monitor the environmental impacts of these projects or hold companies like this accountable for their actions. Until we have informed policies in place, we should not be letting tech companies use Salem as their guinea pigs. At best, the city loses the trust of thousands of residents. At worst, we contribute to the degradation of our home.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

Julia Drizin
juliadriz@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97306

From: [Jen](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]public comment for city council August 3, 2026
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:56:24 PM

Dear City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the upcoming meeting and the proposed AI data center moratorium. I have a lot of concerns about need for a NDA with a corporate entity about this project. The concerns that have been raised last week at the 5 hour public hearing in addition to all the concerns that have been raised over similar projects both built and proposed around the country have many people in our community on edge. I urge the city council to adopt this moratorium on new permits including the proposed Mill Creek site until we can have further questions on the impacts this will have on our community and the broader ecosystem.

We have land use planning laws that allow for industrial use within certain spaces as a way to minimize user impacts on neighbors and protect our natural landscape and industries that support our communities. However this site is a change in use patterns that needs further evaluation. This data center is shaping up to be not just a warehouse or small factory, it is large and may have impacts of heavy industrial work, such as a large mill. Close evaluation and consideration of the water, noise, and air impacts should be regulated or mitigated before we move forward. Land around Salem is already being used for housing, farming, and other needs for our communities. We do not need an anchor tenant who we may end up subsidizing later when their company falls apart. This is a new company without a proven track record. Being able to raise capital and being able to implement a long term project are two different items. Why this California company decided to look to Salem should be asked. I sense that they do not want this data center in their backyard, with their limited water and power needs and high air quality standards. I think there are many existing sites around Salem which have already been developed and abandoned that could be considered.

The distance to the creek and the limited Oak Savana ecotype should also be under consideration. We do not need growth at all costs. The limited temporary jobs that this may employ are important, but are not necessarily going to be people from our own community, as demonstrated by the Carpenter who testified last week that he commuted to Hillsboro to build data centers in that community. Construction workers travel across the country to build projects like these, and then take their taxes and paychecks home. The limited per-diem is not enough to subject this neighborhood to the noise, water, and air pollution for years to come. This city planning department has a long history of giving out variances to city code to accommodate developers. The expense is often left on the city, with budget short falls, or the community who suffers without a staffed fire station for years, without trees, without sidewalks. We need to stop subsidizing large corporations with tax breaks and variances and start supporting the existing businesses and real people who live and pay taxes in this community.

I urge you to vote for this temporary moratorium, and to slowly research this and all other proposed data center development. I know that staff and your time is limited, but the people of Salem deserve someone who is fighting for our community and not just a few speculative billionaires trying to cash in on the next gold rush.

Thank you for your time,

Jennifer Fujii
3324 6th Ave S,
Salem, Oregon

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Jacueline Goodman](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 8:19:11 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Jacueline Goodman
katerigoodman@yahoo.com

Salem, Oregon 97306

From: [John Gordon](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 11:32:38 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

John Gordon
johnalangordon@gmail.com
1346 Saginaw Street South
SALEM, Oregon 97302-4333

From: [Jessica Kerby](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 9:33:35 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Jessica Kerby
kerbyj42@gmail.com
142 Rainier Dr SE
Salem, Oregon 97306-9507

From: [Josh Laison](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 5:36:51 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Please stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

This is very important to our community and to me personally. I am scared for what Salem might become with data centers near our homes.

Josh Laison
jlaison@willamette.edu

Salem, Oregon 97301

From: [Jules McQuain](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]No Data Centers!
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 10:47:10 AM

It would be a fools errand to invest our city's resources into a data center, even if indirectly by allowing its construction. Around the country, people are noting a strong correlation between data centers and an array of human misery. They suck down power at spectacular rates, power that, for Salem, has already seen a few price increases in the past years. It is also concerning the amount of water these sites use, especially with the record low snowpack this year, an ongoing drought in oregon, and continuing higher temperatures. Beyond that, they are a nuisance and an eyesore, creating loud humming described as akin to constant lawn mower moters for all 24 hours of the day, and requiring a long construction time that results in another ugly rectangle marring the face of our dear city. No, we do not need nor want one of these facilities here.

Sincerely,
Jules McQuain

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [John L. Poole](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Cc: [citycouncil](#); [Julie Hoy](#); [Paul Tigan](#); [Linda Nishioka](#); [Shane Matthews](#); [Deanna Gwyn](#); [Dr. Irvin M Brown](#); [Mai Vang](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Micki Varney](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]August 3rd City Council Hearing Submission
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 9:14:45 AM
Attachments: [Aug 3 2026 Agenda 2 Submission of John Poole.pdf](#)

Dear Amy Johnson, City Recorder for the City of Salem,

Please add the attached file, Aug_3_2026_Agenda_2_Submission_of_John_Poole.pdf consisting of a single page, to the Agenda Packet for tonight's council meeting. I am copying each councilor to expedite their consideration of my request.

Please reply confirming receipt.

Thank you,

John Poole

John L. Poole
1566 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301
707-812-1323

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

Submission for Agenda Item 2 “SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS” for Monday, August 03, 2026
06:00 PM

Subject: Request for Council disclosure concerning the Verrus matter

Dear Mayor Hoy and Councilmembers,

Mayor-elect Nordyke wrote:

No Personal Involvement in the Non-Disclosure Agreement

I was not apart [sic] of the NDA, never saw it or signed it. I only recently learned about this data project.¹

The City’s decision to enter into and operate under a non-disclosure agreement concerning a proposed investment exceeding \$5 billion—an amount equal to approximately **30 percent** of Salem’s current \$16.7 billion tax base²—for nearly 15 months has caused a serious breach of public trust.

At this evening’s special meeting, August 3, 2026, I respectfully request that each of you state on camera for your constituents:

1. The date on which you first learned that Verrus, LLC was considering a data center in Salem;
2. The date on which you first learned that the City had entered into a non-disclosure agreement concerning Verrus; and
3. The date on which you first learned that City staff were devoting time and resources to assisting or evaluating the proposed project.

These are straightforward factual questions. Public answers would help establish who knew what, and when, and would permit the community to understand how a project of this magnitude proceeded for so long without public disclosure or apparent consideration by the full Council.

Please demonstrate, through full and direct disclosure, your commitment to restoring the trust of your constituents.

Sincerely,

John Poole
1566 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

1 Source: email to John Poole from Vanessa Nordyke, Friday, July 24th, 2026 at 2:45 PM

2 Source: Agenda - FullPackage City Council _Jul27_2026.pdf, sheet 41.

From: [Zuzana Holcova](#)
To: [Carl Hoffman](#); [Amy Johnson](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to Proposed Verrus Data Center in Salem Due to Environmental and Economic Concerns
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 1:43:21 PM

From: Jared Reno <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2026 1:23 PM
To: Julie Hoy <JHoy@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Opposition to Proposed Verrus Data Center in Salem Due to Environmental and Economic Concerns

Mayor Julie Hoy,

Dear Mayor and Members of the Salem City Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Verrus-owned data center project in Salem. While I understand the importance of economic development and technological infrastructure, I believe this project poses significant environmental risks and could create substantial economic burdens for Salem residents and businesses.

First, I am deeply concerned about the environmental impacts associated with large-scale data centers. These facilities require enormous amounts of electricity to power servers and cooling systems. As Oregon continues to work toward sustainability goals and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adding a major new source of energy demand could place additional strain on our electrical grid and potentially increase reliance on non-renewable energy sources during periods of peak demand.

Water consumption is another critical concern. Data centers often require substantial quantities of water for cooling operations. In a region already facing growing concerns about long-term water availability, drought conditions, and competing demands from residents, agriculture, and industry, approving a water-intensive facility raises serious questions about responsible resource management. Salem should prioritize projects that protect our natural resources rather than place additional demands upon them.

Beyond environmental concerns, I am particularly worried about the economic consequences for local residents. Large industrial energy users can necessitate costly upgrades to electric transmission and distribution infrastructure. While developers may promise investment and economic benefits, these projects often create relatively few permanent jobs compared to the scale of their resource consumption. There is a real risk that utility investments required to support the data center will ultimately be borne, at least in part, by residential and small business ratepayers through higher electricity bills.

Higher utility costs would place additional financial pressure on Salem families already

struggling with rising housing, food, and energy expenses. Small businesses, which form the backbone of our local economy, could also face increased operating costs that make it more difficult to remain competitive. The potential profits generated by a privately owned data center should not come at the expense of increased utility rates for the broader community.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the City Council to require a comprehensive, independent environmental and economic impact study before considering any approvals for this project. This study should evaluate projected electricity consumption, water usage, greenhouse gas impacts, infrastructure upgrade requirements, long-term effects on utility rates, and the actual number of permanent jobs expected to be created. The study should be conducted by a third-party organization with no financial ties to Verrus, local utilities, or any interested stakeholders, and its findings should be made available to the public for review and comment.

Until such an independent assessment demonstrates that the project will not harm Salem's environment, water resources, electrical grid reliability, or utility affordability, I urge the Council to withhold approval of the proposed data center.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the residents of Salem. I encourage you to prioritize the long-term interests of our community, natural resources, and ratepayers when evaluating this proposal.

Sincerely,

Jared Reno
Sherwood, Oregon

Jared Reno
jaredreno@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97305

From: [Joseph Stewart](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 1:53:40 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Joseph Stewart
joekstew@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97317

From: [Jack Veneman](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: City-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 9:55:12 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to privately-owned data centers in the city of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS."

And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

Stand with Salem's working class, not big tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected greedy people who want to hoard our resources and pollute.

Jack Veneman
jabarbors@gmail.com
435 22nd St NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

From: [Zuzana Holcova](#)
To: [Carl Hoffman](#); [Amy Johnson](#)
Subject: FW: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:17:55 PM

From: Joy Wicks <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:17 PM
To: Julie Hoy <JHoy@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!

Mayor Julie Hoy,

I, like many others in Salem, am reaching out demanding a moratorium on any data centers in Salem. We can easily see what is happening with data centers across this entire country with data centers. The pollution of water, loss of water pressure for nearby residents, noise pollution, air pollution, and the strain on the electrical services. We already face issues with drought and strain on the electrical grid. There are so many videos available online from people living near the facilities. as well as news articles. We cannot trust what the data centers say regarding their projects. Erin Brockovich has even created a dedicated website regarding data centers. Oregon already has plenty of data centers.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Joy Wicks
joyricks@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97302

From: [Kathryn Chambers](#)
To: [citycouncil](#); [Salem Planning](#)
Cc: [Rep Andersen](#); [Senator Deb Patterson](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Data Center
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 9:37:03 AM

Why did you not anticipate Verrus' next move would be to file a plan for the Salem Data Center thus blocking a moritorium?

This was so obvious, yet city leaders delayed action.

This needs to be fixed now.

Kathryn Chambers

abbykats@hotmail.com

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Katy GhostHorse](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 7:11:51 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Katy GhostHorse
kimimilagh@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [Katie Hawk](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Moratorium on AI Data centers
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 1:31:24 PM

Data centers are of no benefit & cause much harm to their surroundings. If you need time, a moratorium, to come to your conclusions, please take adequate time. Please read & watch videos of other communities & the impacts & repercussions of data centers there. No amount of money is enough to off set the harm they do. Mass water consumption, contamination of soil, noise & light pollution, a huge drain on our electrical system. Please do what's right for Oregon & vote fir no more data centers in OR.

Thank tou for your time,

Sincerely,

Katie Hawk

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Zuzana Holcova](#)
To: [Carl Hoffman](#); [Amy Johnson](#)
Subject: FW: Data Centers
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:17:41 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: kathy <kathy@avenuelarchitects.com>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:11 PM
To: Linda Nishioka <LNishioka@cityofsalem.net>; Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>; Julie Hoy <JHoy@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Data Centers

I am a resident of Salem. I ask that you consider, and act upon, the following requests.

1. Please vote to impose a moratorium on data centers in Salem. We were all deliberately kept in the dark about the potential Verrus development until very recently. We were kept in the dark by our own City staff, who should have been acting in our best long term interests. That trust is now broken. We, the public, and you, our elected officials, need time to understand and consider all the issues around data centers, and to move forward with the best possible solutions.
2. I support the Planning Commission's recommendation that the Zoning Code be amended to better address the issues surrounding data center developments.
3. Mickie Varney's task force should be empowered to investigate and publicize the issues.

Thank you.

Kathy Lingo
1755 Winter St SE
Salem OR 97302

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kendra Tibbot](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [Linda Nishioka](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Council meeting 08/03 Moratorium
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:52:38 PM

Hello Linda and other city council members,

I am a lifelong resident of Salem. I am currently a home owner and resident of Ward 2. I am deeply concerned and angered by all that has occurred related to the Mill Creek data center development. I cannot fathom for the life of me why we would even consider another drain on our already strained resources in the middle of a severe drought. Please do everything possible and conceivable to stop this data center from becoming a reality in our community. I am deeply concerned that we have a tribal and archeological site zoned and approved for such a purpose. Please heed the concerns of all your constituents and help us make this stop.

Thank you,

Kendra Taylor

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Zuzana Holcova](#)
To: [Carl Hoffman](#); [Amy Johnson](#)
Subject: FW: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:30:59 PM

From: Kaylee Tolentino <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:29 PM
To: Julie Hoy <JHoy@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Kaylee Tolentino
kayleetolentino123@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97306

Written Testimony August 3, 2026 – Moratorium

I would like to thank Council and staff, again, for holding this special meeting to consider a moratorium and initiating a code amendment related to large scale data centers.

I am concerned that Council will dialog and decide without hearing public comment, which basically tells the public that our input doesn't matter to your decision making. In light of the serious missteps that have already been taken regarding community engagement, I strongly urge you to consider reordering the discussion to 1) staff presentation, 2) Council questions [which will also help inform the public], 3) public comment, 4) Council discussion, additional questions, decision. Then the public benefits from the staff presentation, the Council hears the public *before* deciding, and the public feels heard.

I am also extremely concerned about the draft moratorium's phrasing; I worry about the game of word smithing and legal gymnastics. The scope of the moratorium should be better defined, and not just by the center's intended workload. How will staff determine if a large scale data facility is not doing generative AI work but is sized as such to be able to do so? Just because the developer says so? The building's physical impacts should be defined and incorporated into the moratorium scope, such as electrical capacity, water demand, building size, utility requirements, etc. We should not just rely on the applicant's project label. Also, I strongly urge that the moratorium parameters include multiple parcels under the control of the applicant and affiliated partners, any phased development that could break the project into smaller chunks to avoid stipulated thresholds, or separate applications constituting one larger integrated campus. The language should also apply to Battery Energy Storage Solutions (BESS), which support large scale data computing facilities.

You understand the intent of this moratorium. Please ensure that it is worded in a way that is legally defensible and NOT a slippery loophole.

Thank you, Kathleen Trepá

From: [Karen Vences](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 9:31:43 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Karen Vences
kvences2010@gmail.com
496 Sunwood dr nw
Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [LJ Anderson](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [Paul Tigan](#); [Linda Nishioka](#); [Shane Matthews](#); [Deanna Gwyn](#); [Dr. Irvin M Brown](#); [Mai Vang](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Micki Varney](#); [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Comments for City Council meeting on 8/3/26
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:40:44 PM

Dear Salem Mayor and City Council members:

I'm writing to express my support for a moratorium on AI data centers in Salem and to amend the City's zoning code to address AI data centers.

I would much prefer a BAN on data centers in Salem as serious complaints are flowing in from across the country that these centers are not delivering what the Big Tech developers claim to deliver, and minimize or ignore any "side effects" from their presence. Oregon is listed as number #9 in US states having the most data centers by Pew Research and should take a big step back from continuing to construct these colossal eyesores that gobble up our land and water, among other concerns.

Environmental activist Erin Brockovich lists Key Concerns that comprise the complaints coming in, and these are: 1) energy consumption; 2) water usage; 3) e-waste; 4) location risks; 5) scalability & efficiency; and 6) noise. All of these are relevant to Salem, and to Oregon at large.

Verrus has "strategies" and vague language about what its innovative technology can deliver. If the CEO was so confident about his company, why did he choose to leave the last meeting? He had every opportunity to convince the audience about his product. But he chose to leave and then underhandedly submit an application prior to a follow-up meeting. I think that really demonstrates what kind of company they would be to work with, and the type of people.

On the Verrus website, the site acquisition person describes herself as "passionate about community-building and inclusion." That certainly does not describe their presence in Salem thus far.

And as many people have commented on, the secrecy of this arrangement has been beyond troubling to residents of Salem, including myself. And I am hoping that tonight's meeting reveals who knew and when.

Thank you for your service to the community.

(Ms) LJ Anderson

Ward 2

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the [IT Intranet Cyber Security Page](#).

From: [Lynn' Cardiff](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 10:02:30 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

It's always suspect when decisions are made behind closed doors without citizen input. What is being hidden? What shouldn't the public know? Why are the people who pay the taxes that support this city not given a chance to know what's going on and give their opinion?

And where have these data centers been built and have been a success for the people, the environment and the economy of the area? See if you can answer these questions before going down this path. And weren't any of you suspicious when a non disclosure document was required?

Stop these data centers now.

Lynn' Cardiff
lc Cardiff2625@posteo.com

Salem, Oregon 97301

From: [L. A. Miller](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Comment on AI data centers for 8/3 meeting
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:07:47 PM

I am submitting a comment to the Salem City Council for tonight's meeting regarding the consideration of the initiation of a moratorium on AI data centers and the initiation of amendments to the City zoning code to regulate AI data centers.

My name is Lisa Miller and I live in ward 7. It is imperative that Salem initiates the amendment to zoning code regarding AI data centers as well as initiate a moratorium on data centers because of the harm they could cause to the city's health and well being financially, environmentally and socially.

A data center, while possibly giving an economic boon in the form of tax revenue initially, will not benefit Salem financially in the long run. Data centers are run by companies in the trillion dollar tech sector and their CEOs have not been shown to be trustworthy, applying tricks and loopholes to achieve their goals. These goals often culminate in taking what they need by any means necessary as we have seen in our city's relationship with Verrus. If Verrus is willing to change their plans as quickly as they did this past weekend and say they want to have a public discussion with the people of Salem, but leave a city hall meeting before the discussion can be had, our future relationship looks fraught with deception. As might other relationships with other data center companies.

The land applied for by Verrus was half owned by a real estate company and is near Corban University, industrial land and farming land. Salem is in need of both housing and industry. Verrus's purchase of this land could deprive Salem of much needed housing and jobs, more jobs than Verrus or other data centers would supply in the long term. The 100 acres could hold more than one industry or multifamily homes. A moratorium on AI data centers could give Salem a chance to catch its breath and decide whether giving up this much land to one large industry with few local jobs is in line with our vision as a city, our want to be a city that welcomes families.

In addition to possibly being a financial mistake to Salem, data centers would greatly impact our local environment in many ways. Data centers have proven to harm waterways, local temperatures, wildlife, and clean air. Verrus's closed loop cooling may use as much as 40% less water than older styles of data centers, but they may pollute more in water ways because of this type of cooling. The water released when their system is refreshed or leaked from the system will carry chemicals such as antifreeze, corrosion inhibitors, and biocides, which the EPA calls "a diverse group of poisonous substances including preservatives, insecticides, disinfectants, and pesticides used for the control of organisms that are harmful to human or animal

health or that cause damage to natural or manufactured products". Salem is surrounded by freshwater rivers, lakes and wetlands which would be affected by this pollution. Data centers, even close loop cooling centers still use an immense amount of water. They could use up 60% of the water that they draw due to evaporation according to specialists talking about Elon Musk's AI Grok on both Linkd-In and substack. We need to do our research and find out exactly what a data center of this kind would do to our water supply.

In addition to water, data centers put out a large amount of heat and air pollution. As I stated in my previous comment dated July 27th 2026, data centers can increase the temperature around 3° for 6 miles from a data center. We are already dealing with drought, fire risk and dangerous weather due to rising temperatures. The land Verrus has applied for is near forests and grass fields which are a high fire risk. What if this risk were higher? Increased fires would harm Salem's infrastructure and land; it would also harm our air, just as the increased output of diesel exhaust from data centers would harm our air.

I have gone over how data centers could harm our city financially and physically. Data centers would also harm our city socially. Because of this industry's many negative effects the areas most impacted would become less desirable to own. This could potentially push many high earning Salemites, who live within a mile or two of possible data centers, out of our city. It would also produce hardship for lower earners who are already struggling to get by.

We should make the right decision. It seems easy. Salem has little water and land to spare, and is in need of financial help. Bringing data centers into our city would only deepen our problems. Please consider an amendment to the zoning code regarding AI data centers as well as initiate a moratorium on data centers. Thank you for your time and efforts on this matter.

Lisa Miller
1017 Hermitage Way Apt 12
Salem, OR 97302

--

Lisa Miller
(they/them)

liseanne27@gmail.com

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Leslie Polson](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Testimony is Opposition to Data Center
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:55:58 PM
Attachments: [Polson.Letter in Opposition to Data Center.8.3.2026.pdf](#)

Data has the connotation of the dragon swallowing any community into a state of darkness. The location at Mill Creek is in the valley left over from the edge of the Missoula Floods and is edged out years ago by the sudden water that came to town. The land was used by ducks flying over for the winter and has little by little turned into commercial ventures. Does the edge of Salem need a data center to monitor and store all the data used in the city? PGE users are still paying off the expenses from the 2020 fires from the homes that were destroyed when the power was not shut off.

And today, another secret deal was done through Sedcor and Marion County affecting residents of the city of Salem. A Non-Disclosure Agreement, when revealed, made the distant horror stories come close to home. Another deal that neglects the financial stability of the community. In the 1980's Marion County made an agreement with the waste-to-energy plant. It paid off the burner and, instead of what most communities do, gave the paid-off plant to the company. Unlike other public partnership agreements in the country, Marion County was never the owner. Who made such an agreement? Who would pay a loan and make the lender the owner? Step 2 - a building constructed using funds that were in their savings and no project manager. When building defects became obvious, they used the money dedicated for the turbine repayment for the repair. When the turbine broke, the money was gone. The burner was sold, and the new owner decided to close. The county had given them the ownership and had no leverage.

And the new hidden chapter, a data center hidden by non-disclosure agreements, is being approved without any sunshine. What is the agreement, the plan, the power use, and so forth.

One month ago, Eazze Fiber showed up in the yards of residents in Salem. Pulling up plants and sprinklers, city councilors told residents that they knew but were obliged not to tell. No accountability, no plan.

City of Salem needs to be financially accountable to its residents. Secret dealings; plans often backfire. The Marion County burner is an arrangement where money was spent without safeguarding the community. Eazze Fiber was given 1-foot easements to destroy people's yards. It was allowed to trespass, and residents found their yards destroyed.

And the new deal revealed a massive \$394 million initial phase for a proposed data center campus called Oakline at Mill Creek for the developer Verrus, featuring two buildings spanning 600,000 square feet on roughly 100 acres. Salem needs to have plans that manage its resources and needs a moratorium to look at the financial implications. One bad agreement affects the community for a long time.

Leslie Polson

930 Garnet St NE
Salem, OR 97301

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Lacie Wood](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Comment on agenda item-data center
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 3:02:42 PM

Hello!

I am writing to protest (again) the Verrus proposal for a data center in south Salem.

There are a few concerns I have about the way they handled this in conjunction with City of Salem staff that I feel bring up huge ethical concerns and a clear agenda to sidestep local democratic processes.

The first concern is that the NDA prevented city council and citizens from knowing about the project in any timely manner to organize under current processes to enact a moratorium. Since most of the city found out DURING a city council meeting after Salem was released from the NDA, this left approximately 23 days from NDA release to Verrus submitting their application. They could have even submitted it while still under the NDA and that is not something that should ever happen. The fact that both Verrus and the city manager felt there was enough reason to hide behind an NDA speaks volumes. They already knew Salem wouldn't want this.

The second concern is I have heard two years as far as when the land use rules that "allow" this went into place. One being 2005 and one saying it was updated in 2014. In both cases, data centers like this were not imminent or a huge concern, particularly not for an area like Salem. The data centers that existed then were not massive heat centers that used up massive amounts of resources (water, electricity) and produced massive amounts of pollution. It is unethical to pretend that the data centers referenced in the land use rules are at all comparable to the current proposed data centers. More resource use means more review before approval.

The last concern I have is that Verrus is so incredibly unserious about this and statements from the CEO prove he believes Verrus' deep pockets can push this through as he taunts Salem saying things like "we thought we'd give you a heads up this time" about the new proposed 100 acre deal. Verrus does not have any of our community health or concerns in mind and does not care about Salem whatsoever. They only care about where they can make money.

So I ask everyone involved with this decision. Do you truly feel this is the best thing for Salem? Do you truly think this will bring more benefits than harm? Who becomes responsible if it brings more harm than good? Who pays to clean up if something leaks or breaks or a pipe bursts and toxic chemicals are leaching into our ground water? What happens when we have no water reserve because we are already low on water and a data center used more than they said they would?

None of these questions are answered in the Verrus application and we cannot allow them to build here.

Thank you.
Lacie Wood

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate

senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Lindsay Pirelli](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Cc: [Paul Tigan](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Data center moratorium
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:44:54 PM

Hello!

My name is Lindsay and I live in Ward 1. I'm writing to urge you to move forward with the data center moratorium for Salem that's on the agenda for tonight's special city council meeting. Please also consider taking additional action to stop the Verrus data center project from moving forward.

Time is of the essence, especially considering Verrus has now submitted a land use application (26 115385 00 PLN) that avoids the land that Governor Kotek revoked and increased their footprint to a 100 acre campus.

Verrus' actions so far prove that they have no interest in working with our community and will do what it takes to get what they want. If they can't be truthful about that statement on their website, how can we trust anything else they claim about this data center project? They have no previous research to back up their claims about noise, water, or power usage. Don't let Salem be the guinea pig for their experiment! How can we expect them to uphold any laws or agreements either?

We can't allow corporate interests to destroy our home in the name of profit. Do what's best for Salem and say no to data center development!

Thank you,
Lindsay
Ward 1

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Matt Albertson](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Written testimony for August 3rd Salem city council meeting
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:57:42 PM
Attachments: [Matthew Albertson testimony to salem city council.docx](#)

Good afternoon,

Attached you'll find my testimony for today's meeting re: data center moratorium.

All the best,

Matthew D Albertson

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

Honorable Councilors,

I'm writing today to urge the passage of the proposed moratorium on data center developments within Salem's city limits. I've worked in Salem, visited friends in Salem, but I do reside in Tigard. That said, as a fellow Oregonian and policy advocate on the subject of data centers I am compelled to submit testimony.

The opacity of the proposed Verrus facility at Mill Creek has made it clear that these businesses have a fundamental conflict with the municipal good. Their NDAs, their aggressive pivot to bypass executive oversight and local opinion demonstrates a desperation to exploit whatever advantage they can with apparent disregard for the communities they move into. Neighbors who border this site, and others like it, are now faced with the consequences—more utility burdens and industrial noise pollution all while they've been sidelined from democratic deliberation.

The MO of big tech and their CEOs has been “move quickly and break things” for over a decade. But what they stand to break is our backyard. It is imperative that all parties take the time to reevaluate what benefit these multi-billion-dollar corporate entities *say* they bring compared to how little benefit and what “negative externalities” they deliver. Moratorium offers staffers and the Council to rebalance its incentive priorities—are logistical resources and municipal goodwill best presented to massive, highly automated data centers with nominal permanent employees? Is this worth the strain on utilities? We can still turn away from subsidizing faceless digital infrastructure, instead choosing the faces you see before you and beyond these halls as the priority.

Please, pass the moratorium. Help restore the community faith that NDAs betrayed by choosing the good of Oregonians.

With solidarity,

Matthew D Albertson

From: [M. Cleary](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Comment for the Special Council Meeting today 8/3/26
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 1:35:17 PM

Hello,

My name is Megan Cleary and I grew up in the four corners area, still have family there and have property in a living trust in the 97317 zip code. All to say, I have a vested interest in changes to this area.

First off, I support your resolution to apply for a data center moratorium. While there are a few people who believe this data center would be a good thing for Salem, they are overwhelmingly people who have no vested interest in the area beyond profit. They will not sleep next to this center, they will not stay long on the property; they will build and leave. Some will pay for it to be built and simply reap profit to the detriment of long term residents and local habitat. I hope that Salem is cautious about granting land use permits when the land is being sold by people who do not live in the community, to people that do not live in the community, *at the cost of the local community.*

The data clearly shows that this would be detrimental to the local community. These include excess noise levels, a burden on local water and electricity demands, contamination to local resources, ill health effects to those that live closest to the center and a negative contributing factor to green house effects that will go against our commitment to offset climate change.

Sources:

1. <https://www.opb.org/article/2026/07/22/data-center-eastern-oregon-air-quality-umatilla-basin/>
2. <https://portlandnews.com/portland-data-centers-environmental-costs/>
3. <https://www.oregonlive.com/silicon-forest/2024/02/one-of-oregons-smallest-utilities-is-suddenly-among-the-states-biggest-polluters-why-amazon-data-centers.html>

PGE is already asking for an additional 4.9 percent rate increase on household electricity cost. Our grid is maxed and adding a data center would unfairly burden customers across Oregon and add to already excessive costs. Even if a grid update is done by the data center, it will only cover their portion of use, it will not make room for an already taxed grid to handle an increase in everyday use by the local community. The problem will remain and the local community will be the one's suffering.

(<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/pge-asks-oregon-regulators-for-another-3-9-rate-increase-for-residential-customers/ar-AA299aQZ>)

These data centers, as they are currently built and functioning, are both a private and public nuisance and would be a violation of Nuisance Law. Recourse would fall under ORS 105.505 as defined by the Oregon Legislature. It states, "Any person whose property or personal enjoyment thereof is affected by a private nuisance, may maintain an action for damages therefor." These centers will cause irrevocable harm and lead to costly lawsuits that have already begun in other communities. One recently filed in Mississippi showing noise, gas

emissions and health among the concerns. Similar lawsuits have been filed in Michigan and New Jersey - showing that the harm from any data centers are widespread, consistent and clear. If the city goes forward with granting a permit, they have gone into it fully aware of the damage these centers are doing in other communities, making their decision to proceed anyway negligent to malicious.

(<https://www.mississippifreepress.org/southaven-residents-sue-xai-alleging-near-constant-noise-from-gas-turbines-is-causing-harm/>)

In fact, the second takeaway on the Oregon State website regarding data centers is that, "Communities must be centered and involved in decision making and planning processes." This was completely disregarded by the City of Salem when they chose to enter into an NDA around an issue that impacts more than just a small area of land. Written notices will only be sent out to people within 250 feet of these data centers even though it is a fact that the noise from these centers carry anywhere from 2.5 to 5 miles away. This is not a normal land use situation. The impacts of data centers are clear and having them fall under the "enterprise zone" does not make sense. I ask that the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission be asked to update the requirements of an enterprise zone, since their impact goes beyond simple land use.

<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Get-Involved/Documents/2026-03-27-Poton-Verde.pdf>

I support your efforts to enact a moratorium and ask that you further seek to cancel any permit under consideration to create a data center in the Mill Creek area. This type of enterprise should not fall under the purview of the City Planning Division alone due to their massive impacts, both short term and long term, on the local community and beyond.

Thank you for your time,

Megan Cleary

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Micah Davis](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 11:23:27 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Micah Davis
yothisismicah@gmail.com

Keizer, Oregon 97303

From: [Marilyn Groppe](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]No Data Centers in Salem
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 10:07:24 AM

Hello,

I am Marilyn and I'm in Ward 6 of Salem, Oregon. I work remotely as a software developer, so it would seem that I would be one of the few constituents on the side of the data center. However, it goes against everything I stand for, everything Salem stands for, and everything Oregon stands for. I am also a first time home buyer, excited to build a true home in this city.

Large data centers put undue stress on power grids and water systems, and provide very little benefit to the constituents of the city. I think Felix May put it best last week when he asked us which children we would give the data center run off to? Would *you* drink that water? Bathe in it? Allow your children to play in it? Once it exists, it has to go *somewhere*. The fantasy that the water would circle the data center ad infinitum is ignorant and endangers the most vulnerable in our communities.

We can take a similar look at the stress on the power grids. At the noise pollution. At the actual pollution. Are we really going to choose profit over our schools, our library, or our community?

We are the capitol of Oregon, a state that's often under attack from the current federal government. It is our duty to stand up, not just against Trump, but to stand up for what's right. To stand up for the Earth, for our community members, and for the rest of the country. The alarm has been rung by Hillsboro, by Utah, and by other cities and communities that have had data centers built. They all tell us it's not worth it.

We as a state must take a stand. We as the capitol must lead the way. This is our *home*. Where our children play, where we share the land with countless living creatures who will suffer greatly if we allow this project to continue.

Now is the time. We must act.

Marilyn

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Micah Murphy](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: NO data centers in Salem until tech sector is owned and controlled by the public
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 10:55:28 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

So-called AI is a public hazard and data centers are pollution factories. Data centers leave an enormous carbon footprint, contributing to forest fires, heat waves, droughts, crop failures and flooding. These are climate crimes that the public has a vital interest in prosecuting and punishing. AI is not economically viable and will mainly produce unemployment. AI companies are over-valued and when the bubble bursts it will severely damage the national economy.

The entire tech sector needs to be taken over by the public, regulated and directed to serve the public interest. Until that time, I demand that the City of Salem issue a moratorium on all data centers.

Micah Murphy
murphy.micah@gmail.com
1010 Oakhill Ave SE
Salem, Oregon 97302-3438

From: [Maya Rohe](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Mayor Bennett & City Council: Approve the Climate Action Plan
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:37:45 PM

Whole Council City Council,

To Mayor Chuck Bennett and Salem City Council,

Salem is the only sizeable city in Oregon with no adopted Climate Action Plan. The Final Draft Climate Action Plan was sent to the Council in November with a staff report that said, "the final draft CAP will come to Council for consideration after the beginning of 2022." That time is now.

The CAP has been in development for years. An inventory of Salem's climate changing emissions was done using well-accepted methods. The Council set goals for reducing these greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2035, and to be carbon neutral by 2050. A Task Force of over 40 people met with city staff and consultants for over a year to develop the draft CAP. It's ready for a vote.

Without Council approval, the CAP will not have the official status it needs to guide City and community discussions on transportation, energy, buildings, land use and waste disposal. Without an approved CAP there will be no way to assess progress on the Council's emission reduction goals.

The draft plan is far more than a list of short-term suggestions. It makes the climate crisis a priority for city policy and community action. Furthermore, the CAP makes equity a priority so that the needs and concerns of historically underserved and underrepresented communities are included.

350 Salem OR began advocating for a Salem Climate Action Plan over five years ago and has closely followed every step of CAP development. For effective implementation, the new City Manager must have a clear understanding of and commitment to the important role that cities play in addressing the climate crisis.

Mayor Bennett and Councilors, I urge you to hold public hearing and pass the Climate Action Plan.

Maya Rohe
mayaleelooro@gmail.com
1798 Davidson
Salem, Oregon 97301

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Nicole Trobaugh](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Data center
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 11:11:22 AM

Yes of course Salem wants a moratorium and amendments to city zoning. If you weren't listening we said no data centers ever. This means a moratorium with enough time to amend zoning so that no data center will ever be built. There is nothing left to study or research about data centers. There is not one community that has a data center built that says the money and jobs it brought in outweigh the negatives. What makes us think we will be the exception.

As many speakers last Monday pointed out, we are in an AI bubble and once this bubble pops we will be left with a toxic disaster zone. The amount of money Verrus, who has already been proven to give false statements, promises Salem will not cover the destruction the data center will leave behind. The people that are for the data center are looking to get a quick buck before the bubble pops and are not concerned with anything long lasting that will affect generations to come. To give a nod to a speaker from last meeting, our city council meetings take place in the only data center we need. Something like a library gives more than it takes. Something like that would give the construction jobs, would give way more permanent jobs, and so much more. How did we lose our own humanity, that a quick buck is more important than our own health?

You should go back and watch Hannah Shooting Bear's testimony again. If that didn't bring you to tears you should question yourself. If that didn't make you want to make sure this never happens to your neighbors, to their kids, to their new borns, to their fur babies, to the wildlife that have nowhere else to go, you should question yourself.

Your job title is public servant. Your duty is to serve the public. You represent us and we are saying no data centers ever. It is now your job to make that happen. Not a moratorium for a little while because we need to do more research. The research has been done and your public has spoken and we say no data centers ever.

I'll say it again even louder for the people who weren't listening...

Building a data center is a desperate act of a dying town in the middle of nowhere to bring in revenue that doesn't work and instead they end up on 60 minutes with Erin Brockovich representing them because the brown water runs at a trickle, the electricity doesn't work, and everyone has vertigo, migraines, asthma, and sleep disorders. We are the capital city of Oregon, let's act like it.

Nicole Trobaugh

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Phil Carver](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]August 3 Council Meeting Agenda #2.1
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:53:48 PM

Data Center Moratorium and Rule Making
City Council Meeting **Monday, August 03, 2026**
Agenda Item 2.1
Phil Carver, 1007 Newport Dr. SE, 97306

I worked 37 years as a senior economist and senior policy analyst for the Oregon Dept. of Energy and the Public Utility Commission. These are my personal opinions.

I support [Resolution 2026-36](#)

The following are substantially the same as I submitted July 27, 2026:

City staff and Councilors understand the process for this and other development proposals. If the application satisfies rules and procedures when the formal proposal is filed, as seems to be the case for the Verrus Proposal, the Council must approve it. That is the rule of law. While the Verrus proposal may be reasonable, pending details, the next proposal might not be.

The City needs to revise its rules to make sure the next data center proposal can be rejected if it is not appropriate for the city. Criteria might include the level of water use or type of cooling system. Other criteria might include a minimum level of battery backup and pollution control standards for any diesel generators. If the City does not have authority to make these and other requirements, it should seek appropriate remedies from the 2027 Legislature.

Google AI notes this about available industrial-zoned land in Salem assuming the Verrus proposal is completed:

Turner Road Development (Lot 2): A massive 72-acre industrial land parcel located at [5465 Turner Road SE](#) is currently listed for \$6,800,000, positioning it right in the same logistics and employment hub as the data center project. [1]

The 388-Acre Turner Road Project: Directly adjacent to the Mill Creek Corporate Center and Corban University, a developer holds a 388-acre multi-lot developable parcel inside city limits. This massive tract includes Industrial General (IG) and Industrial Commercial (IC) zoning parameters, making it the single largest urban development site currently on the market in any Oregon city.

The City should declare an immediate moratorium on further data centers in the city and develop a comprehensive policy on data centers. This policy should include an assessment of other land that could be zoned industrial. **Because data centers provide few jobs per acre, the City should have a long-term plan about what**

kind of facilities it wants on the limited amount of potential industrial lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Cayetana Tabullo](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Data Center Moratorium
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:57:25 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident of Salem and Marion County and I support a moratorium on the building of data centers. I am also unequivocally opposed to the building of data centers.

Current events and the extreme results of the ongoing drought in Oregon and all over the world have made clear that the obvious priority for our future existence is not the continued investment in the corporate world model of extraction, but instead in finding solutions to address the continuing threat to all life posed by eminent, catastrophic climate destruction. We cannot continue to plunder all of Mother Earth's living systems to extract profit. We must heed the warnings that we are experiencing daily to stop our reckless behavior as a species. We are endangering all of life and Mother Earth's systems for creating and maintaining clean water, air, and a sustainable climate.

Now is not the time to invest in the dubious technology of Artificial Intelligence that has demonstrated itself to be a threat to the very existence of life on Mother Earth. The only possible beneficiaries of this technology are the tech-billionaires that are pushing it forward with no guardrails to save us from its inherent destructive capacities.

Government leaders are subject to their constituents through the elective process. Elected representatives should not, in any circumstance, be beholden to corporations, but instead serve to represent the best interests and to benefit the constituents that elected them to office. By signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement with this corporation, who has no proven track record of building anything, those that signed such a dubious agreement have demonstrated that they are not fit to serve the constituents who placed faith in their honesty and integrity. All governance should be transparent, honest and democratic. There should exist no backroom dealings or arrangements of any kind in a fair democratic process. Those that signed this NDA should resign immediately..

Our society's economic, social and environmental predicaments emanate from an extractive settler colonial culture that values and prioritizes financial growth over the sustainability of our natural world, ecosystems and the health of all sentient beings. We must instead prioritize the sustainability of all life and Mother Earth before it's too late. Our lives depend on this vision for a sustainable, livable future.

Pamela S. Vasquez
Salem, Oregon

P.S. Please refer to my previous letter submitted to this office on Monday, July 27, 2026 re: Verrus Data Center.

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [LTRyanbooks](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]data centers public comment
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 1:56:18 PM

We must impliment a statewide moratorium on data centers...& inspire other states to do the same. Yes..."data centers" kill bees, steal water & electricity, cause air & noise pollution, and cause cancer in humans & animals. But, also...the reason they are desperately trying to build 10,000 of them in the US quickly is a far more sinister plan. Data centers = world economic forum(top advisor is israeli) digital id depopulation program. They plan to force the 500 mrna poison s they are already working on...for all the gain of function research they are currently funding. They plan to have your bank account connected to digital id so they can shut it off if you refuse to take their poison s. They plan to limit how much food each person can buy...so nobody can buy food for those who get their bank account shut off. THIS ISNT THEORY...THESE ARE THEIR GOALS THEY HAVE BOASTED SINCE 2010...& ARE ACTIVELY TAKING STEPS TOWARD. epstein & gates were discussing in their emails how they plan to "get rid of poor people with created pandemics & s" = everyone who is not a billionaire/trillionaire cannibal pedofile. epstein also admitted to working for rthchlds multiple times in his emails... who founded israel with the balfour declaration of 1917. What we allow to happen to Gaza, Iran, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, & Turkey...will happen to 99% of humanity if we do not Unite to stop them.

israel wants to be in charge of this depopulation program. In the US, section 622 & 1217 in the Senate introduced by cotton/netanyahu and 219 & 224 in the House NDAA are all part of this attempted military take over of the US...that they are trying to hide from the public!!! These acts would put israel in charge of US data, ai, tech, missles, & biotech...& they would answer only to potus(who they clearly corrupt with epstein crimes blackmail & illegal \$ laundering of US tax \$ through aipac).

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DaN3hW1s8O8/?igsh=MWI2dnNreTFndGNqcQ==>

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=SmcDspJOAiE>

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=SFRZDwlJiAI>

Saying "im zionist" = "im superior to the rest of humanity & the talmud says I can kill & rape & enslave the rest of humanity & if any of you tell the truth about my actions...then you are discriminating because I am superior to you" = clear extreme mental illness/psychotic megalomania. zionism is to Judaism...what the ku klux klan is to Christianity...but in israel they control the gov't. There is nothing more "antisemetic" than the mass child murder, rape, & consumption of children actions through epstein(& others) from the zionist gov't of israel. All of humanity has the same human needs...all of humanity deserves equal human rights. If you do not live by the International Human Rights Declaration...if you do not see others as equal family to you...you have a mental illness that needs healing. Superiority complex, greed, & fear are the 3 root issues to all human unnecessary suffering...& are simultaneously the 3 root issues that inhibit our basic human need to Love One Another as One Equal Human Family. May all of humanity overcome the root issues that inhibit our basic human need to Love One Another as One Equal Human Family. May all beings be free from unnecessary suffering~

PLEASE STOP USING ai, google, msm, or self proclaimed "fact checkers"...THEY ALL

HAVE FINANCIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN THESE TOPICS!!! Please look through these links, use independent search engines, research the "2010 Rockafellor lockstep documents, the Kissinger report, previous world economic forum leader Klaus Schwab's book & all info/interviews on his top israeli advisor, and all Bill Gates's interviews & epstein emails." None of this is theory...& all of our lives depend upon you understanding these facts.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

The People of Oregon

Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for Android.

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Rachael Atchison](#)
To: [citycouncil](#); [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Special meeting 8/3/26
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 8:17:37 AM

Councilors,

I'm writing in support of a moratorium and a code amendment to prevent proliferation of these monstrous data centers. Given the time lag for either of these actions to give us any protection, I fully expect more applications to be submitted. Our federal government is no longer protecting us from the environmental harms generated by these projects, recently exempting data centers from any EPA regulation. These incredibly wealthy tech firms have now been given carte blanche to poison our communities. We need to be doing everything we can at the city, county and state level to protect ourselves from the social and environmental harms they cause.

Please proceed with both these items as quickly as possible and take special care with your wording. Apparently, these dishonest companies have been known to change the description of their projects to skirt attempts at regulation, describing themselves as "AI computing", "AI factories" or titles other than "data centers." Perhaps make potential projects subject to a moratorium based on amount of energy or water use? While this should have been done long ago, I appreciate the current attempts at some damage control.

Thank you in advance for moving ahead with these actions,

Rachael Atchison
Ward 3

--

Rachael

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the [IT Intranet Cyber Security Page](#).

From: [Roman Block](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 5:23:06 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Roman Block
blockromant@gmail.com
2052 N Laurelwood St.
Canby, Oregon 97013

From: [Rossella Mariotti-Jones](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: City-wide data center moratorium
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 11:27:58 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

Dear Members of the City Council,

I am writing to urge you to adopt a moratorium on further approvals for the proposed data center project until the developer has disclosed, and independent experts have reviewed, the basic technical facts of what is actually being built.

Right now, the council, staff, and the public are being asked to evaluate a project without the information any responsible review would require. Based on public testimony presented at a recent hearing, here are the questions that remain unanswered:

1. ****Total megawatt capacity and growth plan.**** How large is this facility today, and what is the plan for scaling it over time?
2. ****Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE).** This ratio tells us how much additional power the facility will draw from our grid beyond its computing load, and higher values mean significantly more strain on local power infrastructure.
3. ****Water Usage Effectiveness (WUE) and water source.**** Whether the cooling system is "open" or "closed," it still requires water. We need the actual usage figure, whether the source is the city system, groundwater, or a local creek, and, if not city water, the purification plan and the fate of any discharged water.
4. ****Cooling strategy.**** Will the facility use CRAC units, chillers, adiabatic systems, free air, or liquid cooling? Are raised floors involved, and what is the power density of the internal systems?
5. ****Total footprint and future expansion.**** We are hearing this project involves roughly 75 acres. A comparable facility of the scale implied by public investment figures would typically require far less land, suggesting this footprint may be sized for future campus expansion that has not been disclosed.
6. ****Backup power systems.**** Will the facility rely on diesel generators or batteries? If batteries, what chemistry (lead-acid, lithium, sodium) or a kinetic flywheel? This directly affects the hazards our community could face from transportation accidents, disaster response, or eventual disposal.
7. ****Tier rating.**** This determines the utility infrastructure the facility will require; a Tier 4 facility, for example, typically demands redundant utility feeds that affect the broader grid.

Using only public information, rough estimates suggest this could be an unusually large facility,

potentially in the range of 150 to 160 megawatts, based on typical investment-per-megawatt figures for AI-optimized data centers. These are estimates, not confirmed facts, precisely because the developer has not shared this information with the public.

I understand that the land in question may already be zoned for industrial use, and that some view this project as effectively unstoppable. Even if that is true, pre-zoning should not function as a rubber stamp for a project of this scale. The city and county still have a responsibility to understand exactly what is being built here and to prepare for its impact, including impacts on the power grid, the water supply, emergency services, and long-term land use.

I would also note that, based on available public information, this company has not yet successfully completed a data center project of this scale. Given that track record, the council should weigh the developer's credibility and delivery history as part of its review, not just the technical specifications.

All seven of the data points above are already known to the developer. I am asking the council to require that this information be shared publicly and reviewed by independent experts before any further approvals move forward. A temporary moratorium is a reasonable and proportionate step to ensure this large a project receives the scrutiny it deserves.

Ultimately, I ask the council to draw on the full record of testimony provided on July 30, 2026, and the collection of facts presented by community members, including individuals from the health care and financial sectors, Dear Members of the City Council,

I am writing to urge you to adopt a moratorium on further approvals for the proposed data center project until the developer has disclosed, and independent experts have reviewed, the basic technical facts of what is actually being built.

Right now, the council, staff, and the public are being asked to evaluate a project without the information any responsible review would require. Based on public testimony presented at a recent hearing, here are the questions that remain unanswered:

1. Total megawatt capacity and growth plan. How large is this facility today, and what is the plan for scaling it over time?
2. Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE). This ratio tells us how much additional power the facility will draw from our grid beyond its computing load, and higher values mean significantly more strain on local power infrastructure.
3. Water Usage Effectiveness (WUE) and water source. Whether the cooling system is "open" or "closed," it still requires water. We need the actual usage figure, whether the source is the city system, groundwater, or a local creek, and, if not city water, the purification plan and the fate of any discharged water.
4. Cooling strategy. Will the facility use CRAC units, chillers, adiabatic systems, free air, or liquid cooling? Are raised floors involved, and what is the power density of the internal systems?

5. Total footprint and future expansion. We are hearing this project involves roughly 75 acres. A comparable facility of the scale implied by public investment figures would typically require far less land, suggesting this footprint may be sized for future campus expansion that has not been disclosed.

6. Backup power systems. Will the facility rely on diesel generators or batteries? If batteries, what chemistry (lead-acid, lithium, sodium) or a kinetic flywheel? This directly affects the hazards our community could face from transportation accidents, disaster response, or eventual disposal.

7. Tier rating. This determines the utility infrastructure the facility will require; a Tier 4 facility, for example, typically demands redundant utility feeds that affect the broader grid.

Using only public information, rough estimates suggest this could be an unusually large facility, potentially in the range of 150 to 160 megawatts, based on typical investment-per-megawatt figures for AI-optimized data centers. These are estimates, not confirmed facts, precisely because the developer has not shared this information with the public.

I understand that the land in question may already be zoned for industrial use, and that some view this project as effectively unstoppable. Even if that is true, pre-zoning should not function as a rubber stamp for a project of this scale. The city and county still have a responsibility to understand exactly what is being built here and to prepare for its impact, including impacts on the power grid, the water supply, emergency services, and long-term land use.

I would also note that, based on available public information, this company has not yet successfully completed a data center project of this scale. Given that track record, the council should weigh the developer's credibility and delivery history as part of its review, not just the technical specifications.

All seven of the data points above are already known to the developer. I am asking the council to require that this information be shared publicly and reviewed by independent experts before any further approvals move forward. A temporary moratorium is a reasonable and proportionate step to ensure this large a project receives the scrutiny it deserves.

Ultimately, I ask the council to draw on the full record of testimony provided on July 30, 2026, and the collection of facts presented by community members, including individuals from the health care and financial sectors, drawing on news coverage of other data center projects, including environmental contamination and the marked decrease in quality of life for residents in those communities. Salem deserves the same level of scrutiny before, not after, this project moves forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Rossella Mariotti-Jones

Rossella Mariotti-Jones
rossellamj@protonmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97302

From: [rosemary walker](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 8:09:33 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

THERE MUST BE IN ANY AGREEMENT THAT THE DATA CENTER COMPANY ANY DATA CENTER 'MUST PAY EACH OF THE 183 K SALEM RESIDENTS DIRECTLY \$1000 A MONTH THE RESIDENTS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME AS NECESSARY TO COVER UTILITIES & CLEAN H2O ISSUES THAT MAY ARISE'

THIS MUST BE INCLUDED SHOULD THIS FARCE GO THROUGH.

ms walker

rosemary walker
bigrosemary@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97302

From: [Stephen Ball](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 6:58:39 PM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Stephen Ball
spball99@gmail.com
640 Missouri Avenue South
Salem, Oregon 97302-5565

From: [Shelby Brooks](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 12:11:00 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Shelby Brooks
brooksshelby1@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97301

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Serenahall1111@gmail.com
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:57:42 PM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Serena Hall
Your Email	Serenahall1111@gmail.com
Your Phone	5039795403
Street	1257 Ronelle Street South
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97306
Message	Dear Salem City Council, I urge you to reject the proposed AI data center in Salem. While the project promises investment, I believe its long-term costs to our community outweigh its benefits. The demands it could place on our electricity, infrastructure, and natural resources, combined with the relatively small number of semi- permanent jobs, make it the wrong choice for our city's future. Salem deserves thoughtful, sustainable growth that benefits residents and protects the community we call home. Please prioritize development that creates lasting jobs while preserving our quality of life. Thank you for your consideration. Serena Hall

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 8/3/2026.

From: [Sarah YesPDX](#)
To: [Linda Nishioka](#); [Shane Matthews](#); robotopdx@gmail.com; agwinssdp@gmail.com; [CityRecorder](#); [Krishna Namburi](#); [Salem Planning](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Support the Moratorium and Full Review of Data Center Applications
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 12:14:27 PM

I support an immediate moratorium on new data-center approvals and applications, including a clear review of whether any application filed immediately before the Council's action can properly avoid the moratorium.

The public is being asked to rely on the claim that newer AI data-center designs, including "closed-loop cooling" and "battery powered backup systems," will mitigate impacts. But these claims are not a project-specific environmental finding, an enforceable permit condition, or proof of zero harm.

Closed-loop cooling in theory may reduce routine water consumption compared with evaporative cooling. It does not create water from nothing, and it does not eliminate the initial water intake, construction flushing, pipe testing, chemical treatment, leaks, maintenance, periodic drain-downs, wastewater disposal, electricity demand, land disturbance, or emergency risks.

Even a data-center operator promoting closed-loop cooling acknowledges that its piping is initially flushed and that the flush water becomes wastewater, and that the loop uses treatment additives including corrosion-control and pH-adjusting chemicals.

Source:
<https://blog.vantage-dc.com/2026/04/22/cooling-without-the-drain-how-closed-loop-systems-cut-day-to-day-water-use/>

Recent reporting also shows why the City cannot simply accept the phrase "closed loop" as a safety guarantee. A July 2026 investigation reported that fill-and-flush wastewater from data-center construction may contain substances that local wastewater systems are not prepared to manage. It described a dispute involving a data-center project in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and a local utility's response to wastewater concerns. That project-specific dispute remains contested, but the need for disclosure, testing, and enforceable controls is indisputable.

Source:
<https://www.eenews.net/articles/data-centers-face-a-new-environmental-concern/>

Battery backup is also not synonymous with zero impact. The City must require disclosure of the battery chemistry, capacity, duration, fire-suppression design, replacement plan, disposal or recycling plan, and whether diesel or other generators will remain part of the backup system. Batteries may reduce some generator use, but they do not automatically eliminate generator emissions, noise, fuel storage, fire risk, or lifecycle impacts.

Before any Verrus or other data center application proceeds, the City should require public and independently verified answers to these questions:

1. What exact cooling system is proposed, beyond the vague phrase "closed loop"?

2. How much water will be used during construction, testing, pipe flushing, commissioning, initial fill, fire protection, and operation?
3. What are the projected annual, monthly, peak-day, and peak-hour water demands, including extreme heat and full buildout?
4. What chemicals will be used in cooling, cleaning, and maintenance?
5. What water and wastewater streams will leave the site, where will they go, and under what permits?
6. What independent testing, monitoring, and public reporting will be required?
7. Who pays for water, sewer, electrical, transportation, fire-protection, and other infrastructure upgrades?
8. Who is financially liable for pollution, water-pressure loss, wastewater disruption, spills, fires, or other damage?
9. Will the City require an enforceable environmental restoration bond and parent-company guarantee before approval?
10. Will the City make all agreements, technical studies, communications, and staff analyses public before deciding?

The City should not allow an applicant to use a rushed filing date or grandfathering to bypass the public scrutiny that the scale of this project demands.

An application proposal is not a blank check.

The City must make a written, public determination about completeness, vested rights, moratorium applicability, and every required land-use approval.

I urge the Council to adopt the moratorium, apply it as broadly as the law allows, and require a transparent, independent review before any approval proceeds.

Sincerely,
Sarah Phillips

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: stepquick@protonmail.com
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]In Support of the Data Center Moratorium
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 10:27:38 AM

Hi,

My name is Stephen Quick and I live in South Salem. I am writing this email in support of the moratorium on data centers in Salem.

I previously attended the city meeting last week, but was deeply proud of the turnout for people living in Salem and even from other areas of Oregon. Given the divisiveness of this data center and it's potential to do more harm to the environment than good, I am against the building of such a data center at this time.

I know over the weekend that Verrus went ahead and applied for a reduced footprint data center in Salem after Governor Kotek ask to have state government land withdrawn from the sale. I urge the city counselors to consider blocking the application and accepting the consequences of not acting sooner.

While Verrus can make claims that it's proposed data center will use less water and less electricity than previously designed data centers, there is no track record to go off of to make such claims; this needs further study. Their current planned center in Michigan (<https://projectflexmi.com/>) has not been approved and has very little information about how a center like this will truly operate in the world.

Also given the amount of active fires in Oregon, Washington, and our neighboring country Canada, this shouldn't be a priority. I shouldn't have to include data indicating that operations like this use a lot of water and use a lot of electricity. Both of these resources are vitally needed in a region like Oregon that has very active wildfire seasons. The power grid in Oregon is not robust enough to support more operations such as a data center and even if it could, why should Oregonians be responsible for maintaining something that isn't necessarily going to support our needs? No one needs a data center like they need a reliable power grid and water.

At the meeting last week on August 27th several people who signed up to speak mentioned testing the ambient sound volume of the equipment Verrus eventually proposes for this site. I would agree with this sentiment.

I know the construction unions came out in support of the data center last week and I assume they will show up again. I have a suspicion they are working with Verrus. While this project would temporarily bring jobs to the region, this is ultimately a project that has no active benefit to the people in Salem or Oregon. It would be temporary jobs, and this needs more research behind it. With the data center's proposed footprint being split in half after Oregon's withdrawal of land, it means potentially less jobs and less construction opportunities. Also who's to say the company will finish the project before withdrawing completely? Data center project cancellations are a rising trend "<https://www.constructiondive.com/news/data-center-project-cancellations-power-public-pushback/818157/>" and if there are no mandates in place for this deal, what's to stop Verrus from cancelling the project before completion leaving Salem with a unfinished mess?

Construction people need jobs, but so does everyone. AI's premise is to take jobs away from people and automate that workflow. I can't stomach this.

Please reconsider allowing this application and research these subjects more thoroughly. I know a

lot can change in this timeline, but it's too dangerous a prospect long term for Salem.

thank you,
Stephen Quick

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Sarah Shadrick](#)
To: [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Thank You for Listening and My Continued Opposition to the Proposed Data Center
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 10:26:16 AM

Dear Salem City Council Members,

I would first like to sincerely thank each of you for taking the time to hear not only my concerns, but the concerns of so many members of our community regarding the proposed data center over the last week.

I appreciate that you have listened thoughtfully to public testimony/emails and have engaged in meaningful discussions about how projects of this scale should be reviewed in the future. I was especially encouraged to hear the conversation around revisiting the City's use of Non-Disclosure Agreements for projects like this. Greater transparency is essential to building public trust, and I believe residents deserve the opportunity to understand and provide meaningful input on developments that will shape our community for decades.

I also want to thank you for convening today's meeting to discuss the possibility of a moratorium on future data center development. I believe this is a responsible step and demonstrates a willingness to thoughtfully evaluate whether Salem's current policies are adequate for projects of this size and complexity.

While I appreciate these discussions, I also want to be very clear about where I stand. I remain opposed to this proposed data center and any other proposed data center within Salem.

My opposition is not rooted in a resistance to technology or economic development (I work in Tech). It comes from a deep belief that this project poses significant long-term environmental concerns that deserve greater consideration before irreversible decisions are made.

For me, this discussion has never been only about one building or one development proposal. It is about what kind of Oregon we want to leave behind for our children and grandchildren.

Every generation inherits the decisions made by the generation before it. We have a responsibility to leave them clean air, healthy ecosystems, and communities that continue to value responsible growth over short-term gains. If we fail to protect those things, we cannot simply recreate them later.

One of the reasons Oregon remains such a special place is because previous generations made difficult decisions to protect its natural beauty and environmental resources. I believe we owe future generations that same commitment. As a Mother to two young children, this is especially important to me.

If Oregon gradually loses the qualities that make it unique, its environmental stewardship, its natural beauty, and its quality of life, I worry that it will become just another place with a high cost of living. And maybe the voice of one concerned Mother is not much, but there is no temporary wealth gained that is worth our earth. I personally already left one state filled with high levels of lead and oil refineries for my children's health. I would not hesitate to leave another unhealthy situation again.

I respectfully ask the Council to do everything within your power to put the earth first; no data

centers in Salem. Especially none that are filled with what appear to be false promises of better (unproven) technology. We should choose to lead the way in maintaining our environment, seek to increase childhood education and health, and grow our community in thoughtful and intentional ways. The choices made today will shape the Salem that future generations inherit.

Thank you again for your service, for listening to your constituents, and for taking these concerns seriously.

Respectfully,

Sarah Shadrick - resident, homeowner, mother
Salem, Oregon

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Shelley Wright](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 8:17:15 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Shelley Wright
stwright1975@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97304

From: [Trevor Crary](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Data Center
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 1:04:44 PM

Hello City Council of Salem,

Firstly, at a time where many city administrations across the country are ignoring their constituents on this issue I would like to commend you for listening to the community that you represent. It is the first step towards mending the trust violated by the signing of NDAs to keep such a project from your fellow citizens.

I have been a resident of this city for near 3 years now. My spouse, roommate and I moved here from San Diego because greed and disregard for the people living there on account of the powers that be made living there untenable. We are still poor, but when we hike here there is no opalescent sheen telling clearly the water is contaminated. When we breathe, which can quite literally do easier here, air fills our lungs instead of pollution. So we believe it our civic duty to stand up and tell you how much of a mistake it is to proceed with this data center as it is spawned from the same greed that made our former home impossible to stay in.

We are the capitol of this state, and therefore our actions set an example of what is appropriate for our brother and sister cities. In a state so dedicated to conservation of our native treasures and welfare of our citizenry, proceeding with this project is a grave action and great insult to all our state has accomplished. I urge you to listen to your fellow citizens, those who ACTUALLY live here, over outside interests who's stake is not in our wellbeing but in profiting as much as they can for as little as they can spend.

Thank you for your time,

- Trevor Robert Crary

1672 Baxter Rd SE

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.

From: [Tambi Hurd](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Linda Nishioka](#); [Krishna Namburi](#); [Kristin Retherford](#); [Rep Andersen](#); [Senator Deb Patterson](#); [Governor Kotek * GOV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Data Center Moratorium
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 7:11:50 AM

All, I am writing to thank you for listening to Salem residents and considering a moratorium on data centers in our city. There are many legitimate concerns about the negative effects of data centers on our environment, quality of life, pollution, noise impacts, etc. Thoughtful deliberation is required, and that doesn't seem to have been done with the Verrus deal. Verrus has no background in building or running a data center, just the deep pockets of Google. We cannot trust the rosy promises of such untested claims, and nothing should go forward until we have proof a data center can be sited here without harming residents and the environment.

Given the experiences of people around the country, I don't believe Verrus can deliver on its promises. I do not want a data center in Salem, but a moratorium will give the city time to evaluate pros and cons.

I'll be attending the meeting this evening, and trust the council does the right thing.

Tambi Hurd
97302

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the [IT Intranet Cyber Security Page](#).

From: [Tobias Kersey](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 1:19:58 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Tobias Kersey
tkersey0@gmail.com
128 Harvard Court SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

From: [Valerie Brooks](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 7:41:22 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

I've lived in Salem for 10 years; before that, in Eugene for almost 30. While I may be a native New Yorker, I've considered Oregon my home longer than any place I've lived and that includes multiple states and countries. We don't need or want "75 new jobs" that bring along with them all the negative effects we know data centers have on the environment.

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Thank you for your consideration,
Valerie Brooks
Ward 7

Valerie Brooks
vbrooks428@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97302

From: [Wendy Felix](#)
To: [Julie Hoy](#)
Subject: I demand a city-wide data center moratorium!
Date: Thursday, July 30, 2026 6:44:30 AM

Mayor Julie Hoy,

On July 27th, the working people of Salem spoke loud and clear: we will NOT be sold out to Verrus and their data center. We demand an end to data centers in the City of Salem, forever.

I support the community-drafted proposal titled "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS PURSUANT TO ORS 197.505 TO 197.540 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONDUCT NECESSARY STUDIES AND DEVELOP APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS." And I demand that you adopt this resolution at the August 3rd Special Meeting of the City Council.

But this is just the beginning. Stand with Salem's working class, not Big Tech oligarchs. Adopt this resolution, and be prepared to enact a permanent moratorium that is drafted by the community, not unelected bureaucrats.

Wendy Felix
wendymfelix23@gmail.com

Salem, Oregon 97301

From: [william wherity](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Moratorium/Code amendments re: data centers
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 2:56:46 PM

Mayor and Councilors,

As Verrus has submitted a land use application, a moratorium and code amendments to the SRC appear to be too late for this proposed data center. This will be infuriating for the thousands of Salem residents who do not want this city to host hyper scale data centers for myriad justified reasons, many of which you heard last Monday. However, it is imperative that council pursues a moratorium and code amendments as quickly as possible to prevent a proliferation of these facilities. Furthermore, in addition to this urgency, it is also vital that these amendments are written in ways that don't allow the developers and tech companies - with their obscenely deep legal pockets - to exploit loopholes that can arise from vague wording. Any code amendments must be based on measurable quantities of resources these industrial buildings will consume, and on measurable environmental and other effects that they will have on Salem. These companies WILL attempt to change labels in order to slide around ineffective regulations.

I am very angry that Salem has been put in this position by a combination of incompetence, arrogance and lack of transparency from SEDCOR and the City Manager's office. Who has benefitted from this NDA? We need an investigation into why this was allowed to happen, and we need people to take responsibility so that it doesn't happen again.

Will Wherity,

Ward 3

CAUTION! This email came from outside the City of Salem. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender. For guidance on identifying legitimate senders/emails, please review the IT Intranet Cyber Security Page.