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**City Council Comment received from Amika Starr**

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**From** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

**Date** Wed 3/12/2025 2:25 PM

**To** Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

**Contact Info:**

Name:

Amika Starr

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Sparks

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A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-03-12.

**Section:**

I Items - Public Hearing Items

**Item:**

I.1.

**Position:**

In opposition

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

I am writing IN OPPOSITION of the appeal for the Oppidan Data Center's Conditional Use Permit, agenda item I.1. I believe that data centers will not benefit our local economy and environment, but will likely cause harm. Economically, it is critical that we prevent out-of-state companies from building and housing data centers in Reno and, instead, encourage local businesses to build centers here. Local companies are more likely to hire Reno workers full-time and as contractors and are more likely to care about the environmental impact of the centers where they live. Additionally, the Council should consider amending property tax laws that allow data centers a 75% tax abatement if they hire 10 Reno natives over the first 5 years of operations. Hiring only 10 Reno locals is not enough to justify losing

75% of tax revenue and allowing data centers only to pay 25% of taxes owed. As for environmental considerations, we must ensure that data centers are regulated to be as sustainable as possible. Firstly, we cannot allow data centers to rely on fossil fuels but instead encourage the use of renewable solar energy or geothermal energy, which are both good fits for our area and natural resources. We should also call on data centers to install their own energy sources instead of pulling electricity from the existing grid, which will increase costs for Reno locals. Data centers should also avoid water-cooling methods (which are banned in Las Vegas), as Reno is a water-scarce environment, and these methods will only strain water conservation and negatively impact local plants, animals, and people. Lastly, we should ensure noise abatement procedures are put in place to mitigate noise pollution and also implement very strict cradle-to-grave requirements for data centers to handle and recycle their e-waste.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

*By checking the "Yes" below, you understand, acknowledge, and expressly agree that: (1) all information submitted by you will be entered into the public record, made available for public inspection, and freely disseminated without restriction; and, (2) any contact, personal, financial, or medical information intentionally or inadvertently submitted by you will not be maintained in a confidential manner, or subsequently exempted from public inspection.*

Yes

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No