

Submitted on Thursday, October 23, 2025 - 7:39am
Alexander Feinberg

I'm writing to urge you to support the moratorium on large scale development. I am a resident of Trumansburg, right across the lake. It is extremely important to proceed with caution and consideration on large scale projects like data centers that will have lasting impacts for the ecology and sustainability of our region and community. Projects like this will affect everyone living near or using Cayuga lake and the data center project in particular seems particularly hazardous. Please vote yes on the moratorium to allow for us to properly zone our land.

From: Brian Dozoretz
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 7:57 AM
Subject: Re: Cayuga Power Plant

Please accept this potential option for the future power plant:
<https://www.rewiringamerica.org/research/homegrown-energy-report-ai-data-center-demand>
leverage the need of data center hyperscalers for more power to fundamentally reshape Lansing's energy landscape.

where in this system is there power to be found?

And the answer to that, often, is by looking at what we waste now.

A Lansing household that uses electric resistance heating or cooling is wasting huge amounts of energy. But the people who live in it often can't afford the upgrade to an electric heat pump that would efficiently supply their heating and cooling. So what if the data-center hyperscalers, instead of rushing up expensive and dirty diesel generators, agreed to fund the installation of those heat pumps in a bunch of homes? That would free up huge amounts of now wasted electricity, which we could then use to power this theoretically essential new industry.

From a household's perspective, a 50 percent hyperscaler discount on the upfront cost would enable them to get a heat pump for around \$9,000. This brings the heat pump cost below the cost of a like-for-like alternative, such as an electric resistance furnace and a central air conditioner. It also makes the decision to upgrade to a heat pump an easy choice, and lets the household start saving money on Day 1. Pairing these investments with additional negotiated discounts or standardized installs that achieve economies of scale will create a virtuous feedback cycle that further lowers upfront costs for households and makes existing local incentives more efficient and effective.

Hyperscalers seeking capacity on the grid should first pay for home heat pump upgrades. This is faster than building new power plants. Since many of the power plants proposed for new construction or repowering burn coal or gas, it is significantly cleaner, and more insulated from future volatility in fuel prices. This is a win-win solution for hyperscalers, utilities, and households.

From: Kevin Kinsella
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 8:07 AM
Subject: No TeraWulf

Please do not Allow TeraWulf to build their AI data centre on Cayuga Lake. The data centre will likely (eventually) use the water to cool equipment, returning the water to the lake and causing major environmental damage. Data centres also produce large amounts of electronic waste,

often carrying hazardous substances like lead and mercury. Many of our aquatic species who live in and around the lake will be harmed by the center.
No amount of financial incentive is worth the cost of losing our greatest natural resource - Our Lake
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Submitted on Thursday, October 23, 2025 - 8:54am
Madison Lenhart

My name is Madison Lenhart and I am a resident of Ithaca. I am writing in support of a moratorium on large scale developments. So many residents of Lansing and surrounding areas have voiced concerned about this, especially under outdated building rules. Please listen to your constituents and do what is best for our community.

From: Kaylynn Lattin
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 9:15 AM
Subject: Important

Dear Ms. Groff,
Hi, my name is Kaylynn. I´m from Lansing High School. I am doing a project for my government class where I have to write to a person from the Lansing Town Board.
I have been reading about the proposed data center and I don't think that Lansing should allow the data center to happen.
I'm concerned that the data center might affect the lake. I have a lake house and worry that the data center might affect the water that I swim in and other people swim in.
It could affect our utility bills which would go up. People might have to work more because they would have to pay more for utilities which could affect their ability to buy food.
I agree with the moratorium and think the Lansing Town Board should vote yes.

Submitted on Thursday, October 23, 2025 - 12:20pm
Emily Carroll

As a lifelong resident of Tompkins County,I am writing to urge the town board to uphold their plans of a year long moratorium on large scale developments, as they have been discussing since 2018. I specifically oppose the approval of an AI data center without up to date zoning in place. And monetary costs of having a data center in our area Are more than likely to be catastrophic. Thank you for your time.

From: Paul Prager
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 1:08 PM
Subject: for the public record

At the October 15 Town Board meeting, you opened by stating that you “speak for the entire Board” and assuring residents that all comments would be considered “as the process moves forward.” At that same meeting, you announced that the public hearing on the proposed moratorium would take place on November 19.
It was also apparent from the discussion that evening that several Board members were reviewing the draft moratorium language for the first time, asking basic questions of the Town Attorney about

what provisions meant, why certain language had been included, and what changes might be considered. You stated that revisions would be shaped by public feedback.

Despite those assurances, the Town has now called an “emergency” meeting to cut off public comment before the promised hearing occurs — and tonight’s session will include no privilege of the floor, meaning the public will not be permitted to speak at all. There is no legitimate emergency here; there is only an attempt to narrow the record and restrict community participation.

“Administrative burden” in the Clerk’s office is not a lawful basis to silence residents. The obligation of government is to maintain an open record, not a closed one.

The timeline makes this reversal indefensible.

When we learned of the moratorium on September 24, we immediately sought clarification from you about its purpose and scope. You assured us directly — consistent with your public statements — that the moratorium was not intended to apply to our project. You reiterated — both at the meeting and in local news coverage — that the stated purpose was to prevent low-value, opportunistic development, such as a “Dollar General,” from “sneaking in” before the zoning analysis was complete. Notably, our revised site plan was formally submitted on September 9, 2025, well before any moratorium proposal was introduced.

Since then, we have repeatedly sought to engage in good faith. We requested meetings with you individually, with one or more Board members, and with the full Board. We have hosted certain Board members at our Lake Mariner facility in Barker so they could see firsthand how responsible data campuses operate. We voluntarily held a community open house for Lansing residents. We even requested to be placed on the October 15 Board meeting agenda so the Town could hear directly from us in a transparent public forum. Every one of these efforts has been denied, declined, or ignored. The Town has resisted *all* attempts at constructive dialogue.

Relying on your assurances — and on the November 19 hearing date you publicly established — we nevertheless proceeded in good faith to prepare a complete record for the community.

An independent review is underway — and would be excluded under your new cutoff.

As part of preparing a full public record, we commissioned an independent technical assessment led by Professor Sarah Kreps, a Lansing resident, Cornell faculty member, Director of the Cornell Brooks School Tech Policy Institute, U.S. Air Force veteran, and Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, holding a Ph.D. from Georgetown University. She is not a consultant retained to support a particular outcome; she is a true local stakeholder whose family swims in Cayuga Lake and who will personally live with the consequences of the Town’s decision — unlike the “outsider” characterization you have applied to a company that has invested in and operated in Lansing for nearly a decade.

Professor Kreps has complete independent authority over the methodology, assumptions, and findings of her review. Her report — expected in the first week of November — is exactly the sort of fact-based analysis the Town has not undertaken itself. If comments are closed early, her independent assessment will be excluded from the record entirely.

Meanwhile, the Town has conducted no comparable due diligence.

To date:

No fiscal or tax-base impact analysis has been conducted;

No technical review of the Cayuga Data Campus has been requested or evaluated;

The Town’s own planning consultant’s guidance has been disregarded;

Relevant Board correspondence has been withheld from the public record; and

A sitting Board member has confirmed in writing that material information was not shared internally.

This is occurring while the Town faces a multi-year structural budget deficit you have publicly acknowledged — yet without any evaluation of the economic consequences of blocking the largest tax-base opportunity currently before Lansing.

The commitment you made on October 15 must be honored.

The public comment period must remain open through the November 19 hearing, as you represented — both to residents and to the press. Anything less compromises transparency, process integrity, and public trust.

Notwithstanding the circumstances, we remain willing to engage in constructive, collaborative discussions with the Board about how to move forward — from a place neither we, nor the public, ever expected to find ourselves.

From: Jack Young

Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 1:30 PM

Subject: Development Moratorium proposal feedback from the ZBA

Here's a brief comment to be passed along to the Town Board relative to the proposed development moratorium.

We didn't know that tonight's meeting will be mainly formalities, so rushed this more than we probably needed to.

But hopefully it will be a small but useful addition to what's been said previously.

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Dear Lansing Town Board members,

The members of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the Town of Lansing would like to submit the following comments regarding the development moratorium currently under consideration by the Town Board.

Our experience and that of other bodies like ours suggests that recurring variance request patterns often signal the need for changes to a municipality's zoning code. If these become too numerous and begin to burden the planning and appeals system, a limited moratorium might be required to allow time for a zoning reset. Our work in recent years doesn't support that conclusion, however. Our case load has been fairly consistent, and other than recurring issues along the lake shore where expanding or replacing existing buildings on small non-conforming lots is almost always technically problematic, there are no recurring variance patterns that would lead us to support a moratorium at this time. There may be problems with the system elsewhere, but here at the ZBA we aren't seeing them.

If the Town Board does go ahead with a moratorium, we would suggest that to insure fairness and flexibility during that moratorium, the Town should authorize the Zoning Board of Appeals to grant relief in cases of demonstrated hardship. Giving the ZBA additional authority in this regard would provide an essential "safety valve" allowing applicants who can show substantial prior investment, unique site conditions, or other exceptional circumstances to seek case-by-case relief without undermining the broader purpose of the moratorium. Such authority would also help mitigate the unavoidable economic and legal impacts of such a moratorium, maintain public confidence, and demonstrate the Town's commitment to equitable administration while zoning updates are underway.

In short, we do not advocate for a moratorium, but stand ready to assist with the process if one is enacted and the Town Board gives us that opportunity. A ZBA's job can be described as balancing individual property rights with the community's collective zoning goals. We will support any actions by the Town Board that don't upset this balance.

Town of Lansing, New York Zoning Board of Appeals