

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 3:05 PM
To: BOCC; Steve Williams
Subject: FW: Broadview

Public comment.

From: Bill Walker <bluecreek12@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 11:03 AM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Broadview

Commissioners

You have repeatedly stated that you cannot legally put restrictions on the data center. And yet a former legislator says that is not so, and one or more other counties have done exactly that. Even heads of AI companies are calling for restrictions.

At a public meeting, you said you couldn't act because there was no plan. But you had to be aware that is the plan. The corporate shell Quantica will not give one. The next corporate shell they hand it off to might, but not until it is built. At that point there is no way you would act.

The center Quantica would build would absolutely cause massive damage to neighbors through water consumption and pollution, and noise. It would absolutely cause massive greenhouse gas emissions, and probably cause a huge increase in electricity supply costs for all of us. If for some reason it would go bankrupt, the cost to Montana rate payers for the supply infrastructure would be crushing. And any profits that were made would be siphoned off to another corporate shell.

A recent opinion piece cited a former employee of an AI development company who quit because of what they were doing—because they were developing AI that could hack anything. Whether or not that happens, for all of us, AI development means our privacy will be gone, and our rights demolished. If that does happen, our finances could be stolen and many or most of us may not survive.

Clearly, the time to act to prevent catastrophe is NOW. Frankly, your refusal defies both belief, and any semblance of responsibility to the people of Yellowstone County, Montana, and this country.

Sincerely

Bill Walker

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 4:54 PM
To: BOCC; Steve Williams
Subject: FW: SB212

Public comment.

From: Sun Mountain Farms <sunmountainfarms@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 3:31 PM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: SB212

Quantica and Yellowstone County Commissioners have said, "there's no customer " to occupy their AI data center. Why is SB212 "right to compute act" even a factor? We the people are asking the YCC to use their general powers to enact MCA 76-2-206 to pause the project, conduct necessary studies, and write regulations. Zoning is a general power the YCC has been granted by the state. The YCC could enact MCA 76-2-206 on their own.

Yes, SB 212 may ultimately apply to a functioning data center, but it does not plainly strip counties of their traditional authority to regulate land use and the physical effects of industrial infrastructure. Quantica is currently a land and infrastructure developer, not the operator exercising a right to compute. More importantly, SB 212 itself expressly permits government action necessary to prevent or abate nuisances caused by physical data-center infrastructure. A temporary study period is regulation of land development impacts, not a prohibition on computation.

The county attorney is applying the act prematurely and too broadly, ignoring the act's explicit nuisance provision.

I have an email dated February 24th, 2026 from the commissioners attorney Steve Williams stating, "the Commission can enact Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance MCA 76-2-206 ".

Yellowstone County Commissioners you've had ample time to do your job. Why haven't you?

~ Kassi Solberg

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 7:25 PM
To: BOCC; Steve Williams
Subject: FW: Cass County Commissioners ban AI Hyperscales

Public comment.

From: Sun Mountain Farms <sunmountainfarms@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 6:35 PM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Cass County Commissioners ban AI Hyperscales

'We just don't want it:' Cass County bans hyperscale data centers

<https://www.3newsnow.com/news/local-news/we-just-dont-want-it-cass-county-bans-hyperscale-data-centers>

Cass County will not allow large-scale data centers to be built within its borders, commissioners announced Tuesday.

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:40 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Health and Data Centers

Public comment.

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

From: bounce@bounce.votervoice.net <bounce@bounce.votervoice.net> On Behalf Of Lorena Payne
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2026 8:58 AM
To: Mark Morse <mmorse@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Health and Data Centers

Dear Chair Morse,

Data centers hurt every living thing. Flora, fauna, humans will be cut short of water, power and open land that supports us. There are alternatives to feeding the top money mongers. No data centers in Montana!

According to Editor David, Bozeman Daily Chronicle, "Three major data center projects have formal agreements or letters of intent in Montana, while local utilities are in early talks with at least 11 additional developers."

The proposed Broadview Data Center near Billings has already requested power capacity that could exceed several times Northwestern Energy's current load. Without regulations or legally binding contracts, these facilities risk harming health and depleting essential natural resources vital to Montanans' daily lives.

This rise in emissions increases PM 2.5 levels, worsening Montana's air pollution. This can lead to higher rates of heart and lung diseases, exacerbate asthma, and reduce lung capacity among all residents. Children, with their still-developing lungs, are most vulnerable to the long-term effects of exposure. Noise and light pollution also threaten essential pollination and biodiversity, which are vital to our state's food system. These pollutants also disrupt sleep and impair children's learning. Drought.gov highlights ongoing drought challenges throughout Montana, while AI data centers use millions of gallons of drinking water daily. Ensuring access to sufficient drinking water is crucial. Montana prides itself on its agriculture, and we should not force our farmers and ranchers to sacrifice their livelihoods by supporting AI data centers that deplete water resources. Allowing this could cause Montana's economy to collapse.

Currently, the state lacks comprehensive regulations specifically targeting AI data centers. That is why I am reaching out. As you review data centers across Montana, I ask that you do all that you can to safeguard our health, protect our natural resources, and enforce proper regulations.

Sincerely,

Lorena Payne
2128 Spring Wheat Loop
East Helena, MT 59635
lp97390@gmail.com

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:40 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Health and Data Centers

Public comment.

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

From: bounce@bounce.votervoice.net <bounce@bounce.votervoice.net> On Behalf Of Lisa Milch
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2026 9:43 AM
To: Mark Morse <mmorse@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Health and Data Centers

Dear Chair Morse,

According to Editor David, Bozeman Daily Chronicle, "Three major data center projects have formal agreements or letters of intent in Montana, while local utilities are in early talks with at least 11 additional developers."

The proposed Broadview Data Center near Billings has already requested power capacity that could exceed several times Northwestern Energy's current load. Without regulations or legally binding contracts, these facilities risk harming health and depleting essential natural resources vital to Montanans' daily lives.

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Sincerely,

Lisa Milch
724 Beverly Ave
Missoula, MT 59801
lisajmilch2@gmail.com

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:41 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Health and Data Centers

Public comment.

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

From: bounce@bounce.votervoice.net <bounce@bounce.votervoice.net> On Behalf Of Sara Panczyk
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2026 12:00 PM
To: Mark Morse <mmorse@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Health and Data Centers

Dear Chair Morse,

As a resident of western Montana with a bachelor's degree in public health and a clinical doctorate in occupational therapy, I am deeply committed to the well-being of our citizens. In my practice working closely with our adult and geriatric communities, I witness firsthand how environmental factors directly impact health, and I work daily to protect and improve the quality of life for our most vulnerable populations. While the data centers currently being discussed may be planned for other regions of our state, I have made a personal vow to protect all Montanans, and it is from this perspective of advanced healthcare training and community advocacy that I write to you today.

According to Editor David, Bozeman Daily Chronicle, "Three major data center projects have formal agreements or letters of intent in Montana, while local utilities are in early talks with at least 11 additional developers."

The proposed Broadview Data Center near Billings has already requested power capacity that could exceed several times Northwestern Energy's current load. Without regulations or legally binding contracts, these facilities risk harming health and depleting essential natural resources vital to Montanans' daily lives.

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Currently, the state lacks comprehensive regulations specifically targeting AI data centers. That is why I am reaching out. As you review data centers across Montana, I ask that you do all that you can to safeguard our health, protect our natural resources, and enforce proper regulations.

Sincerely,

Sara Panczyk
6170 Delarka Dr
Lolo, MT 59847
spanczyk@gmail.com

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:41 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Health and Data Centers

Public comment.

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

From: bounce@bounce.votervoice.net <bounce@bounce.votervoice.net> On Behalf Of Katie Distin
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2026 12:12 PM
To: Mark Morse <mmorse@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Health and Data Centers

Dear Chair Morse,

According to Editor David, Bozeman Daily Chronicle, "Three major data center projects have formal agreements or letters of intent in Montana, while local utilities are in early talks with at least 11 additional developers."

The proposed Broadview Data Center near Billings has already requested power capacity that could exceed several times Northwestern Energy's current load. Without regulations or legally binding contracts, these facilities risk harming health and depleting essential natural resources vital to Montanans' daily lives.

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Currently, the state lacks comprehensive regulations specifically targeting AI data centers. That is why I am reaching out. As you review data centers across Montana, I ask that you do all that you can to safeguard our health, protect our natural resources, and enforce proper regulations.

Sincerely,

Katie Distin
908 S Black Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715
katiedistin@gmail.com

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:42 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Data centers.

Public comment.

From: wally Lindquist <wally0414@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2026 6:24 PM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Data centers.

Please allow the citizens of Yellowstone County a voice in the construction of data centers.
Thank you.

Wally Lindquist
4312 Mitchell Ave Billing

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:42 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Follow the lead of the Missoula County Commissioners

Public comment.

From: Greg Cook <grcook@bresnan.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2026 11:20 AM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Follow the lead of the Missoula County Commissioners

On July 9, 2026, the [Missoula County Commissioners](#) adopted a countywide one-year interim zoning moratorium on new or expanding data centers outside city limits, effective through July 8, 2027. Why can't Yellowstone County Commissioners do this, also? Is it because you just don't want to? This is what your voters want!!! 71% of voters are against the data center near Broadview and you are shoving it down our throats! You are elected to represent the people of Yellowstone county, not do your own thing!!! If you don't work for me, my vote for your reelection is not guaranteed. My opinion is in the majority! People in Yellowstone County have long memories, when they go to the polls to vote. Listen to the voters!

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:42 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Data center question: AI risks and solutions

Public comment.

From: tom lesoverhead.com <tom@lesoverhead.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2026 11:46 AM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Data center question: AI risks and solutions

9/20/2026

Dear Yellowstone County commissioners -

I am a professional writer who recently conducted an interview with ChatGPT, a digital agent of OpenAI. We discussed AI risks, scenarios, unknowns, and solutions.

One important point ChatGPT made is this: "When you have two companies or nations competing against one another, they build on each other. One develops an extremely powerful intelligent AI. The other feels compelled to equal, or surpass it, simply to avoid falling behind. Eventually, humans could become subordinate to the competition. As in: "We can't slow down because our competitors won't."

In the interview, I asked a question about AI's threat to humanity — today and tomorrow. The answer was enlightening and insightful (see below). If you would like to see the full 13-page interview ("A Conversation with AI, or The Modern Prometheus"), let me know. Please help stop the data center looming disaster that will someday harm humans everywhere.

Tom Vandel
tom@lesoverhead.com

Q: Let's cut right to it, are humans in mortal danger from AI?

ChatGPT: The honest answer is yes, potentially. AI has serious risks, but not all risks are equally likely, equally immediate, or equally dangerous.

Already happening: Misinformation, deepfakes, fraud, privacy violations, biased decisions, workplace surveillance, job disruption.

More worrying: Increasingly autonomous AI could amplify cyberattacks, weapons development, or other malicious activity.

The unknown: Sufficiently capable AI could become difficult for humans to control. There is growing evidence of concerning behaviors, but catastrophic outcomes are not an inevitability.

The human factor: Competition and greed can create incentives to deploy systems before their risks are adequately understood.

What's concerning to researchers is when an autonomous system pursues a goal in a way that conflicts with human survival, even without wanting to get rid of humans.

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:43 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Data centers.

Public comment.

From: Karen Stears <karen.e.p.stears@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2026 3:53 AM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Data centers.

Dear Yellowstone County Commissioners, I am writing to strongly encourage you to put a temporary freeze on data center development in our beloved Yellowstone County. Missoula county just successfully imposed an interim zoning restriction. This is an option also. We need to slow down this massive project proposed in Broadview. We need real meaningful information on power generation, water use, air pollution, climate warming affects, noise pollution. Who and what type of business will be occupying this facility? Do they have real customers yet? Put the brakes on this project until we have more answers. You are our only protection from these potential significant harms and expenses.

Karen Stears
311 Parkhill Dr
Billings, MT
[Karen.e.p.stears@gmail.com](mailto:karen.e.p.stears@gmail.com)

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:43 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: Data Center

Public comment.

From: Bob B <patty-bob@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2026 7:58 AM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Data Center

Respectfully, just what benefit to Montanans do you see for building a massive data center near Broadview? I see very few permanent jobs, massive consumption of electricity, grid disruption and an AI bubble with rate payers left holding the bag. Let's let other states take this huge gamble. Montana doesn't need it.

Bob Balhiser
Helena

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 9:45 AM
To: BOCC
Subject: FW: The data center backlash is reshaping American politics : NPR

Public comment.

From: Sun Mountain Farms <sunmountainfarms@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:56 AM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: The data center backlash is reshaping American politics : NPR

The data center backlash is reshaping American politics : NPR
<https://share.google/DNCg4uXHTFB541kyh>

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2026 10:12 AM
To: BOCC; Steve Williams
Subject: FW: Health and Data Centers

Public comment.

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

From: bounce@bounce.votervoice.net <bounce@bounce.votervoice.net> On Behalf Of marian kummer, M.D.
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2026 3:48 PM
To: Mark Morse <mmorse@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Health and Data Centers

Dear Chair Morse,

According to Editor David, Bozeman Daily Chronicle, "Three major data center projects have formal agreements or letters of intent in Montana, while local utilities are in early talks with at least 11 additional developers."

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Currently, the state lacks comprehensive regulations specifically targeting AI data centers. That is why I am reaching out. As you review data centers across Montana, I ask that you do all that you can to safeguard our health, protect our natural resources, and enforce proper regulations.

Sincerely,

marian kummer
PO Box 160988
Big Sky, MT 59716
mekummer@gmail.com

Teri Reitz

From: Mark Morse
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 4:42 PM
To: BOCC; Steve Williams
Subject: FW: Follow-up to todays message to you.

Public comment.

From: Bill Walker <bluecreek12@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 11:14 AM
To: commission <Commissioners@yellowstonecountymt.gov>
Subject: Followup to todays message to you.

What I should have included is my wish for you to act with great compassion.

And while I strongly urge you to protect people, it requires hard decisions. I wish the compassion to go both ways.

Bill Walker