

Hi Charlotte,

I'm just writing to you today so thank the Senate Finance Committee for taking up S.205— the bill regarding the temporary AI data center moratorium. My name is Bella, I've been collaborating with my community in Royalton to create a ban on AI data centers in not only our town, but the neighboring areas of Tunbridge and Bethel. Many Vermonters across the state are so frightened by the horrific financial, environmental, and public health outcomes these centers have brought to countless families throughout the United States. Many people have yet to be convinced that Vermont has the appropriate regulatory regime to ensure we are properly protected against these companies that continuously lie and seek out administrative loopholes to evade legislation at the state and federal level that is designed (yet often fails) to protect everyday people.

In my free time, I have watched all the available testimony on this subject matter before your committee on YouTube, and it was a breath of fresh air to see that you are taking these concerns seriously. I sincerely appreciate your openness to the idea of taking a much-needed pause— especially because Green Mountain Power testified yesterday in the House that it has already identified 5 potential spots for AI data centers here in Southern Vermont. One of them is in Vernon which is adjacent to VT Yankee, which has also raised concerns that the growing interest to reignite the nuclear industry is to specifically support AI data center construction.

Everyone I meet is incredibly supportive of this legislation, and I wonder if you have been receiving enough calls and letters from people around the state. I wanted to take this time to write you a note so you know how grateful we are. I look forward to hearing what Act 250 Experts and the PUC have to say on this matter, and I deeply appreciate your time looking into this issue.

Warmly,
Bella O'Connor