

Subject **data center problem**
From Nancy Gooch <ekcrd@GMAIL.COM>
Sender District Managers list <DISTRICT-MANAGERS@LISTSERV.CARCD.ORG>
To <DISTRICT-MANAGERS@LISTSERV.CARCD.ORG>
Reply-To District Managers list <DISTRICT-MANAGERS@LISTSERV.CARCD.ORG>, Nancy Gooch <ekcrd@GMAIL.COM>
Date 2026-06-02 12:45 PM



Dear DM's,

I am asking you for your help in writing to your state assembly members and perhaps signing on to a letter that our RCD will write in support of AB 2469 (Papan; the bill is not perfect but it is a step forward in transparency and accountability) and against CEC approval of part of a data center to be constructed in our small desert community.

The issues we face around the data center include both the vast amount of water it will use and the erosion of any meaningful local input into its construction. The way this project is being approved also sets up legal challenges and the potential for conflict between state agencies like the CEC and the DWR. It also challenges SGMA and approved GSPs and calls into question who has the ability to allocate the state's water. It will set a dangerous precedent if the project is allowed to go forward without the approval of our local GA and the DWR.

The local GA, the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, has had its GSP approved by the DWR, and the GA has allocated zero water to private, commercial employers (not including agriculture) other than Searles Valley Minerals, which has senior water rights. There is also a moratorium in the area on the construction of new commercial wells, and the developer plans to construct one. The CEC, which has the authority to grant a Small Power Plant Exemption for the energy backup portion of the project, is hearing comments until July 2, so we hope to mobilize before then.

Please let me know if your RCD is experiencing or has experienced problems with data center approval and construction, or if you have advice on how best to stop a data center from commandeering vital water supplies. I would also like to gauge interest in getting involved with this issue. I believe that the law needs to get ahead of it before perhaps irreversible environmental damage is done.

Thanks,

Nancy G.

--

Nancy Gooch, Administrative Assistant
Eastern Kern Co. Resource Conservation District
300 S. Richmond Rd.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(M-F, 8:30am-12:30pm)

ekcrd@gmail.com

Please contact me by email as I am hearing impaired.

To unsubscribe from the DISTRICT-MANAGERS list, click the following link:
<http://listserv.carcd.org/scripts/wa-CARCD.exe?SUBED1=DISTRICT-MANAGERS&A=1>