

I am reaching out to share information about Project Turbo, a proposed \$1.2 billion data center on a 119-acre site off O'Kelly Road in southeast Hall County. This 900,000-square-foot facility could bring economic benefits, like \$25 million in annual tax revenue (assuming the county does not offer a tax abatement) and 100-150 jobs. However, but it also raises serious concerns about power and our water supply, especially Lake Lanier. If there are not sufficient guarantees for this project to absorb the cost of the additional energy, then could impact the community in higher electric bills. This is a consistent issue with data centers to date.

The data center's cooling systems may use millions of gallons of water daily, drawing from Gainesville's municipal supply, which relies on Lake Lanier. During past droughts (e.g., 2007-2009), our region faced severe shortages, and this project could strain resources further, potentially impacting households if capacity is exceeded. Recall in 2023 that Lake Lanier water level was down 15 feet below full pool. Other Georgia counties have seen water disruptions from similar facilities, and vague usage estimates from developers leave questions unanswered.

Board of Commissioners will allow public comments in a hearing on October 23 at the Hall County Government Center. I encourage you to attend, voice concerns to ensure our water security is prioritized.

Let's stay informed and advocate for our community!