BOROUGH OF EMERSON COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION

NO.: 147-25

DATE: 05-06-2025

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Rice						
Sayers						
McGuire		X				
Argenzia	X					
Timmerman						
Ciolino						
Mayor DiPaola						

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Approved on Consent Agenda ⊠

RESOLUTION OPPOSING APPLICATION FOR "DATABANK ORANGEBURG PHASE 2 (LGA-4)"

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Emerson have become aware of an application for "DATABANK ORANGEBURG PHASE 2 (LGA-4)" on property known as section 73.15, Block 1. Lot 19 in the Town of Orangetown, New York; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes the construction of a data center as well as an electrical substation on the property; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the existing and proposed data centers on this property will require 80,000 to 90,000 MW of power or roughly the equivalent of 150,000 homes; and

WHEREAS, with additional existing and proposed data centers in the area, we feel it places a heavy burden on the existing electrical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, with Data Center technology rapidly advancing, it is possible that the existing designs will become immediately obsolete and will have unnecessarily caused irreversible environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, the application includes a 70,000 square feet outdoor electrical substation which will add further industrial level electrical infrastructure to the site with such massive infrastructure challenging the public's health; and

WHEREAS, an understanding and concern is growing about the long-term health effects of ELS - Electrophoretic Light Scattering and increasing the potential precipitating or risk for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and other illnesses; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Services, for which the Borough of Emerson provides mutual aid to towns in the Pascack Valley and greater Bergen County, will be seriously challenged to extinguish a fire. Furthermore, the impact of a potential fire could add toxic chemicals to the reservoir which could make the reservoir unrecoverable; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Tappan watershed and buffer will be impacted by significant disturbance and will render the ecosystem services of these valuable lands ineffective, this

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disturbance will impact the local flora and fauna and reduce the water quality of Lake Tappan. The impact to Lake Tappan will bridge states and all people; and

WHEREAS, the Data Center will have a significant visual impact on adjacent shared viewsheds including adjacent residential uses, businesses and roadways; and

WHEREAS, the sounds emanating from the proposed 60 AC units on the roofs of each Data Center created by a proposed 60 AC units on the roofs and will degrade the quality of life and will interrupt both people and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Data Centers and not a permitted use in the Orangetown's LOI zone at the time of original application submission; and

WHEREAS, additional impervious coverage adjacent to a connected watershed will impact everyone downstream; and

WHEREAS, the visual and noise impacts are unknown, and should the power go out there will be 24 generators running to keep 120 HVAC units working.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Emerson, on behalf of its residents, strongly oppose "DATABANK ORANGEBURG PHASE 2 (LGA-4)" project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be delivered to the Town of Orangetown, the Town of Orangetown Planning Board, U.S Congressman Michael Lawler, U.S. Congressman Josh Gottheimer, Rockland County Executive Edwin J. Day, Legislator Thomas Diviny, the Borough of Old Tappan, and Veolia Environmental Services.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Emerson on May 6, 2025.

Michelle Ryan Acting Borough Clerk