

## January 2026 VBH BOT Meeting Public Comment

### **Sean Conway - Village Attorney [00:00:00]:**

No, I know exactly what you're interested in. Um, we want to make sure that everybody has time to make a comment tonight. Um, I want to make a couple points of procedure, give you some informational items. Um, first of all, you may have heard we— the board previously scheduled a planned commission meeting for it to be an informational meeting on the, the data center issue. Um, the data center developer informed the Village today that is not interested in proceeding with that at this time. I don't know if that means they're not interested in coming to the Village at this time. I can't say. All I know now is at this time they're not interested in at least pursuing the informational meeting. So I wanted to make sure that you knew that today. The other point of procedure that I want to make is the reason why the village set up a planned commission informational meeting is— was for you guys. So you had all the information, all the upsides, all the downsides, everything before this matter even proceeded to any sort of consideration of any sort of zoning application or any development. Project. Okay, at this point there has been no plans submitted to the Village for a zoning, no development plan submitted, um, none of that. So none of that has happened, um, for this particular project to come to the Village. There would be a significant amount of things that would have to happen. There would have to be zoning relief granted There may need to be an adjustment to the comprehensive plan because the comprehensive plan doesn't speak to data centers. So there would be quite a bit of things that would need to happen before any data center would be able to come to the Village. So I just want to make sure you knew that going forward. So at this time, what we'll, what we'll do is we'll have public comment. We just ask that you limit your remarks to 3 minutes because we do have a lot of folks here that might want to speak.

### **Sean Conway - Village Attorney [00:02:16]:**

Um, and—

### **Brian Cecola [00:02:18]:**

yeah, yeah, just open for 3 minutes, please. And we just need your first and last name, address is not necessary.

### **Anna Paul - Village Administrator [00:02:24]:**

And please, when you come up, please speak, uh, hold the mic or click on the mic and speak directly into it so can hear.

### **Mary Ellen Peterson**

Well, thanks for letting us speak. So do I want to talk to you guys? Okay. My name is Mary Ellen Peterson. Um, I live in Barrington Hills at 518 Pine Gate. Barrington Hills has valued has always valued clean air, open spaces, and quiet environments. We're the only Chicago suburb that requires minimum lot size of 5 acres. My family moved to Barrington Hills in 2002. We love the large lot size, forest preserves, horses, country feel. I could go on and on. Homes in Barrington Hills are beautiful and peaceful, largely due to zoning regulations. I thought we were also protected by strict zoning laws that would make any 24/7 industrial business illegal, especially next to a residential area. We have everything we need here. Our neighbors live within their means and don't crave more. It's a good feeling to live among people who aren't swayed by greed. This is truly the good old days of Barrington Hills. Please don't end our heritage. Barrington Hills is one of a kind. We know that if you let this data center be built, you're just opening the door to have multiple data centers and other invasive businesses throughout the village. Our neighboring communities would be at risk too. It doesn't take much research to find the harm data centers can cause. Increased power usage, stress on our aquifer, 24/7 noise and light pollution, and more. And for what? Money? We're not hurting for money. Our healthy, peaceful environment is much more important than any amount of money. I feel sorry for any of you who would vote for this data center. Do you really want your legacy to be the people who ruined Barrington Hills? Or would you rather be known as the ones who saved it? Let's protect our heritage. Let's keep our village peaceful and beautiful. Don't end the good old days. Save Barrington Hills.

**Brian Cecola [00:04:46]:**

Thank you.

**Aaron Becker [00:04:55]:**

Members of the Board of Trustees, thank you for giving me time to speak. My name is Aaron Becker. I'm a resident of Barrington Hills, and I'm here to speak to you about spot rezoning. Spot rezoning refers to applying zoning classifications to a single parcel of land in a way that departs from surrounding parcels of land and from the village's longstanding land use policy. At its core, it's a practice that creates incompatible land uses and introduces significant legal and policy risk. Based on the information presented in the December 15th draft meeting minutes, a proposal like the data center that was being considered would be highly vulnerable to spot rezoning when challenged. Here's why. The property that was being considered is currently zoned R-1, 5-acre residential. At the opposite end of that zoning is light use industrial. There are 9 progressively more dense zoning districts that separate those 2 extremes. Uh, generally moving directly from a large lot residential to an industrial use creates a violent departure from the village's zoning framework. Illinois courts, including the Supreme Court, have consistently emphasized that rezoning decisions should align with the policies and land use designations

adopted in the municipality's comprehensive plan. And by your own acknowledgment, light industrial use is not considered in the comprehensive plan. That placed this board in a very clear position. The comprehensive plan was adopted to provide predictability, fairness, and long-term consistency. And when the proposal was clearly outside that framework, it is the obligation of the board to administer the rules of the plan as written. If, however, the village decides to move forward despite that inconsistency, it does so knowingly. Such an action would require amending that comprehensive plan itself, as you just stated, thereby setting a precedent not just for the single parcel of land but for every similar parcel of land in the village. At that point, the burden becomes demonstrating that such a change advances public health, safety, and welfare. Important to remember is that Illinois courts have consistently upheld that tax revenue is not a means for rezoning. It is a secondary or incidental benefit to the primary uses of rezoning. Simply put, you can't rezone because you want more tax revenue. So the decision at hand when considering rezoning requests such as the data center is not about a singular project. It's about whether the standards set out in the comprehensive plan still mean what they say, and whether they'll be applied consistently, even when doing so is difficult. At its core, this is a question of governance, and as trustees, you each have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure that zoning decisions are informed by and respectful of the comprehensive plan and the values it was established on. The decision the board makes about rezoning now and in the future demonstrate to the residents if the comprehensive plan still guides governance in Barrington Hills, or whether it can be set aside when it's inconvenient. Thank you for your time and for your consideration.

**Tony Bongiorno:**

Aaron took everything that I was going to say, so, uh, very happy to have smart neighbors. But, uh, I don't know, uh, haven't shaved in a week, um, since we learned about this. Um, listen to 25 minutes of someone coming here doing a snake oil pitch, and I'm going to call it a snake oil pitch because this Jack Brenner guy wants to put this next to a residential area, my home, all of our homes. And this is nothing. We could have packed this whole street. Everybody I called, all my friends from this area, were upset. They're like, we just heard about this. I'm like, yeah, I could throw a football to this thing. I'm going to be humming for the rest of my life. My daughter, you don't speak tonight. Thank God she didn't, because I'd be crying. She went to Naperville Central to stay close to home. North Central. Uh, speaking of Naperville, I'm glad what they did. And, uh, I'm glad this Jack Brennan guy realized that we only begun to fight, and we would fight this thing tooth and nail. And, uh, whoever drove by our home, a lot of you guys have been to my house, you guys know how close this is. Um, I don't want to get into what these things do if you just AI it. Uh, you can't even live within a mile of it. That's what AI tells you. And I can't believe someone actually invited a snake oil salesman to give you guys a pitch on ruining our lives. This would have ruined our lives. Imagine construction, just, just the construction aspect of it. The

wind rips from the west to the east, just 24 hours a day of concrete, everything. Hey, I can't go outside because they're doing concrete today. No, I'm glad this Jack Brennan guy moved out. I want you guys to reject anything that comes in. I got some smart neighbors here, and I want to live in Barrington Hills. I was like, honey, I don't know if we're gonna stay here. She goes, listen, I'm gonna work hard for the next 10 years. We're staying. So we just committed to ourselves, we're staying in Barrington Hills for the rest of my life. All of our kids walk the same walk of life. We go to the same sporting events. You guys, please defend us if this ever comes up again. Get this snake oil salesman out of here. Let's just keep it— figure out the land, whatever, but figure out our borders too. Protect us. You know, I coach football here. I'm a community man. Um, you guys are doing a great job. You guys are doing excellent with the roads. Very, very happy. Speeding ticket to my daughter, we'll talk about, you know, later on. I'm just saying, all in all, I feel safe. I feel great. Keep up the good work and keep these guys out of our town. Next time they come here, I don't want a 29-minute presentation. I'd like to know before these guys even show up, because this is not— this is not really what we want. We could have had news stations here tonight. We had everybody calling us, and I don't want to put Barrington Hills on the map as like, shit, they put something right next to a residential area. Not us. It's not us.

**Brian Cecola [00:02:59]:**

Thank you.

**Chris Yamamoto [00:03:18]:**

All right, good evening, everybody. My name is Chris Yamamoto, and I'm speaking as a resident who cares deeply about land stewardship. As someone who's keenly watched how our village evaluates land use over the past few years, I saw the village update that the developer had decided to not proceed with the presentation to the Planning Commission and residents. I understand that, and I'm not here to rehash what is now uncertain, but I do want to name what the last few weeks has revealed because it matters to how Barrington Hills governs. A data center is not just another project. It is industrial-scale infrastructure, heavy electricity demand, major cooling needs, water implications both direct and indirect, and air quality impacts that can be tied up for generations. Even the fact that this was advanced far enough to warrant a scheduled special meeting after being granted a lengthy platform raises a basic question of standards. In my own experience, a small flower farm was framed as a commercial threat that needed to be constrained. It has now been 522 days since I've heard back from any trustee on land-based issues that is small, hyper-local, and tied to stewardship. Yet an industrial-scale concept that strains water, burdens the grid, brings noise and emissions, and sets precedent that cannot be undone was given a special process and a polished platform. If the village is serious about protecting Barrington Hills' semi-rural character, then the standards must be clear and apply to everyone. And I will end with this: stewardship is not a slogan to put out when it's

convenient. It's supposed to be organized— the organizing principle of our village, Barrington Hills. We can't treat the smallest, most careful land use like invasions while treating the largest, most industrial proposals like opportunities. That is not reservation. That is selective enforcement. A semi-rural community cannot survive on symbolism. It must survive on consistency. And if the town is serious about stewardship, It cannot depend on who is asking. Thank you.

**Ron Barlow [00:05:45]:**

Hello, my name is Ron Barlow. Um, I live at 706 Goodman Court in Barrington Hills. My wife Jan is here, and my daughter Ashlyn and I moved here about 10 years ago. We chose Barrington Hills and we chose our home because we're horse people and we're looking for places for our horses. So we have 3 horses at home. We're members of the Barrington Hills Riding Club. We ride the trails in the forest preserve next to our neighborhood. We love it here and so do our horses. The Barrington Hills website makes it very clear that horses are, you know, a very big focus of Barrington Hills, that they are meant for, you know, to be able to house and raise your horses, riding and breeding. I mean, all that, it's front and center on the Barrington Hills website. Um, and this data proposal that, um, is, um, was under consideration, um, I think the, the horsing community right now is starting to realize that data centers pose a real health risk to horses. It's primarily from the high-frequency noises that they produce as well as the air emissions that are there. There's been a body of research and I've had some articles and there's been some scientific studies as well that within a couple of miles of a data center, there are some long and very detrimental effects on horses. Horses and data centers really can't coexist close to each other. And so with that, we as horse people are 100% against these data centers anywhere near us in Barrington Hills or near Barrington Hills. And I think the Board of Trustees should be as well for that reason. So we hope that going forward, any kind of proposal such as this would be, you know, clearly rejected and not even considered for that reason alone. Thank you.

**Karen Traska [00:08:01]:**

Um, Karen Traska. I live at Pondgate Farms. At the December 15th Board of Trustees meeting, immediately after the planned commission report, President Sokolos stated, quote, somebody has approached the village regarding a data center, and we invited him to come speak for 5 minutes against village code and the rules of the Open Meeting Act. Brennan Investment Group gave a pre-planned presentation complete with visuals and handouts without any application or proposal filed with the village, as is procedure. This presentation was not on the agenda, no public notice. For 25 minutes, the trustees, president, and village administrator engaged in robust discussion regarding the 110,000-acre parcel where they would build data center buildings spanning 40 acres. This acreage is located on Penny Road, right next door to the

Pondgate Farms subdivision and numerous homes nearby along Penny, Bateman, King, and Healy Roads. 50+ homes and families, human beings, The discussion was so detailed that Trustee Strauss went so far as to begin negotiating to share the cost of what he surmised will be extensive legal bills to make this happen. Developer Brennan agreed that they would be open to that. The board then declared that the Planning Commission will host a meeting where residents can hear Brennan talk for as long as he wants, but limit public comment to 3 minutes. I am happy to hear that as of 4 hours ago, the board learned that the developer would not be presenting at the Planning Commission meeting. Therefore, the meeting is canceled. The post you guys posted claims the matter is closed. Is it? It doesn't say they won't pursue the project. It says they won't present on February 2nd. I have more questions. Who did the developer approach and when? What was discussed prior to December 15th and why was it not on the agenda? Why were procedures that promote transparency not followed? What feedback did the developer use as a basis to not present? Did they speak to anyone on the board? Perhaps the we that invited them in the first place. Why did they choose 4 hours before this meeting to notify you? What is being done by this village to proactively protect our borders? Why, if this was handled under the guise of transparency, are there so many unanswered questions? Several of you have stated in conversations to be in favor, at a minimum, to be in favor of considering this project. What will happen when someone else dangles \$20 million in front of you? How are we supposed to trust you? And the biggest question I have right now is, why did I receive a response to my FOIA request at 4:45 PM today, 15 minutes before the deadline? And if this process was all simply informational and transparent and not a big deal, it's never going to happen, why am I being told that my request will need 10 more days and payment from me, a resident, because my request is considered voluminous? That's like over 500 pages. You have been entrusted with protecting and acting in the best interest of the residents, guided by our comprehensive plan. Any business such as this, as you know, will obliterate our village with its precedent and destroy the unique character that we sought out moving here, that you all vowed to protect. And some of you I helped even put on this board. Please remember that. Please be proactive, and please know that people are paying attention. Thank you.

**Caitlin Sig [00:11:30]:**

Good evening, Barrington Hills Board of Trustees and fellow residents. I'm Caitlin Sig, and I live in Barrington Hills. I'm here to state my strong opposition to the proposed data center in our community. My husband and I chose Barrington Hills due to its strong historical commitment to being an equestrian-focused community with no commercial or industrial zoning within its borders. This proposal egregiously goes in the face of that code. It is astonishing to me that alongside posts from the village to encourage horse owners like myself to blanket our animals, there is— there was a scheduled special planning committee meeting to discuss rezoning to allow an industrial wasteland to pollute the air and water, and whose humming and vibrations

are so antithetical to a sensitive flight animal's nervous system, it defies explanation. Clearly, the motive here is financial in nature, as the devastating environmental consequences include water pollution, depletion of our aquifer, which supplies us and 9 other towns, noise pollution and air pollution, not to mention the effects to human and animal nervous systems by consistent humming, loud generator testing, and fire risk, including anxiety and sleep deprivation. On the financial front, the promise of this project is \$20 million annually in property taxes and more than \$10 million annually in utility taxes. Aside from the fact that these significant claims were backed by no underlying data, no assumptions, and no source material, what was also menacing from Brennan's presentation was the fact that Illinois is so attractive to them because of the generous tax credit and subsidies that would mean that they would avoid paying tax altogether for 20 years. This is not an insignificant fact. What the board is contemplating is changing the protected zoning rights for the entire community for a tax payment several decades in the future in a rapidly changing industry that likely will be well extinct before the revenue comes to town. By then, Barrington Hills as we know it will be destroyed. As this precedent will open up rezoning across the village, and every resident near a treasured green space will be for sale to the highest bidder. As you are an elected body, the protection of the village you serve must be your strongest priority, with clear transparency to the public. I urge the board members to carefully consider the implications of selling our zoning rights to the highest bidder, and I urge all Barrington Hills residents to hold them to it. I further urge the trustees to exercise Barrington Hills zoning rights 1.5 miles into East Dundee and protect our borders. Today it is my backyard that is so violently on the table for discussion, but if you allow this to proceed, it will be yours next.

**Nikki Panos [00:13:58]:**

Thank you. Thank you so much.

**Martin McLaughlin [00:14:15]:**

Good evening, everybody. Uh, Martin McLaughlin, 303 Ridge Road, former president of Barrington Hills, currently state representative in the 52nd District, where I serve 12 villages, up from 4,000 people to about 120,000. Um, I was called by a ton of residents regarding this issue, and I want to thank all the trustees for volunteers. I know these are all highly paid positions, Um, just for the audience, you don't get any money working in these positions, but you get a lot of this, which is trying to look down the road and protect what's best for the village. Um, I have worked with some of these people professionally, the attorney, the administrator, the clerk, and I often said that their job is to put a 5-rail fence up so that the trustees know what they can and cannot do. You cannot have a presentation from an outside group with questions and answers in advance of a planning and zone commission. How do I know this? Because former village attorney Pat Bond stopped us from doing exactly the same thing when someone wanted to

come and develop Penny Road Pub into a retail center. We had a developer come with presentations, and we stopped them based on the attorney's recommendation and the village administrator. I was actually shocked to find out that that occurred prior to a planned committee meeting. What I want to say about it is this: the history of this village is we are constantly under attack for our zoning laws. This is not the first time this has happened. It will not be the last, but you need to be aware of this. A year ago and 2 months, East Dundee changed their zoning for the adjacent property to M1, M2 manufacturing industrial, manufacturing industrial light. That means that somebody a year and 2 months ago in East Dundee was aware that they were hoping that they could grab the adjacent land in Barrington Hills. Here's how this works for everyone in the audience. The 2-mile or 1.5-mile doesn't exist. Unless you have an intergovernmental agreement with East Dundee. Barrington Hills does not have an intergovernmental agreement for development with East Dundee. The reason? Our former president, before I was here, sued them so often, and they were so angry that they would never enter into an agreement with us. I would recommend that the board do that immediately. I will do everything I can in my power to sit down with East Dundee to get a development agreement. Further, I want to give a little history of the village. The Iatarola property at 59 and 72 was disconnected prior to my time as village president, and someday it'll be high rises and retail center. Kennedy, Bill Kennedy, a developer in Carpentersville, had 300 acres a number of years ago. The village said, we're not interested in doing feathered development. I call it the F word of Barrington Hills. They disconnected, and instead they put quarter-acre and eighth-acre homes there. My point is, you guys have an opportunity to work with your neighbors. You have an opportunity to get out ahead of this. And the administration, the administrator and the attorney have an obligation to make sure that they keep these trustees out of trouble and make sure they do the right thing. And if that includes being rude to a developer that shows up here to speak beyond 3 minutes at this podium, I strongly urge that the professionals in this room do that. Because I've been in that seat and I've often said, I'm not a professional politician. I manage a pension fund for a reason. So those of you that are paid to keep these guys out of trouble, please do your job next time. Don't allow that to ever happen again. And please, Village President, communicate with me because I need to know what's happening when I reach out to you. He did, he gave me communication, but I need details so I don't have to come here and find out. I appreciate all the work that you guys do. Thank you.

**Brian Cecola [00:17:52]:**

To all the residents out there, I just wanted to say, um, I know the, the, the people out there think we were supporting this. Um, we were not. It was information only.

I just— I know you don't— you guys may not believe this, But when someone came in for an opportunity, and that's why the Planning Commission was going to be information only, I'm glad

to see that the developer woke up. I don't think anybody on the board supported— we supported going to the next level to be transparent with the residents. I don't think anybody up here wanted to see a data center go up. A couple minor things where we were finding out about the annexation possibility of a de-annexation, and we were working behind seeing to try to figure out, can they do that? We have found out, yes, they can if ComEd goes with them. Um, would we fight them? Sure.

But if, if they were to de-annex that property, our concern was, uh, could they do it? We were told by some residents they cannot. Our, our attorneys have confirmed they can if ComEd goes with them. So I just— I don't think anybody wants to see this. Um, I don't want to see this. I think we wanted to let the residents hear the presentation, um, because this is what democracy is about right here, is having you guys show up and defend your town. We're all residents, um, you know, we all, we all share what you guys share. There, there was not any proposal. There was not a proposal on the table. There was not anything set in stone from this developer. He simply asked for a meeting to talk to the residents. Uh, again, I'm glad he has bowed out, um, but, you know, if he were to approach the village again, if he decides to approach we will do everything we can to not allow it. But he had the right to go through the process. If he does come back, I think he's gone. I think he realized what our village is really about. And I think he did some research and whatever was going online, all the petitions you guys had. So I thank you. I know that you guys may not have a whole lot of belief in the board here, but we have your backs and we have the village's best interest. So you guys can sit there and say we don't, but I'm just telling you from my perspective, we do. And if any trustee wants to add anything, but we will support our village 100% with no commercial. It's been that way. I've been on this board now 12 years. You know, and I've— everything I've sat for in the seats as a trustee and as president has been against commercial zoning, commercial enterprises, and we stand with the 5-acre zoning. We stand with our green space and our preservation. That's what this board is doing right now, and that's what we stand for. So whether or not— I'm sorry, there was a— I know it brought you guys in here, and I'm glad you guys did that because this is what transparency and democracy should be about. We may not agree on everything, and I hope we don't always agree on anything, but don't even get up to invite me to your house anymore. I totally get it. I want to let you know, we all— some of you are friends, some of us may not be friends, or I don't know. But we never sat up here ever once and said, this is a great idea, let's run with this. We wanted you guys, the residents, our residents, to come and do this. And it was information only. And I spoke to a few people about this, and you may not believe this or not, but that's— if you listen to the discussion when we brought him in, it was simply informative information, and that's it. But our concern was kind of to delay him a little bit because we wanted to find out about this annexation, which is huge. So I just want you guys to be aware that it's a possibility they're going to try, and we will try to fight what we can. Marty, we'll

definitely use all your assistance you can, all the lawyers in the room who know stuff. But, uh, that's what we were told, and I'm only going by what our attorneys are telling us. Um, for all of you who aren't familiar with the Penny Road, I'm just going to bring this out as I'm talking now.

We had— we, we, we did annex the Penny Road Pub property into our village. There was the railroad that was in there. We lost the first round. Um, we went to court and won. They appealed, they lost, and they are now appealing to the Supreme Court, which they probably won't get that far, hopefully. So we are trying to protect our borders, and we are going after more property down that way. Um, but we don't always want that to be in the open because we don't want to tip off what it is now because everybody's here. But we don't want to tip off the opposing people of what we're trying to do because they're trying to redevelop that end of, of, uh, of Penny Row Pub there with some more heavy-duty commercial trucking and trains and all other stuff coming in. So we are fighting on that also. Um, I just want to let you guys know that the this board never had any intentions at all to go through with the data center. I don't know if any trustees want to counter. Sean, are we allowed to talk about this at all?

**Sean Conway**

You're free to speak.

**Brian Cecola**

Anybody want to say anything? Okay. All right.

**Unknown Guest**

Well, I'm glad the board's not for it because I haven't found one person in Barrington Hills that for it.

**Brian Cecola**

So, well, again, I, I know that we're not supposed to dialogue, but this is a little different because we have a big crowd and a great crowd here. I mean, we were never, again, being for it, all we were doing is getting, letting him present it to the people, which anybody who comes to a zoning board or wants to apply for something, they're going to have the opportunity to come and hit him in his ass. And that's all we're trying to get him to do is get this out here. You guys did your great job of getting the petition going and letting them know. He backed out. I think he's gone. I don't think he'll come back to our village. I hope not. If he does, then he's gonna have a big fight, as Mr. Bongiorno said over there. But I just want to let everybody know.

**Jessica Hoffman, Trustee**

I would like to just reiterate to what Marty said. I think it is really important with transparency that the agenda is, um, what it should be and, you know, states exactly what we will be

discussing to just keep that transparency and trust with our residents. Um, even us too, we obviously want to be prepared and know what we're going to be discussing. Um, so that would be my only feedback on this whole experience.

**Marsha McLary, Trustee**

I'd like to say something. Um, I completely agree with you, Jessica, and Marty as well. Um, the other thing, I have a lot of concerns about it going to East Dundee still as it stands because we could end up with all of the problems and no control over that happening. So I think if there's any remedies or ways to approach that from, you know, I know it's not a discussion, but that's my comment and I'm very concerned about that.

**Martin McLaughlin [00:24:41]:**

Mr. President, I forgot to add one point.

**Brian Cecola [00:24:41]:**

Can you please stand up? I'm sure you're all aware 3 years ago the state gave \$6 billion. Oh, hang on, Marty, please come on. I'm going to allow another. I'm not going to time you, so stay in the 3 minutes.

**Martin McLaughlin [00:24:41]:**

I'm going to whisper. I meant to tell you guys this. The state is giving \$6 billion of incentives to data centers. So at the time that you guys want to fight it, just be aware that the State House, the State Senate, and the governor are giving billions of dollars to advocate for bringing AI and data centers here. I do want to mention one thing. ComEd's only required because of the energy needed. So ComEd doesn't have to, right? So they can do it without ComEd. I really will do everything I can with this board to get East Dundee to sit in a room and have conversations about an IGA on your behalf.

**Brian Cecola [00:24:41]:**

They can deannex without ComEd. I thought they needed them...

**Martin McLaughlin [00:24:41]:**

Yeah, well, they need, they need energy. AI needs tons and tons of energy. So ComEd's lines being right there. So if they say no, well, they have to bring an energy, an energy source with them. And just so this board is aware, My understanding that Hoffman Estates, where the former Sears Center is, is also where there's consideration. I was there for a groundbreaking of a data center over a year ago. So you might want to check into that as well. But I just want this community to be aware that while we're here talking about stopping AI for environmental, the

state is giving tax incentives to bring them here. So that's something you always have to be aware of.

**Laura Ekstrom, Trustee [00:26:16]:**

Well, I would just like to—I just want to reiterate what Jessica and, well, I should say Trustee Hoffman said that, yeah, I had no idea that was going to be on the agenda that night. I'd like to do research. I happen to have a lot of knowledge about it, so I tried to ask questions, but that was very uncomfortable. My biggest concern with this, because I think no one wants a data center there, is if we say no, goes to East Dundee for noise, you know, to mitigate noise in a data center takes, it's expensive to have recirculating water within a data center instead of going to the 700-foot well is expensive. So if it goes in without any regulations, without setbacks, without saying it's gonna be smaller, without all of this under control, you could get something much worse than you're even imagining. And that's my biggest concern is how to navigate this, 'cause we may have no strategy to protect that land with the way it's set up with East Dundee. And that ComEd substation is very underutilized. They make a lot of money from this. Well, there's nope, it's not gonna be a barrier. So that's just my two cents. I'm— we're trying to figure out everything we can do.

**Brian Cecola [00:27:37]:**

Thank you. Good. Okay, we will— no, we'll close public comment then, and we will, we will go on to our— you're all more than welcome to listen to board. You don't want to...