# Utah Inland Port Authority Board 2026

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Utah Inland Port Authority Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 4, 2026 - 1:30 pm
Washington City Council Chambers
111 North 100 East
Washington City, UT 84780

---

**Board Members Present in Person:** Abby Osborne, Jerry Stevenson
**Board Members Present Electronically:** Jonathan Freedman, Jefferson Moss, Paul Cutler
**Non-Voting Board Members Present in Person:** none
**Non-Voting Board Members Present Electronically:** Victoria Petro, Joel Ferry
**Board Members Absent:** Bill Wyatt

**UIPA Staff:** Ben Hart, Ariane Gibson, Larry Shepherd, Amy Brown Coffin, Kaitlin Felsted, Jenna Draper, Carol Watson, Diana Gardner, Stephen Smith, Lindsay Pedersen, Stephanie Pack, Doug Pierce, Amy Chanthalyxay, Lori Haslem, Nick Archambault, Mona Smith, Danny Stewart, Sebastian Abril, Sam Steffensen, Michelle Bohnen, Alicia Eggleston, Nadine Stevens-Hendry

**Others in Attendance:** Michelle Ebben, Jeremy Redd, Brooke Larsen, Jordan Hess, Sam Harvey, Kurt Ivie, Adam Snow, Neil Walter, Todd Brightwell, Rusty Hughes, Mori Kessler, Colin Jack, Gary Greene, Don Bean, Brent Bills, Richard Holmes, Heidi Gunn, David Stirland, Lorene Cox, Jay Springer, Deeda Seed, Annette Armstrong, Allison Barton, Jackie Baker, Joan Gregory, David Bennett, Boyd Davis, Jen Hart, Heather Dove, Kent Andersen, Brandi O'Brien, Paul Helms, Tussy King, Jared Stewart, Lenna Wilcox, Ryan Sullivan, Adrian Harvell, Jonny Vasic, Mark Nord, Brandy Grace, Steve Erickson, Eric Tholen

1. **Welcome**
   Board Chair Osborne welcomed the board members, staff and public to this Utah Inland Port Authority Board Meeting.

2. **Approval of Minutes, June 25, 2026 Board Meeting**
   Board Member Cutler moved to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2026 board meeting.

Board member Freedman seconded the motion.
The motion was approved unanimously by all board members present.

3. **Open & Public Meetings Act Training**
   Paul Helms, an attorney with Michael Best, provided the annual training for the UIPA Board on the Open & Public Meetings Act. His presentation included the following requirements: meetings are to be open, records created are public, proper notices are required for all meetings, closed meetings must meet proper purposes, and caution should be exercised in all board member communications so that the deliberation of all board actions is done in public.

4. **Executive Director Report**
   Executive Director Ben Hart provided an executive director report. He thanked Washington City for their gracious welcome and noted that over four years ago, Washington County was the first local body that invited the Utah Inland Port Authority to establish a project area.

   He mentioned a letter received from concerned citizens concerning the Great Salt Lake. He thanked the letter's author and 1,163 signatories for their input on how the port can contribute to responsible development around the lake. UIPA has for the last three months been working on an expanded natural resources policy and all feedback on that policy is welcomed. Many of the topics addressed in the letter are included in the draft policy.

   Amy Brown Coffin, Chief Risk & Compliance Officer, presented the annual review of UIPA sponsored Public Infrastructure Districts. She shared the location of these PIDs, their date of approval, the composition of their boards of trustees, the bonds issued, and the active revenue sources for the repayment of any bonds. She reviewed the accomplishments, compliance, and transparency of each of the PIDs. She completed the presentation by sharing a list of the reports and other documents and items required for these PIDs to be fully compliant.

   Jenna Draper, Associate Vice President of Regional Project Area Development, provided an update on activities in the Castle Country Project Area in Carbon and Emery Counties. In Emery County, Valar Atomics recently went operational with a test reactor, the first microreactor to go critical outside of a national testing lab. Valar's operations will be expanding into the Castle Country project area. In Green River, an agreement was signed for a test well to explore lithium extraction. This $500 million test project within the UIPA project area will employ 300-500 during the construction phase and an ongoing staff of 80-160 people. In a community of 800 people, this is a significant economic win. In Carbon County, just outside of Price, Savage is building a new rail terminal to move goods and energy products. This $20 million investment will create about 40 local jobs.

5. **Presentation: Resolution 2026-39 Utah Association of Counties Agreement**
   Ben Hart discussed an agreement with the Utah Association of Counties. Many of the processes that make UIPA successful happen at the county level, including tax increment, property tax assessments, and parcel document recordings. Under the agreement, UAC will provide technical

assistance in the counties, particularly smaller counties where the requirements of the port's processes are burdensome to their small staff. This coordination with UAC also supports the legislated transparency requirements from SB206.
Brandy Grace, Chief Executive Officer of the Association of Counties, expressed that UIPA is a wonderful economic development tool and spoke of the additional property tax administrative responsibilities that UIPA project areas can generate and how UAC can assist with those processes.

6. **Policy Updates**
   Amy Brown Coffin and Mona Smith, Environment & Sustainability Director, presented the following policies for review:

   The first two policies, BP-01 - Open & Public Meetings and BP-03 - Communications & Media Policy are up for their annual review and since no revisions to those policies have been proposed, no board action is needed on them in this meeting.

   Revising and drafting of BP-17 - Natural Resources is ongoing. Mona Smith discussed the effort to expand this policy beyond its initial focus on wetlands, incorporating three new pillars of Dark Skies, Water Conservation, and Low and Zero Emissions Buildings.These additions strengthen UIPA's commitment to sustainable development within project areas, providing a framework of standards and best practices within these key pillars. Where communities designate these standards within their project areas, stakeholders interested in benefitting from UIPA funding would need to abide by the standards and best practices. The dark sky standards aim to reduce light pollution in residential, ecological, and migratory bird areas. Water conservation standards aim to improve water budgeting, building and landscape efficiency, as well as overall watershed resiliency. Building emissions standards tackles building-related emissions to improve regional air quality.

7. **Presentation: Island View Project Area Creation**
   Stephanie Pack, Associate Vice President of Regional Project Area Development, introduced the proposed Island View Project Area. West Point City passed a resolution in August of 2024 inviting UIPA to consider a project area in their city. The current proposal is to create a 40 acre project area within existing industrial zoning with plans for future project areas west of West Point in partnership with Davis County. The location is where SR177 (West Davis Corridor) will terminate at 1800 North. The island view project area directly aligns with the statutory goals and objectives to be considered as an inland port project area. There is a need to effectuate a public purpose, there is a public benefit to the proposed development of the project. It is economically sound and feasible to adopt and carry out the project area plan, and carrying out this project area plan will promote the goals stated by statute.

   Boyd Davis, City Engineer - West Point City, said the project area represents a significant economic development opportunity for the city. He spoke of the transformational nature of the new highway that will open by 2028. He thanked UIPA and other partners and expressed the city's enthusiasm for the project area.

Kent Andersen, Economic Development and Community Development Director - Davis County, thanked UIPA and other partners for their support of this project. He noted the strategic nature of the site's location and transportation opportunities and its suitability as a job center for the area.

Targeted industries for the project area include light industrial, advanced manufacturing, aerospace and defense, life sciences, and other industries that create primary jobs.
This presentation is informational only. Consideration of the adoption of this project area will occur at a future UIPA Board Meeting.

8. **Presentation: Resolution 2026-40 Creation of Greater Washington Project Area Plan & Budget**
   Danny Stewart, Associate Vice President of Regional Project Area Development, provided a presentation on the plan for the Greater Washington Project Area in Washington County. This new project area will initially include the 320-acre Phase 1 of the Sunrise Valley Industrial Park near the Washington County Landfill where some buildings are already operating and other construction is underway. He thanked Mayor Kress Staheli and members of the city council as well as Rusty Hughes, the city's economic development director.

   The creation of the Greater Washington project area will help address the City's pressing need for the development of the Purgatory Road project. This is a planned major transportation corridor that will connect this industrial area and the county landfill to Utah State Route 9 and State Route 7, and will take heavy industrial traffic and landfill traffic out of rapidly growing industrial areas and off the main streets of Washington City. Targeted industries for this project area include, advanced manufacturing, aerospace and defense, technology, life sciences, product manufacturing, corporate headquarters, and other industries that create primary jobs and diversify the local economy.

9. **Public Comment**
   Board Chair Osborne opened up the public comment period.

   David Sterling, Board President for the Washington County School District shared the district's opposition to the proposal by Washington City to establish the Greater Washington Inland Port Project Area. He expressed concerns over the potential loss of tax revenue to the school district and the possible future need for the district to raise taxes.

   Allison Barton, asked the board to vote against supporting project areas in Washington or Davis counties to protect against air, noise, and water pollution.

   UIPA Executive Director Ben Hart addressed the school district representatives and thanked them for coming to express their concerns. He expressed the port's willingness to enter into an agreement with the district to help allay its concerns about future tax revenues.

10. **Approval of Resolution 2026-39 Utah Association of Counties Agreement**
    Board member Stevenson moved that the Utah Inland Port Authority Board adopt Resolution 2026-39, the Utah Association of Counties Agreement.

Board member Cutler seconded the motion.
The motion passed with a unanimous vote of all board members present. (Jonathan Freedman was not present for this vote)

11. **Policy Updates**
    As the board proposed no updates to the policies reviewed in this meeting, no vote was needed.

12. **Approval of Resolution 2026-40 Creation of Greater Washington Project Area Plan & Budget**
    Board member Cutler moved that the Utah Inland Port Authority Board adopt Resolution 2026-40, a Resolution of the Utah Inland Port Authority Board Adopting the Greater Washington Inland Port Project Area Plan.

    Discussion: Board Member Cutler asked if there were dissenting votes among local officials to their resolutions in support of the Greater Washington Project Area. Washington County adopted a resolution in 2022 and Washington City adopted a resolution in June of this year. There were no dissenting votes from the city council. Board Member Cutler asked Ben Hart to discuss the implementation of an agreement with the school district. Ben stated that UIPA will never do anything in an area that the local community does not support. He indicated a willingness to enter into an agreement to give the local entity assurances that UIPA will not act without local approval. He discussed the process for reaching an agreement and bringing it back to this board for its approval.

    Board Member Stevenson spoke to the taxes raised from industrial development and the relatively low financial impact this activity has on school districts because unlike housing development it does not directly lead to new students to be educated.

    Board Member Petro spoke of growth in her city council district of Salt Lake City that creates additional needs for services. She described the need for policymakers to do a cost-benefit analysis regarding growth and decide if it is best for their communities. She recognized that some of the difficult decisions are choosing between whether we can educate children now or have jobs for them in the future. She thanked the school board members for coming and drawing attention to the challenges they face.

    Board member Stevenson seconded the motion.
    The motion passed with a unanimous vote of all board members present. (Jonathan Freedman was not present for this vote)

13. **Closed Session**
    At 2:53 pm the board voted to move into a closed session meeting held at the Washington City Council Chambers, 111 North 100 East, Washington City, UT 84780, and via electronic meeting, for the purpose of a “strategy session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property” as allowed and described in Section 52-4-204 of Utah Code and sections 52-4-205 of the Open and Public meetings act. Board member Stevenson made a motion to move into closed session. Board member Moss seconded the motion.

Vote:

Jefferson Moss - yes
Jerry Stevenson - yes
Paul Cutler - yes
Abby Osborne - yes
Jonathan Freedman - absent

The closed session ended at 3:14 pm.

14. **Adjourn**
Board Chair Osborne adjourned the meeting.

_____
Board Chair Abby Osborne

**Written Public Comments submitted during and after the meeting:**

**Deeda Seed - Salt Lake City - August 3, 2026**

Letter to the Utah Inland Port Authority Board of Directors
Data Center Development in the Great Salt Lake Basin

Dear Members of the Utah Inland Port Authority Board,

We write as Utahns who care about the future of the Great Salt Lake — its wetlands, its wildlife, its water, and the health of the millions of people who live in the region.

Over the past year, the Utah Inland Port Authority has become directly entangled in some of the most consequential development decisions facing the lake. The Tooele Valley Public Infrastructure District (TVPID) project — which includes a 500-megawatt data center, a truck stop, and a wastewater discharge permit that would send up to 260,000 gallons of concentrated brine per day into wetlands feeding Gilbert Bay — depends on UIPA's financing tools to move forward. So do other project areas across the state that either already host or could someday host similar water- and power-intensive computing facilities.

In June, UIPA stated publicly that it "prioritizes protection of the Great Salt Lake, is not actively recruiting data centers, and does not offer incentives for data centers." We take that statement seriously, and we want to see it made real. But the record so far raises a hard question: the TVPID developer, Chuck Akerlow, has told reporters his project "wouldn't be possible without the incentives and financing provided by the port authority." If UIPA's own financing is what makes a data-center-anchored project viable, then a policy that only withholds a direct per-project rebate — while still supplying the tax differential, Public Infrastructure District sponsorship, and Authority Infrastructure Bank loans that make the surrounding project area work — is a distinction without a difference to the lake, the aquifer, and the communities living nearby.

UIPA does not have zoning authority, and we are not asking the Board to attempt something outside its legal power. What UIPA does have is real financial leverage — the same tools already used, in project area plans across the state, to exclude other categories of development the Board has decided are not a good fit for a given area. We are asking the Board to use those same tools, deliberately and in writing, to protect the Great Salt Lake basin.

We call on the UIPA Board to:

- Adopt a binding, board-approved policy — not just a public statement — that UIPA will not sponsor a Public Infrastructure District, approve a project area plan, or grant an Authority Infrastructure Bank loan for any project area where a data center, server farm, or similar advanced computing facility is a stated or reasonably foreseeable anchor use, anywhere within the Great Salt Lake basin.
- Apply this exclusion basin-wide and prospectively, so that every future Great Salt Lake basin project area plan carries the same restriction that other UIPA plans already apply to high-water-use or speculative development — rather than leaving the question to case-by-case discretion.
- Make wetland-mitigation funding commitments mandatory, not optional, for any Great Salt Lake basin project area, with the percentage of tax differential directed to wetland protection scaled to the water intensity of the proposed development.
- Require full disclosure of water use, cooling technology, energy consumption, source of energy, and whether its electricity will come from the grid, before a project area plan is adopted — including whether a facility will use evaporative or closed-loop cooling, projected daily water withdrawal, and expected wastewater composition, including what chemicals will be used in the water of the cooling system — rather than allowing these details to surface only later, in a separate state discharge permit process, after UIPA's financing decisions are already made.
- Commit that the Board's statutory five-year review of project area differentials will trigger a mandatory reassessment of incentive eligibility and infrastructure support whenever a project area's actual development diverges from what was represented at adoption — closing the door on "logistics hub" project areas that, in practice, become data center campuses.
- Require full beneficial-ownership disclosure for project area applicants, so the public can know who is actually building what on land that benefits from public financing tools, and so that claims about which parcels do or do not receive UIPA support can be independently verified.
- Formally align Great Salt Lake basin project area review with Governor Cox's May 2026 executive order prioritizing the lake, air quality, water quality, and transparency in data center decisions — adopting it as binding review criteria for the Board's own financing decisions, not leaving it to state permitting agencies alone.

- AI data centers are well known to be epicenters of electronic waste, including many components that are sources of PFAS chemicals. How this toxic waste will be managed must be established before construction permits are issued.

The Great Salt Lake is not a resource Utah can afford to gamble on the hope that voluntary statements will hold. We ask the Board to put its policy in writing, apply it consistently, and use the financial tools already at its disposal to make sure that "we don't recruit data centers" is a commitment the public can hold you to — not just a line in a press release.

We respectfully request a response from the Board, and we ask that this letter and the accompanying signatures be entered into the public record at the Board's next meeting.

Sincerely,
The undersigned (1163 signatories)

**Kimberly Kronwall - Bountiful, UT - 8/28/2026**
NO public financing for a Tooele County data center next to GSL
I am issuing a public comment to ask the Utah Inland Port Authority (UIPA) Board to end its financial support for the UIPA-sponsored Interstate Technology Park Public Infrastructure District (PID). The financing structure behind a massive data center development threatens our water, our air, and our tax dollars.

The Tooele Valley groundwater basin has been legally closed to new water rights since 1996. Multiple residents are sharing that their wells are dropping and turning brackish. This project would add a big new industrial water user on top of that which threatens the livelihood and wellbeing of Tooele Valley residents.

Moreover, the developer says he's already paid $11 million toward a private gas pipeline — with construction just beginning as of this summer — and separately signed a letter of intent for on-site nuclear reactors. None of this has been independently verified or presented to the public making the project unsustainable and a threat to public safety.

In a huge conflict of interest, the board overseeing this project is made up of the developer and his own business partners — the people responsible for reviewing the project's own financing requests are the same people asking for the money. Taxpayers should not be responsible for supporting cronyism.

Finally, the urgency driving this project rests on an unconfirmed "major national hyperscaler" the developer has named but never substantiated. Without transparency, tax payer money will be uselessly wasted in direct violation of the Governor's GRIT initiative.

Please stop ALL public financing for this project.

**Bethany Beefelt - 8/28/2026**
Tooele data center project

Please reconsider funding this project. Utah's fragile environment can't take the demand of that data centers require and the public shouldn't be asked to fund a project that will affect so many more negatively then it will benefit. Data centers on the salt lake are bad for the long term health of the state at large as the threat of drying lake bed kicking toxic dust in the air is a problem that affect everyone who lives in the state. If data centers are really heavily needed in Utah specifically look into ways they can be powered and cooled sustainably. Using electric cooling and having it powered by Solar energy could be a possibility considering how sunny Utah typically is. Plans that data centers use in other states simply won't work here with our unique environmental needs.

**Cat McQueen - Salt Lake City - 8/28/2026**
Data center
The local, national and international value of Great Salt Lake, its open water, islands, associated wetlands, playas, mudflats and uplands provide critical habitat for over 10 million migratory birds, represented by nearly 338 different avian species. These birds rely on the Lake and its critical food sources such as brine shrimp, brine flies, and aquatic vegetation while they rest, stage and nest during their migratory journey.
In a year and a period of historic drought it is irresponsible to be even considering a data center. Not only will the data center itself use significant water—more than has been proposed—but the power generation will require significant water resources.
In a state where we are facing water shortages, historic lake and reservoir lows, and toxic dust in the air due to the great salt lake drying out, it's not only irresponsible but it is dangerous to consider this proposal. The danger to humans, animal life, and the environment cannot be overstated.

**Julie Biner - Park City - 8//28/2026**
Data Center in Toole
Another Data Center is not wanted in Toole next to the GSL. We do not want to fund for any of this with the publics money. We do not need a gas powered polluting tech center, using our resources and water. Please stop this Data Center!!!!

**Annalisa Gregory - Salt Lake County - 8/28/2026**
Please end support Interstate Technology Park Public Infrastructure District
Hi UIPA,
My name is Annalisa Gregory and I am a long time resident of the Salt Lake Valley. Please end your financial support for the Interstate Technology Park Public Infrastructure District. I understand your mission and important look at sustainability and unfortunately I believe that this district will do more harm than good to our already struggling water reservoir and air quality. I am happy to talk more if you have any questions about my concerns.

**Adryon Burton Denmark - Salt Lake City - 8/28/2026**
Please do not support PID data center!
I am writing to ask you to discontinue financial support for the data center project - we are already experiencing a massive water shortage and it is not possible that this project would not dramatically worsen that. Public money should not be spent to enrich private citizens at the cost of public health. This project will worsen air quality and drought - PLEASE STOP SUPPORT FOR THIS! Thank you.

**Emily Hamilton - Tooele - 8/28/2026**
Protect Tooele: Our Water, Our Tax Dollars, Our Future
I strongly oppose large-scale data centers in Tooele County unless developers prove—before approval—that they will not threaten our water, air, infrastructure, wildlife, the Great Salt Lake, or taxpayers.

Utah is one of the driest states in the nation, and the Great Salt Lake is already in crisis. Data centers can consume enormous amounts of water and electricity, while adding pressure to roads, utilities, air quality, and emergency services.

Before approving any project, county leaders must disclose exactly how much water and power it will use, where those resources will come from, how drought will be handled, and who will pay for all required infrastructure. Residents should not subsidize billion-dollar corporations through higher taxes, utility bills, or depleted natural resources.

Private profits must not come at public expense. Developers should pay their full costs, protect existing water users, and prove that their projects will not worsen air pollution, harm wildlife, or further endanger the Great Salt Lake.

Tooele County needs responsible growth—not industrial expansion that shifts environmental and financial risks onto residents.

Put Tooele residents first. Protect our water, air, infrastructure, and the Great Salt Lake. Say no to data centers that cannot prove they will benefit—not burden—our community.

Respectfully,

A Concerned Tooele County Resident

**Carrie Magdalena Sharp - Providence, UT - 8/28/26**
Pause data centers
We live in a desert. We don't have a lot of water. Please stop sending our water to data centers. We need to have real standards and transparency.

**Natalie Avery - Salt Lake City - 8/28/2026**
The UIPA Tooele Valley Project Area
I  am very worried about the rapid expansion of data centers while the environment is changing to hotter climates and fewer storms. This is madness. Slow down and study the affects before rushing to make decisions that have the ability to create extreme consequences for the people and ecology that depend on water to survive. Enough!

**Capree Austin - Tremonton - 8/28/2026**
STOP Funding the UIPA-sponsored Interstate Technology Park PID
Continued funding of this massive data center project puts our water, our air, and our taxpayer dollars at risk. We call on the Board to stop funding this development and invest in projects that better reflect

the values and needs of our community. Please prioritize the long-term health, sustainability, and interests of the Tooele Valley community. We are ALL AFFECTED which is why I urge a stop of funding!

**Janice Gardner - Salt Lake City - 8/28/2026**
Stop funding the Tooele County Data Center with Tax Payer Dollars
Dear UIPA,
I am very concerned about data center development in Utah. Specifically, I do not think tax-payers (me) should be footing the bill for these private, corporate projects. These projects bring more harm to our community than benefit. I am also concerned about water rights. For example, I understand the Tooele Valley groundwater basin has been legally closed to new water rights since 1996. There is not sufficient information to demonstrate that the Basin support another major industrial water user, without harming the existing community's access to water and health of the nearby Great Salt Lake.
Thank you,

**Janiece Pompa - Salt Lake City - 8/28/2026**
Tooele County Data Center
This is to add my name to the many Utah citizens who oppose the proposed Tooele County Data Center. As you know, over $234 million in combined public financing is involved in this project. Is it not true that the Tooele Valley groundwater basin has been legally closed to new water rights since 1996? It's been reported that residents who do have water rights are reporting that their wells are dropping and turning brackish. Despite this, the developer reports that he has already paid $11 million toward a private gas pipeline and has separately signed a letter of intent for on-site nuclear reactors, none of which has been independently verified or presented to the public. For these reasons and more, I oppose this project.
The board overseeing this project is made up of the developer and his own business partners — the people responsible for reviewing the project's own financing requests are the same people asking for the money.
The urgency driving this project rests on an unconfirmed "major national hyperscaler" the developer has named but never substantiated.

**Diane Doyle - Ogden - 8/28/2026**
Item 10-the Toole Data Center
This project benefits a handful of greedy rich while hurting the rest of Utah. We must stop any further encroachment on the Great Salt Lake if Utshns want a future.
Not only should there be no public funding, the data center should not be allowed at all.

**Abby Elkins - Ogden - 8/28/2026**
Please please please do not allow a data center to be built in Tooele
I live in Ogden, UT, but I would respectfully and avidly beg the leaders of the area of Tooele to not approve or allow the proposed data center. As a residents of Utah, this decision impacts us all, and the public should not only have a say but be the deciding factor. Data centers create 24/7 artificial sunlight and emit an extremely irritating constant noise and harmful frequencies. Studies have not been conducted on the true effect that data centers have, on humans living in the area, on wildlife, and on the volume of pollution expelled, but studies must be completed by third parties before allowing such a massive and detrimental industrial project to go forward. Utah has been experiencing the highest heat on record since record keeping began in the late 1800s, a major environmental issue that should not be ignored. Data centers produce immense levels of heat, both in elevated thermal temperatures of water

returned to natural bodies of waters that should never be that hot, and in massive city-like buildings that generate waves of heat that bake the surrounding area, eliminating the natural landscape that cools itself. I strongly oppose ANY data centers in Utah, and nationwide. Already we have seen immense jumps in the costs of electricity for the average resident of America that we did not agree to pay. Please do not put any data centers on federal land. Data centers only benefit the government for illegal surveillance of the people and predictions that are not reliable, while harming the ecosystems and residents in the nearby area and beyond. This is not even to mention the disgustingly immense levels of air and water pollution in larger levels than we've ever seen, lack of investigation into long term impact on people and environments, and extremely wasteful use of fossil fuels and resources. Residents should not have to deal with the consequences of the choices of the politicians based on money. Little to no studies have been done on the impact of AI data centers to humans, habitats, and wildlife, and we must take these things into consideration. The disturbance that data centers cause would impact mental health and physical health for people, possibly fatal long term, and disrupt breeding and hunting cycles for animals, fish, and birds. For example, if cows nearby to data centers do not produce milk or breed, our entire modern food system would crumble with the crash of one species. Unfortunately in areas where data centers have already been built, they are already running into these sorts of terrifying problems, but we can outlaw them forever so we don't encounter the same detrimental issues. Data centers also affect liveability in the area, making property values go down and driving both people and animals out. We must protect our water, air, and soil quality, in turn saving the species with which we are so deeply interconnected to, from the smallest bee to the biggest bear, and the smallest sprout to the tallest tree. We must not continue to build industrially in a desert that cannot sustain endless growth without environmental considerations and protections in place. AI is not at all worth the environmental cost we will pay for it. I am not the only one who doesn't want data centers or artificial intelligence, and Utah has been very clear about its peoples' views on AI, so I would beg you to listen to the people. No data centers, and no related gas pipelines! Pass an immediate data center moratorium and hold third party evaluations to see what impacts the existing data centers in other places have had, environmentally and for wildlife and humanity's health. Hold industrial buildings and companies accountable for water and air pollution, protect our water resources, and protect our lives and wildlife's lives. Thank you.

**Lauren Danielson - Bountiful - 8/28/2026**
Hello! As a lifelong Utah who is deeply concerned about our water and air, I am writing to urge you to please do not move forward with this data center. The public DOES NOT want to be funding this. These water rights SHOULD NOT be given! We cannot continue to prioritize profit over the quality of life here in this beautiful state.

**Elizabeth Dooling Timmings - Salt Lake City - 8/28/2026**
We don't want data centers
We don't want data centers. Our lives are on the line. Please stop all public funding.

**Jamie McFarland - Ogden - 8/28/2026**
End financial support for the Data center campus
I'm asking you to end the financial support for the UIPA sponsored interstate technology Park public infrastructure district. I'm concerned about keeping our quality of air and water. No project board should be made up from the same people that stand to benefit from this being built. Have independent oversight from community members!

**Laura Pennock - Bountiful - 8/28/2026**
Interstate Technology Park
The board overseeing this technology park consists of the developer and his business partners. This sort of closed loop of developer and oversight boards is really troubling. They are asking for public resources of water, power, and dollars. I don't live directly in this community, but these projects have impacts far beyond their physical footprint and way these builds -- data centers, the inland port, nuclear facilities, and the like -- are being approved and the places they are being built, is damaging to the entire state.

**Lorien Kuster - Salt Lake County - 8/29/2026**
Opposition to Public Financing for the Interstate Technology Park PID and Tooele
Dear Members of the Utah Inland Port Authority Board,
I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the UIPA Board's ongoing financial support and tax-increment financing for the Interstate Technology Park Public Infrastructure District (PID) in the Tooele Valley Project Area. Committing over $234 million in combined public financing—including $80 million in PID bonds, $54 million in UIPA TIF, and an additional $100 million reportedly being sought—for a speculative data center development is an unacceptable risk to Utah taxpayers and local natural resources.
This project raises severe environmental and fiscal concerns that demand immediate intervention from this board:
-Water Security: The Tooele Valley groundwater basin has been legally closed to new water rights since 1996, and local residents are already reporting dropping and brackish wells. Introducing a massive new industrial water user into an over-allocated and fragile basin threatens the long-term sustainability of the entire community.
-Unverified Infrastructure and Energy Claims: The developer's heavy investments, including a private gas pipeline and unverified letters of intent for on-site nuclear reactors, have not been independently vetted or presented transparently to the public. Relying on an unsubstantiated "major national hyperscaler" does not justify extending millions in public backing.
-Severe Conflicts of Interest: The oversight structure of this project—where the developer and his business partners sit on the board reviewing their own financing requests—undermines public trust and lacks essential accountability.
Public dollars should be invested in sustainable communities and protecting our most vital resources, not underwriting speculative infrastructure for private developers. I urge the UIPA Board to immediately end its financial support and tax backing for the Tooele Valley PID and the associated data center campus.
Sincerely,
Lorien K

**Katherine Yi - Sandy, UT - 8/29/2026**
No Data Center in Tooele Valley!
Please we cannot have a data center so close to the dying Great Lake and absolutely not use any tax dollars to something that will be a burden on all resources. Why would we want something that benefits so little yet harms wildlife, humans, water, and drives up the utilities for everyone? The blatant greed of a few at the cost of everyone else has to stop!

**Kathleen Hackwell - Magna - 8/30/2026**
Development near the Great Salt Lake

With our resources depleting on a daily basis, and the lake shrinking more and more every year, it is ridiculous to approve ANY business near its shores that will have an impact on the lake. It is time for this group to preserve instead of destroy.

**Clay Essig - Logan - 8/31/2026**
Stop the Interstate Technology Park Public Infrastructure District (PID)
PLEASE stop all your support, approval, funding and sponsorship of the horribly destructive Interstate Technology Park Public Infrastructure District (PID) which absolutely will cause further damage to the Great Salt Lake and therefore the air we all breathe and harm our rapidly deteriorating local environment. This project will benefit a very, very few people (the already wealthy) and harm nearly all Utahns and degrade the quality of life of our kids for generations to come. Do the right thing and STOP this greedy, selfish and environmentally destructive project.