

June 14, 2019

Public Comment: CyrusOne Data Center, Quincy, WA

Thank you for providing this opportunity for the public to comment on data center construction in Quincy, WA.

My name is Danna Dal Porto, 16651 Road 3 NW, Quincy, WA. I am a regular attendee of these data center development meetings, not because I dislike technology or that I dislike industry but I am here as a 39 year Quincy resident concerned about my community. I want to learn about developments that emit hazardous material into the air we breathe. From my house in the country I can see the pink cloud of diesel over town during one of the frequent weather inversions. The diesel cloud is over Quincy because of polluting industry, permitted by the Washington State Department of Ecology to build in this valley, and that diesel cloud negatively affects all people's health that live and work here.

As stated on page 3 of the CyrusOne Health Impact Assessment Review (HIA), two toxic air pollutants exceed the ASIL in the proposed CyrusOne facility: diesel particulates and NO<sub>2</sub>. I always find it instructive that Ecology continues to blame elevated diesel particles in their studies in Quincy on the "locomotives". This irritates me because the trains have been going through Quincy for many years and Ecology is allowing diesel particulate from industry to be added to the already elevated diesel numbers. Ecology's job is to monitor diesel, no matter the source. Ecology needs to focus on the total effect of diesel on the public, no matter the source.

Returning to the HIA, Ecology reports that approximately 3,500 people live in an area in which DEEP exceeds the ASIL. And, NO<sub>2</sub> exceeds the ASIL at 71 residential parcels affecting 200 residents. Please note that the number of residents affected by NO<sub>2</sub> is based on numbers provided by Ecology from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2010. Those 3,700 people represent almost 50% (49.26%) of the total population of Quincy. When I called to ask today, the Quincy City Hall lists the population of Quincy at 7,510 people tabulated in 2018. According to the CyrusOne HIA, toxic air affects all the children at Mountain View School (462 children K-3), Monument School (612 children 4-7), Quincy Valley School (73 children K-8) as well as the Quincy Valley Medical Center. The health of everyone in between is affected as well. The 3,700 people affected in this HIA are just from the modeling for just a single data center, CyrusOne. Quincy has many, many, many data centers with a cloud of toxic material over the entire city.

Ecology has taught me that air quality in Seattle can be very bad. I suspect that if 50% of the people in Seattle were affected by a permitted industry to spill toxic air over the city, Seattle residents would be pretty unhappy. An important point to make is that most of these Quincy people are low-income, minority citizens. This is an example of environmental injustice and I am very sad that my State is allowing and permitting this toxic air to accumulate over the residents of Quincy.

I hear these sad toxic air emission numbers at every Ecology permitting meeting but Ecology continues to say that everything is “OK” and Ecology almost seems to welcome more industry to locate here. It bothers me.

I have a specific complaint about the language in the CyrusOne HIA. In the 10 plus years I have been following and learning about air quality issues, I have become familiar with several of the terms and their acronyms. I understand ASIL, DEEP, NO2 and others. Specific segments of the CyrusOne HIA contained many new benchmarks and terms to discuss air quality. I have never seen or worked with CEHHA, RfC, REL, URF or AEGLS. This is pretty technical language easily understood by Ecology and industry but not easy for me to read or understand. No data was readily available to compare or contrast these terms or to compare or contrast the data in these charts. My understanding is that the responsibility of Ecology is to make presentations in a manner easily understood by the public. I will concede that air quality and the rules surrounding the permitting of data centers is very technical stuff. However, adding to or drastically changing the language of documents as has happened in the CyrusOne HIA is a very wide stretch for most of the public, certainly for me. I was not impressed with this insider jargon and I request that common terms be used for data permitting documents so the permits can be understood by regular citizens.

I am requesting a map of DEEP and NO2 emissions that goes over all sections of Quincy. The maps presented in the CyrusOne meeting were limited to the west side of town. I want maps covering the entire community, East to West. I want all schools identified (including the Quincy Valley School and the new high school), the Senior Center, the two medical facilities and Quincy City Hall.

There was a large map on display at the CyrusOne public hearing that identified all the data centers and the number of diesel generators at each facility. I want a copy of that map.

Ecology has had an air monitoring unit located in Quincy. I want the results from that unit. I have requested information on that monitor in the past with no results. I want to know how to interpret that information on the report. During the high smoke days from wildfires, I want to be able to check on air quality.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

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