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This area has been covered in wildfire smoke almost entire summer now. The smell of smoke, breathing problems, and the news alerts of fires threatening communities now dominates our daily routines. Have you heard of the recent devastating wildfires? Did you know the winds can carry smoldering embers up to 4 miles away that fly over rivers, roads, and lakes - what happened in Spokane, LA Palisades fires, Lahaina fires on Maui in Hawaii - the list goes on and on. The ongoing Little Giant Fire that burnt over 140,000 acres is less than 100 miles from those datacenters and is only 12% contained. Snowpack at historic lows and the drought has no end in sight. And the heat from super El Nino will hit us all even harder next year. This is a serious crisis we are dealing with.

Overburdened communities like that should result in stronger protections. If Sabey needs backup power, Sabey should bear the full cost of providing it cleanly via battery storage, not externalize those costs onto the community.

According to Ecology's own website: "Diesel exhaust is the most harmful air pollutant in Washington. It contributes two-thirds of the total cancer risk from toxic air pollution. Diesel exhaust causes or contributes to asthma, heart and lung diseases, and cancer."

Datacenters in WA state have received billions in tax breaks from legislators while destroying countless natural habitats around the country and increasing toxic and climate emissions by huge amounts, diverting electricity, water, and sending consumer prices soaring. Unsurprisingly, there's now a bipartisan backlash against AI datacenters all over the country.

The richest 10% in the world are responsible for over 50% global GHG emissions. The richest 1% produce twice as much emissions as the poorest 50%. And rather than making polluters pay and holding them accountable, stopping the fossil fuel emissions at their source, and forcing them to transition to clean renewables, WA Ecology's inaction is quietly helping them to continue destroy the only habitable planet we all have!

Do NOT approve the permit. Prevent the AI hasslers from re-applying again and again by requiring cumulative-impact assessment, strong health protections, analysis, and a more in-depth monitoring and scrutiny of all their existing facilities in our state. The unsustainable, harmful AI ponzi scheme has no benefit to our local communities and will leave unpleasant scars on the Washington state ecologic and economic landscapes after the AI hype bubble bursts.