

Cathy O'Neill

I was born and raised in southern NM. I'm also a soil scientist who worked for USDA in Las Cruces in the '90s. We didn't have enough water for pecan trees and keeping aquatic animals in the Rio Grande THEN. A data center is the last thing a desert needs in the year 2026, when water shortages have only grown more dire. There's no justification for this kind of capitalistic, extractive nonsense. My entire extended family still lives in southern New Mexico and will be adversely affected by data centers. Whatever pros there might be are irrelevant when you look at the cons which include destroying our one natural resource that is already over-exploited and headed toward extinction if the system doesn't change immediately. The people who have lived there for millennia will be forced to evacuate or die, rendering those data centers and their meager jobs completely moot. And I haven't even touched on the subject of air!