

2026 Portland Monitor

A Green Mill Press Publication

“There Must Be Some Way Out Of Here ...” Managing the National Data Center Nightmare

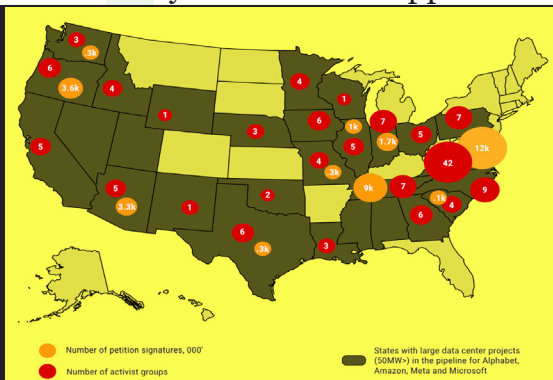
What to do, what to do...

As the American landscape continues to be ravaged by the building of colossal data centers owned and operated by rogue big tech at the expense of the residential power customers and the loss of environmental livability, communities are attempting to fight back.

If individuals living next to these facilities are fortunate enough to live in a community where their municipal officials are also against these damaging operations it is more likely that these data centers can be stopped. However there are too many instances of these local corrupt officials being bought off by the tech companies. These companies care only for profit and not about environmental damage and the crippling utility cost passed on to the local communities. These companies have additionally obtained outrageous property tax abatements and deleterious land use permits from corrupt local officials. If the courts do not rule in favor of the overrun community then residents must resort to resistant political action. It is vital for people in this position to realize that there have been successful efforts to stop the undermining of our democracy and to compare notes and strategies for stopping this juggernaut. Find here a roll call of people’s stories across the country engaged in various stages of this existential David vs Goliath struggle.

This is a collection of stories that are meant to be a resource if you are dealing with an existing data center or one soon to be built near you. These stories will no doubt infuriate you but also inspire you to organize and resist being bulldozed by multinational big tech which does not seem to care about water, air and noise pollution in the communities they are situated in.

DataCenterWatch.org reports that \$64 billion of data center projects have been blocked or delayed amid local opposition.



“I Live Next To Amazon’s Largest Data Center. They’re Stealing Our Water.”



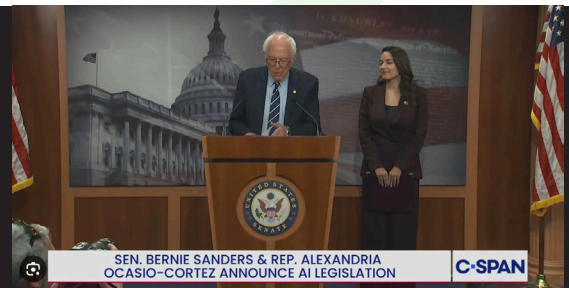
Watch on YouTube
youtu.be/jjkaYyysYhA

@moreperfectunion

Amazon is building their largest data center in Indiana. Neighbors say that the company is using up the drinking water they rely on.

This is just one of the data center fights unfolding across the state which is becoming the “data center alley” of the Midwest.

Americans Put Data Centers ON NOTICE



Watch on YouTube
youtube.com/watch?v=EQYEULINZJ8

@TheYoungTurks

Senator Bernie Sanders and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez are proposing a deal that would pause data center construction.

Through the Artificial Intelligence Data Center Moratorium Act, Sanders and Ocasio-Cortez are seeking a temporary federal halt on the construction or significant expansion of certain AI-oriented data centers while national rules are developed. The measure covers facilities used to train or operate AI models at scale if they draw more than 20 megawatts, use liquid cooling, and contain racks rated at 20 kilowatts or more.

(continued on page 2)

Data Centers = Environmental pollution, skyrocketing utility bills, and unprecedented political corruption of local officials...

Data centers strain water supply in Oregon town already facing pollution crisis

DATA CENTERS IN THE BOARDMAN AREA CAN USE OVER A **MILLION GALLONS** OF WATER IN A SINGLE MONTH

Source: Port of Morrow Facility Monitoring Reports

 Watch on YouTube
youtu.be/iC16NYMbQMA
@Fox12oregon

Data centers have proliferated across Oregon over the last 15 years, but their water usage is creating additional problems for communities.

Data center dilemma: Why money isn't winning over communities

 Watch on YouTube
youtu.be/zJz91ofk56E
@States_Newsroom

At least 37 states offer some sort of financial incentives to businesses building data centers. The incentives aren't just a drop in the bucket either. In Virginia, for instance, the state has notched up about \$1.6 billion (<https://stateline.org/2026/02/24/data...>) in data center tax breaks.

Public opposition is on the rise, however, and some states such as Virginia and Ohio are reconsidering whether to keep offering the financial breaks.

I Live 400 Yards From Mark Zuckerberg's Massive Data Center




 Watch on YouTube
youtu.be/DGjj7wDYaiI
@moreperfectunion

Demand for data centers is booming as AI tools become integrated into our daily life. Investments into data centers in the U.S. is expected to surpass \$1 trillion in the next five years. Data centers put extraordinary demand on the power grid and require entirely new infrastructure. We went to rural Georgia, the state with the fastest data center growth in the country, and spoke with residents who are living next to massive data centers owned by Meta and Blackstone and facing nonstop noise, pollution and rapidly rising electricity bills.

We Found the Hidden Cost of Data Centers. It's in Your Electric Bill...



 Watch on YouTube
youtu.be/YN6BEUA4jNU
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Data centers are driving up utility costs. As companies like Amazon and Meta pour billions into data centers across the country, it's raising electricity bills. While they're making record profits, the rest of us are forced to foot the bill.

Hillsboro City Council to mull on future of data centers amid resident resistance



 Watch on YouTube
youtu.be/vrRLccHQJbQ

@KGWNews8

After a work session to consider a "pause" on new data center construction in Hillsboro, the council called a special meeting. At least 37 states offer some sort of financial incentives to businesses building data centers. The incentives aren't just a drop in the bucket either. In Virginia, for instance, the state has notched up about \$1.6 billion in data center tax breaks.



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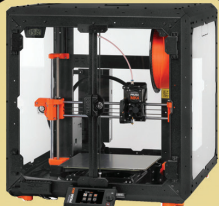
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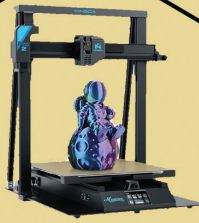
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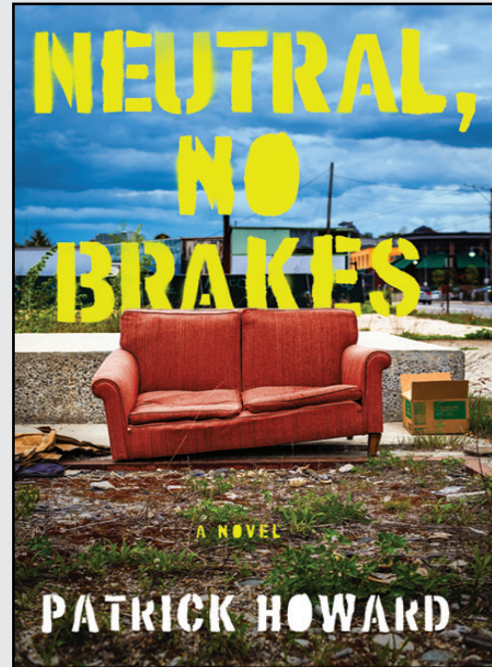
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All Kinds of Books & Everything Collectible...

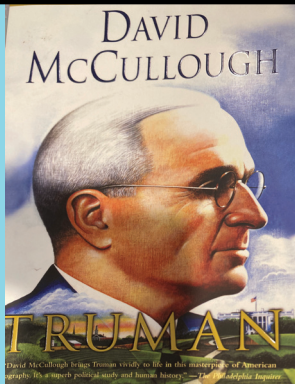
“An expansive, moving tale that illuminates the dangers of gentrification and the complexities of the human experience...”
- Kirkus Review



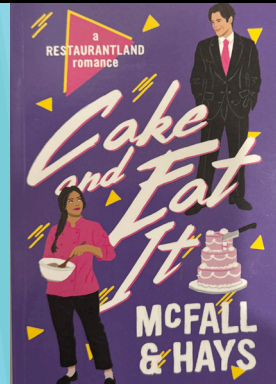
THE STORY OF A FADING TOWN, OVERCOME BY CORRUPT POLITICIANS AND BACKROOM DEALS, AND A COMMITTED BAND OF QUIRKY SOULS INTENT ON SAVING IT...



NEUTRAL, NO BRAKES PATRICK HOWARD



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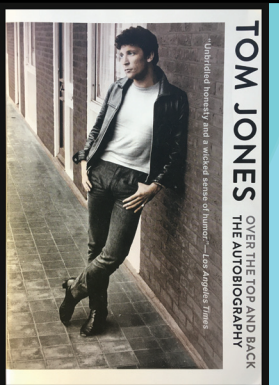
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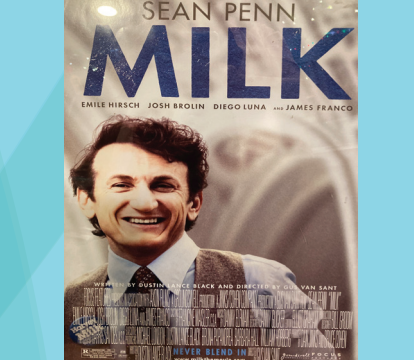
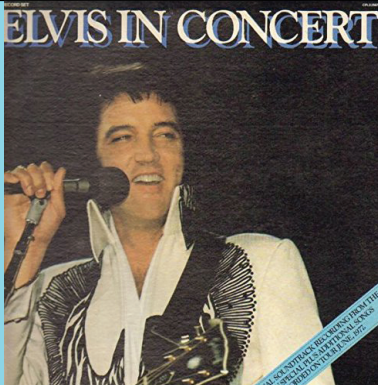
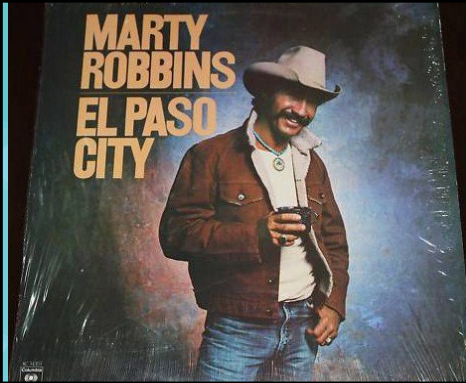
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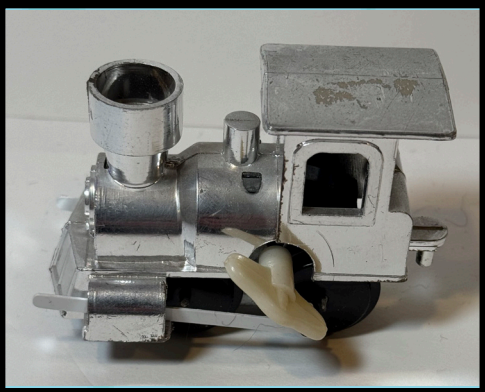
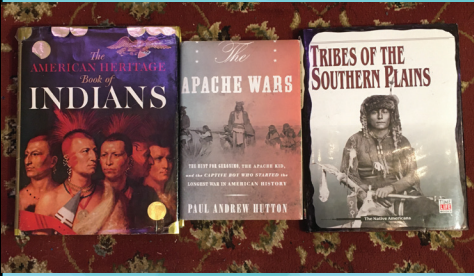
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Green Mill Properties Portland, Oregon

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Green Mill Properties PDX is offering two outstanding Commercial/Mixed-Use properties in the heart of Portland's most desirable neighborhoods: Multnomah Village and Sellwood. Both properties are outstanding investment or 1031 exchange opportunities. Please visit our WEBSITE and our YouTube CHANNEL for more details.

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Contact us with any questions you may have or to arrange a tour.

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