

San Angelo's Big Questions: Community Concerns Regarding the Proposed Data Center

An independent community information platform — not sponsored by government entities or corporations involved in this project.

The Project

A proposed 1.2 GW data center campus on ~350 acres in San Angelo, Texas. The facility would use closed-loop cooling technology and strict ordinances to minimize environmental impact while generating significant tax revenue.

Key Facts at a Glance

Water & Environment

- **Claim:** Project uses excessive water daily
- **Reality:** Closed-loop cooling requires only initial fill (~15 gal/sq ft) + 3% annual makeup
- **Daily Use:** Near zero in steady-state operation (vs. 1.5-9 million gallons for traditional cooling)
- **Monitor:** Annual water usage reports, maintenance refill frequency

Energy & Grid

- **Claim:** Power demand will strain the grid

- **Reality:** Customer funds project-specific upgrades; AEP tariff confirms developer responsibility
- **Capacity:** Up to 1.2 GW (575 MW Phase I + 625 MW Phase II)
- **Monitor:** ERCOT queue position, grid upgrade progress

Noise & Quality of Life

- **Claim:** $24/7$ jet engine hum will disrupt homes
- **Reality:** Draft ordinance caps sound at 55-60 dBA (quiet office level) with 200-foot residential setback
- **Comparison:** Equivalent to moderate rainfall or quiet office
- **Monitor:** Sound level compliance, buffer zone enforcement

Economic Impact

- **Claim:** Minimal permanent jobs despite massive resource use
- **Reality:** 3,000-5,000 construction jobs + ongoing operations; \$29B+ projected economic output
- **Tax Relief:** High revenue, low service demand (no new schools/roads needed)
- **Monitor:** Job creation tracking, tax revenue allocation

Transparency & Community Voice

- **Claim:** Closed meetings and NDAs prevent public access
 - **Reality:** Texas Public Information Act applies; city portal for public records; ordinances available
 - **Action:** File public records requests; attend city council meetings
 - **Monitor:** Disclosure timeline, meeting accessibility
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Community Perspectives

✓ Pro-Data Center

- Economic growth and tax relief for residents
- Responsible development with strict environmental controls
- Regional importance for AI/tech infrastructure
- **Join:** <https://c.org/RQMvVnkL9C>

⚠ Anti-Data Center

- Concerns about water depletion in drought-prone region
 - Environmental and noise impacts on quality of life
 - Abilene comparison: larger facilities caused local disruption
 - **Join:** <https://c.org/65KZ4RFpSB>
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What You Can Do

1. **Get Informed:** Visit SA1HUB.com for detailed concerns, sources, and fact-checking
 2. **Take the Quiz:** Test your knowledge on water, energy, noise, and economics
 3. **File Public Records Requests:** Access city documents and agreements
 4. **Attend City Council Meetings:** Voice your perspective on this important decision
 5. **Share This:** Distribute to neighbors and discuss as a community
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Key Resources

- **City Information:** Data Center Information Hub (San Angelo city website)
- **Utility Details:** AEP Texas tariffs and Q&A
- **Developer Materials:** Emergent Data Centers & Skybox Datacenters FAQs

- **Ordinances:** Draft water, sewer, and zoning ordinances (available via public records)
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The Bottom Line

San Angelo faces a significant decision. This project offers economic benefits but requires careful monitoring of environmental and quality-of-life impacts. Informed decisions, transparent leadership, and community engagement will shape San Angelo's future.

Learn more at: SA1HUB.com

This platform was created using AI tools hosted in data centers, based on publicly available information. All sources are documented and accessible.