

**Comments received November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

From: George Aiken  
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 9:14 AM  
Subject: Support for Local Law #7

I am a Tompkins County resident and would like to voice my support for the moratorium on large scale development in Lansing. I also have several concerns specifically about the proposed Terawulf data center:

1. The bullying tactics and misrepresentations of public figure conversations should not be tolerated and certainly not acquiesced to (see "10/30 Terawulf - 09/05/25 Email R. Groff and J. Young").
2. The public promises not to use lake water followed by DEC permit renewal for 1 MGD of flow indicate a divergence of intent from public relations (see NY DEC Application ID 7-5032-00019/00004).
3. Similar public promises of zero water use were made for the Barker, NY facility, however DEC filings show at least 1 MGD usage over the last five years (see "Terawulf is Claiming 'No Water Use' but the Data Says Otherwise" Anna Kelles, [ithaca.com](https://www.ithaca.com), 10/27/25).
4. The potential for up to 300 MW of power consumption on our local grid is quite significant and could require infrastructure upgrades and/or additional power generating capacity that residents across our region would have to bear in utility cost increases over time.

I am not opposed to redevelopment of the Miliken Station site, even as a data center, but would need to see these concerns adequately addressed in ways such as:

1. Legally binding contracts preventing any lake water use or, more importantly, discharge for the life of the station.
2. Onsite solar PV or other renewable power generation sufficient to offset all local usage, and requirement to increase onsite power generation for any expanses in consumption.

I believe the moratorium is necessary to provide the time to re-assess and streamline zoning laws and to clear up some of the inconsistencies and misrepresentations made by Terawulf and its affiliates regarding this particular project.

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**From:** Edward Cluett  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 5, 2025 9:29 AM  
**Subject:** Questions

It appears that a great deal of the information from both sides is exaggerated, incorrect or incomplete—the “check-is-in-the-mail” or “wishful thinking” variety.

Initial power is 50MW, moving to 138MW in a year or two, then 400MW over several years. The touted benefits appear to come from the 400MW version, however, the state has only approved 138MW according to existing documents. Savings on electricity, number of jobs, tax relief are all based the future of 400MW.

TW keeps mentioning the public, but has admitted that their first responsibility is to their shareholders, which is not the same. If, for some reason, the value of the stock declines, what happens to the tax relief or jobs? Several stores have left Ithaca because the stock prices of their companies dropped.

Terawulf (TW) mentions Cornell. How does the TW power and capacity of its HPCs compare to Cornell's so will CU actually use TW resources or eventually use them?

Much of the confusion could be alleviated by the release of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for processes such as cooling, heat management, or safety procedures. There are at least three people in the Lansing with expertise in reading and analyzing SOPs.

Is the computing power of the proposed data center competitive? If not competitive, its lifetime is limited. What are FLOPs and accelerators? What is the storage capacity?

HPC systems require large amounts of electricity and generate large amounts of heat. So what happens to the heat? What type of cooling is used? Is the heat recycled? What temperatures are involved? How much heat is produced and how much is released to the outside world (numbers, not adjectives)? Rate of release? Is the heat expected to (or will) dissipate or will the Hawkeye area become a heat island? What are the environmental ramifications of heat release? Will lake dynamics be affected and how?

Propylene glycol (PG) is generally used for cooling. Optimal heat transfer requires a specific amount of deionized water (DI). A suboptimal ratio or any contaminants reduce the cooling efficiency. Are there additives, such as anticorrosion chemicals, in the water? Where exactly is the DI water coming from? Who and where does the processing of the water if the lake is used? Will it affect our water bills? What is the lifetime of the cooling towers? Risk of accidental contamination—maintenance or refilling? PG surveillance protocols? Secondary containment? The breakdown of PG in the environment is much more complicated than one will find by searching the internet.

The present federal administration has raised allowable exposure levels of many toxic substances despite existing evidence to the contrary. Will the center be built to these specifications? ALARA? What are the hidden costs?

Example: fire and rescue. Is our current fire/rescue sufficient to deal with disasters? Do we need to upgrade our fire and rescue? Do we need our own ambulance? Hire more volunteers? Move to a full-time fire department? Need additional vehicles, equipment, or safety gear to deal with possible events. If so, who pays?

How will the electrical system be set up? The US grid is in bad shape. Will the Hawkeye system be independent of our local electrical infrastructure? We have had several blackouts in our neighborhood this year, which can't happen to a data center. What is their backup? Batteries? Generators? What fuels the generators?

From information contributed by another Lansing resident, electric bills will rise due to data centers even if Lansing does not allow Hawkeye.

What are the quality of jobs? Are they minimum wage? Can the jobs lead to promotions? Will there be a training program?

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**From:** Mary Weiss-Andersson,

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 5, 2025 11:11 AM

**Subject:** Voice against TeraWulf Inc. in favor of proposed moratorium

Dear Supervisor Groff and Lansing Board Representatives:

I act with the Lansing Town Board and the many concerned citizens of Tompkins County who stand against TeraWulf Inc. and the snake oil they're lobbying to sell to our community.

I am a homeowner and resident of the Town of Caroline for the past 38 years.

Many recall the Town of Caroline's recent fight against a big business interest in developing in the Town. We relate to the fortitude it takes to protect our communities long-range broad values that preserve our quality of life.

Please enact your proposed moratorium on development while you work on your Comprehensive Plan. An appropriate zoning document is the only future power the people of Lansing and Tompkins

County have to effectively fight profiteers and companies like TeraWulf Inc. who act solely in their own best interests.

Thank you for your time, service and commitment.

Sincerely,

Mary Weiss-Andersson,  
Town of Caroline resident

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**From:** Jenna Powers

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 5, 2025 11:28 AM

**Subject:** Re: TERAWULF CONCERNING CONTRACTS

Good morning all,

I am forwarding some information from Frederick County, Maryland. They have established guidelines and zoning areas specifically for data centers. I know this is a new thing to navigate, and that's another reason I strongly support the moratorium and hope for an eventual block to protect natural land areas.

I would also like to mention that I have done more digging on Paul Prager and have spoken with people in Easton, Maryland. I was told to "be careful" and that he's "evil" and willing to strongarm members of municipalities. Feel free to do your own research, but I'd recommend asking the town what they think happened to the former Town Manager of 28 years, Don Richardson & the reason he left to work as Town Manager of another municipality. When Paul Prager doesn't get his way, he makes threats and gaslights. I will also be forwarding my correspondence with Kerri Langalis, Terawulf CSO. She emailed me after I contacted Sarah Kreps from Cornell asking details about the report and cc'd Senior Leadership members of Cornell. Speaking of the report, I am wondering if the board might have a copy of the contract and scoping documents the report was based on because the outcome is far different from the actual unpaid and unbiased report that Franklin County had conducted. (there is a link to it below)

Furthermore, there is a pattern of Paul Prager not being true to his word -

Terawulf is being investigated for securities fraud, another reason he is so quick to pursue the path he thinks he'll hit the jackpot with at our expense: <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2024/08/05/2924461/23044/en/WULF-ALERT-TeraWulf-Inc-Investigated-for-Securities-Fraud-Block-Leviton-Encourages-Investors-Who-Have-Lost-Money-to-Contact-the-Firm.html> He needs the Lansing Data center to work out and start making money, not just for his massive corporation partners like Google and G42 but also for the Class Action Suit against them. Money that will be going into the pockets of those at the top, not the community.

Hunterbrook's coverage of their greenwashing:

<https://hntrbrk.com/terawulf/>

<https://hntrbrk.com/terawulf-pivot/>

<https://doctorow.medium.com/https-pluralistic-net-2024-08-09-terawulf-hunterbrook-7c239d442aec>

<https://newsletter.hntrbrk.com/p/impact>

He restricted me from the Cayuga Data Campus Facebook so no one can see my comments, which is funny given how he's accusing the board of exactly that. He's a textbook gaslighter claiming the community or the board is doing what Terawulf is actually doing. I hope he FOILS this too. I'm also concerned with the potential involvement of Terawulf and Paul Prager in the Securing Lansing's Future campaign which listed funding by Lansing Business Alliance. They'd sure benefit from stacking the Zoning and Town Board with their cronies and there's a reason he used this election as a fear-mongering platform. I know there is a vote scheduled for today on going through with the

moratorium. This is a massive project that impacts not just Lansing but all municipalities around the lake and energy costs for other regions. We need time to account for this impact and to work with other communities on navigating this. Ask Paul Prager why he's building fancy restaurants in the town he resides in and not data centers -- because it's not as beneficial as he claims, it's got an impact on the environment and energy rates, he has restrictions in his own area so he is preying on ours and doing as evil does - noticing the pain points like taxes and rising energy costs to use as leverage while he walks away with full pockets. I hope you vote in favor of the community and the future generations of our community and not for a man that's trying to swindle us.

From the Frederick County team that helped establish their guidelines:

Steve asked me to help put together some information about the data center fight here in Adamstown, Maryland, so I just wanted to send along some links that might be useful, as a starting point.

Frederick County:

Sugarloaf Alliance (a local nonprofit community group) has lots of info on their website.

<https://www.sugarloaf-alliance.com>

Frederick County (MD) Data Centers Workgroup - created by the County Executive to put together recommendations for data center development, in theory taking lessons from the Loudoun County, VA experience. Discussed many good ideas for guard rails for data center development in Maryland but due to pressure from the data center industry, many recommendations were unfortunately not included in the final legislation.

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/8544/Data-Centers-Workgroup>

Frederick County Data Centers Workgroup -- Final Report

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/350277/Data-Center-Workgroup-Final-Report>

<https://www.wfmd.com/2025/06/11/temporary-hold-placed-on-data-centers-in-frederick-county/>

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/15877>

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Prince George's County, Maryland has also been in the news a lot recently. They have placed a countywide hold on data center permits, temporarily.

<https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/prince-georges-county/we-have-to-set-standards-why-prince-georges-county-paused-data-center-plans/3989242/>

<https://marylandmatters.org/2025/09/17/prince-georges-county-moves-to-put-data-center-development-on-pause>

Thank you,

Jenna

On Mon, Nov 3, 2025 at 10:58 AM Jenna Powers wrote:

Thank you for your response, Ruth.

Paul Prager also began the open house last week saying that he's a "fighter" and had a number of his employees there to speak, one of which called me a c\*\*\* on the way out the door because of the questions I raised. They were also talking over people in the audience and being belligerent throughout the open house, not the kind of energy that feels very community-oriented. This data center is also not exclusively a Lansing issue, it affects all municipalities on Cayuga lake and affects the grid for nearby communities. Less than 10 miles down the water in the village of Aurora, the former Wells college is for sale. 127 acres with a large area of lakefront footage so close to this site has Les Lo Baugh, a career energy sector attorney from California bidding on the property using his "Hiawatha Institute" association, while the entity he's placing the bid with is GWS, LLC, a newly formed LLC.

One more note is that Paul Prager mentioned Professor Sarah Kreps from Cornell would be conducting an "independent study" and we should trust her "unbiased opinion", meanwhile, I looked into her background and she is funded by the Dept. of Defense, Israeli government, and in 2024 published a paper on "best surveillance practices for governments to engage in". I truly feel this is extending beyond environmental and energy impacts and treading on human rights. In an online response to me, Paul tried citing data policies such as CCPA (which is a California-only policy, the closest we have to GDPR, but does not offer us any protection whatsoever in NYS) and the New York SHIELD act, which is not even close. New York's SHIELD act simply allows us to access and amend our data and to be informed about breaches but it does not legally designate it as our personal property as GDPR does and does not require consent for transferring. Also not quite sure how he'd even be ensuring that data privacy policies are followed when he clearly expressed that he has no idea what happens to the data.

Thank you all for the work you're doing, I am in full support of the moratorium to buy more time to look into all the serious concerns.

Best,  
Jenna

On Mon, Nov 3, 2025 at 10:25 AM Ruth Groff wrote:

Jenna, thank you for your comments. The issues you raise certainly are concerning.

**Ruth Groff**

Town Supervisor

Town of Lansing

29 Auburn Road

Lansing, NY 14882

[rgroff@lansingtownny.gov](mailto:rgroff@lansingtownny.gov)

607-533-8896

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**From:** Jenna Powers

**Sent:** Saturday, November 1, 2025 9:54 PM

**To:** John Zepko <[jzepko@lansingtownny.gov](mailto:jzepko@lansingtownny.gov)>; Ruth Groff <[rgroff@lansingtownny.gov](mailto:rgroff@lansingtownny.gov)>; Christine Montague <[cmontague@lansingtownny.gov](mailto:cmontague@lansingtownny.gov)>; Laurie Hemmings <[lhemmings@lansingtownny.gov](mailto:lhemmings@lansingtownny.gov)>; Joe Wetmore <[jwetmore@lansingtownny.gov](mailto:jwetmore@lansingtownny.gov)>; Judy Drake - [jdrake@lansingtown.com](mailto:jdrake@lansingtown.com) <[jdrake@lansingtownny.gov](mailto:jdrake@lansingtownny.gov)>

**Subject:** TERAWULF CONCERNING CONTRACTS

Good evening Lansing Town Board members,

I'm writing as a concerned member of the community. I attended the Terawulf open house last week that Paul Prager and other Terawulf leadership members hosted and I know a good portion of the community is concerned about the environmental and energy impacts as well as the scenario with our already struggling HAB-filled lake. I am concerned about these topics too, however, I am infinitely more concerned with the business associations of Terawulf.

I went up to ask questions at the open house. My first question was regarding Blackrock ownership of Terawulf and the fact that they are acquiring AES Corp for \$38B and will own a majority of the large-scale NYS solar farms already built and a majority of the ones in the ORES permit process. My second question was regarding their G42 contract.

(<https://selectcommitteeontheccp.house.gov/media/press-releases/gallagher-calls-usg-investigate-ai-firm-g42-ties-prc-military-intelligence>)

From the article:

"Multiple U.S. companies that develop and sell export-controlled technology and products maintain extensive commercial relationships with G42 and its subsidiaries, to include Microsoft, Dell, and OpenAI. Without restrictions on G42, the hardware and software developed by these U.S. companies are at significant risk for diversion to G42's PRC-based affiliates, many of which support the CCP's surveillance state and human rights abuses.

G42 maintains active relationships with blacklisted entities including Huawei and Beijing Genomics Institute (BGI). BIS has already targeted G42's partners and commercial customers, to include BGI. In March 2023, BIS placed BGI subsidiaries on the Entity List because the data and genomic information these companies specialize in "poses a significant risk of contributing to monitoring and surveillance by the government of China. Without new restrictions against G42, the company's extensive AI capabilities will provide much-needed analytical capacity for BGI to exploit the data it has collected from American citizens, to include millions of pregnant women. Relatedly, export controls against Huawei will be further undermined if Huawei can access and/or acquire advanced AI hardware and cloud computing services through its partners like G42.

The G42 network also present risks to critical technology and export-controlled research at U.S. universities. For example, in June 2023 G42 signed a research partnership agreement with the U.S.-based entity Petuum, which is an AI laboratory created by the Carnegie Mellon University. Chinese company Tencent was also a leading original investor in Petuum. Tencent and Huawei jointly operate multiple PRC-based AI and cloud computing laboratories. Petuum's founder, Eric Xing, and G42's CEO Peng Xiao also maintain executive leadership positions together at the UAE's Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI). MBZUAI maintains extensive relationships with PRC universities subject to U.S. export controls on PRC military end-users, to include Tsinghua University. In an op-ed in PRC state-owned media, the chairman of MBZUAI stated "we all have much to gain from international cooperation and knowledge sharing on AI. That's why I hope that MBZUAI becomes yet another successful example of our two great countries [UAE and PRC] working together." Given the extensive corporate connections and public pronouncements calling for greater cooperation between MBZUAI and the PRC, we urge BIS to investigate whether G42 and Xiao are using their official partnerships and personal connections with Carnegie Mellon University, Petuum, and MBZUAI to facilitate illicit technology transfer.

The Committee furthermore urges BIS to investigate threats to U.S. export control research being facilitated by Dr. Song-Chun Zhu, who was the former director of an AI center at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) and now serves as one DarkMatter's lead AI research collaborators. As documented in a recent investigation into Zhu, Zhu worked on Department of Defense-funded dual-use research at UCLA while simultaneously participating in the Chinese Communist Party's Thousand Talent plan, which requires its participants to acquire research and technology on behalf of the PRC government. After leaving UCLA in 2020, Zhu created a new laboratory with the PRC Ministry of Science and Technology called the Beijing Institute for General Artificial Intelligence (BIGAI). Zhu's return to China and subsequent establishment of BIGAI was labeled by Georgetown University's Center for Security and Emerging Technology as "problematic for U.S. national security" and a "long-term research integrity problem." The same report states that BIGAI "recruited" over 30 foreign-trained scientists and "many of them were members of Zhu's American-trained UCLA team, while those still at UCLA continue to coauthor with staff at BIGAI." Documents reviewed by the Committee also identify that Zhu and Eric Xing have a decades long relationship and have lectured at conferences together and Zhu has extensive ties with G42 through joint research projects with its subsidiary Inception Institute of Artificial Intelligence. Ensuring that no further dual-use research or controlled technology is routed to G42 via BIGAI requires BIS action to investigate DarkMatter and other G42 affiliates in the PRC."

Additionally, G42 has a joint venture with Israeli-based AI firm, Presight. The features their platform offers includes digital id, biometric data, and AI policing by predictive analytics.

At the open house the other evening, I asked Paul Prager if he knew about Presight, he claimed he did not. I asked if he knew what they were doing with the data, data which he stores that could be any one of our's personally identifiable information and/or biometric data, and he stated "I have no idea!" -- no idea... no idea to what happens to the data that he stores in facilities he builds and owns. Here are a few reasons this is incredibly frightening:

1. We do not have any sort of data privacy laws in place in the U.S. The EU has GDPR which makes it clear by law that your personally identifiable information is legally yours. You have to double opt-in consent for anyone to have your data. If any entity that has this data were to want to transfer it somewhere else or even to another system they'll still be maintaining, they need to notify you and obtain your consent again.

2. Terawulf's partnership with UAE and Israeli based companies that are being actively investigated by US intelligence for a number of alarming reasons should be a major, major concern to us all. <https://www.g42.ai/resources/news/g42-expands-us-operations-70mw-data-center-infrastructure-agreement-terawulf> - WE NEED TO ASK MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS

3. CEOs like Paul Prager who "don't know" or care or feel morally or ethically obligated to ensure the secure transfer of data or to prevent the transfer of data to harmful entities when this country has zero data privacy policies in place means Paul Prager can transfer our personally identifiable information and biometric data to other countries without so much as notifying us.

<https://smex.org/project-presight-jordanian-health-data-under-israeli-control/> - Worrisome Presight article

I am a professional in the data analytics field that works for a German company that needs to comply with GDPR and I am willing to walk you through this topic all day if you have any further questions but I am begging you to read these G42 and Presight articles and know who the company trying to make extreme changes in this community is doing business with.

Thank you,

Jenna Powers

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From: Therese Araneo

Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 3:30 PM

Subject: Moratorium

To the Town Board,

I urge you to take action in support of the temporary moratorium.

I have had many concerns about the potential environmental and economic impacts of the proposed AI center, as well as Terawulf's reliability and integrity. Their recent threat of a lawsuit has substantially increased my concerns. I fear that this threat is just the first of many.

Please take the time that's needed to fully investigate Terawulf's track record, and the impacts the AI center may have on our community.

Thank you,

Therese Araneo

Town of Lansing property owner.

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**From:** Mykah Tomfohrde

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 5, 2025 5:35 PM

**Subject:** Public comment on the Terrawulf data center

Hello, my name is Mykah Tomfohrde and I am currently a student at SUNY Cortland studying Inclusive Early Childhood Education. I am writing today to state my opposition for the use of fossil fuels for the purposes of energy intensive practices like AI because:

*(choose one or two of the points below)*

- Artificial Intelligence contributes to increased climate pollution, particularly when powered by fossil fuels. The TeraWulf Data Center will be powered by NYSEG with an [energy mix](#) that is majority natural gas (a climate-warming fossil fuel). The state banned fracking, we shouldn't be using fracked gas to power AI centers
- The increased power demands on the grid caused by data centers lead to skyrocketing utility prices. All across the nation, people who live near data centers are seeing utility price increases.<sup>[1][2]</sup> We, the people of the Fingerlakes shouldn't have to pay sky-high utility bills to enable these data centers that won't benefit us. This has an outsize impact on lower income families in the region, who are already struggling to afford electricity and heat.
- Many economists have argued that AI is a bubble, <sup>[1][2]</sup> and when this bubble collapses, any purported economic benefits of the data center will also collapse.

I thank the Town of Lansing for considering a moratorium on development of the Terawulf Data Center. Because the use of fossil fuels to power Artificial Intelligence threatens both the environmental and economic sustainability of the Fingerlakes region and NY State as a whole and because these facilities' operations are not consistent with the CLCPA or the public interest, the Town of Lansing must act now to minimize the harms, and prevent future harms to our great state. The Town of Lansing should reject the Terawulf data-center!