



ORGANIZING *for* HEALTH *and* JUSTICE

**For Immediate Release**

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## **All of Us Against the Tech Billionaires - May Day Strong Rally**

*Clean Air members lead rally opposing unregulated data centers  
in Erie and Niagara County*

BUFFALO, NY: Members of the Clean Air Coalition of Western New York rallied today with representatives from the offices of Senator Baskin and Assemblymember McMahon to call for swift action to regulate data centers and highlight actions people can take to rein this industrial sector in.

*"As data centers are popping up across the State and our electric bills are rising, now is the time to hit the pause button on data centers." said Senator Baskin, a cosponsor of S9411/A10141. "We need time to evaluate how data centers will impact our electrical grid and our environment. I am proud to co-sponsor the data center moratorium bill and I thank my colleague, Senator Liz Krueger, for her leadership on this issue."*

*"As a co-sponsor of A9039 and A10141, I support measures to bring needed oversight to the rapid growth of data centers in New York State." said Assemblymember McMahon. "Data centers are known to consume enormous amounts of energy, placing strain on the grid, impacting local environments, and driving up utility costs for residents. These bills ensure costs are not shifted onto communities and give the state an opportunity to fully assess long-term impacts. Acting now protects both affordability and our environment. I thank Senator Baskin for her partnership on this issue and the Clean Air Coalition for their advocacy."*

Spurred by these broader concerns as well as concerns about the proposed development of a data center at 3875 River Road in the Town of Tonawanda,



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Clean Air will be launching a new campaign on Wednesday May 20 at 5:30pm at Trinity Church (371 Delaware Avenue in Buffalo). Registration for this event is now available on their homepage, <https://www.cacwny.org>

*“The modern “hyperscale” data center developments represent an unregulated industrial sector, and these businesses are extremely resistant to any sort of community oversight or guardrails”* said Deborah Gondek, member of the Clean Air Coalition of Western New York. *“We have been plagued by an unregulated data center in North Tonawanda for over five years, so we welcome the news of the potential moratorium, as well as related common sense regulatory legislation.”*

*“Clean Air began our work fighting for the public health of the people of Tonawanda and Western New York and our shared environment - we will not allow this next generation of industries to perpetuate the same injustices of the past.”* said Ben Stilson, Clean Air member.

Clean Air is also urging people to send a letter to the Public Service Commission on a public comment period that is active until May 13 concerning the Governor’s proposed policy that data centers “bring their own generation”, and urging people to contact their representatives in Albany in favor of the proposed moratorium. Information on both of these actions is available on their blog and at <https://linktr.ee/cleanairwny>

Clean Air staff and members are also actively reviewing the 400+ page proposal by Riverview Innovation Tech Campus for a data center at a portion of the former Tonawanda Coke site. They will be sharing more on their concerns at their meeting on May 20, but in the short term, they are urging Town of Tonawanda officials to require a clear separation of the final phase of the remediation process from the first phase of the data center development, and they are also calling for the Tonawanda Community Working Group to begin regularly reconvening.



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Clean Air is also a member of the May Day Strong coalition, which today May 1, 2026 is leading rallies and demonstrations nationwide. More information is available at <https://maydaystrong.org/>

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*The Clean Air Coalition builds power by developing grassroots leaders who organize their communities to run and win environmental justice and public health campaigns in Western New York.*