
FW: [EXTERNAL] Wetlands encroachment/data centers/ Putnam County

From terry suggs <terry.suggs@putnam-fl.gov>

Date Mon 8/31/2026 2:03 PM

To james richie <james.richie@putnam-fl.gov>

Good Morning,

Per policy enacted by the BoCC during the July 14, 2026 meeting, I have forwarding the email received regarding Data Centers. Mr. Richie, please ensure this information is posted as directed by the BoCC.

Respectfully,

Terry K. Suggs, MPA, ICMA-CM
County Administrator
Putnam County Board of Commissioners
2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 200
Palatka, FL 32177
386-329-0205

From: AOL Mail <birnhardt@aol.com>

Sent: Saturday, August 29, 2026 10:23 PM

To: terry suggs <terry.suggs@putnam-fl.gov>; jrnewbold43@gmail.com; joshua alexander <joshua.alexander@putnam-fl.gov>; waltonpellicer@gmail.com; leota wilkinson <leota.wilkinson@putnam-fl.gov>; Neil Hornick <neil.hornick@floridadep.gov>

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FYI

Massive Data center campus

Just outside Lake Okeechobee, there's a farm town called Indiantown where citrus groves have covered the land for generations, and this spring one of the last big stretches of that land, about fifty seven hundred acres, got rezoned for a massive data center campus instead. 🌳

The wetlands on that property are home to alligators that are federally protected, and a second site scouted nearby for another data center had an active bald eagle nest and gopher tortoise burrows on it before anyone even broke ground. This isn't empty land. It sits inside the Florida Wildlife Corridor, the same connected stretch of habitat that lets bears, panthers, and other wildlife move safely across the state. 🐢🦊

A single hyperscale data center like this can use up to five million gallons of water a day, roughly what a town of fifty thousand people goes through, plus enough electricity to power half a million homes. The town council approved the rezoning this May in a community where most families are low income farmworkers, with promises of new jobs that may only amount to a handful once construction wraps up.

When a wildlife corridor and a data center both want the exact same acre of Florida, who do you think should actually get it?

#FloridaWildlifeCorridor

#DataCenters

#Indiantown

#ProtectFlorida

#FloridaDebates

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