ORDINANCE NO. 7.21.2026.5

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR DATA CENTERS IN WHITE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

WHEREAS, the White County Board and applicable County officials are working in good faith and with diligence to develop the necessary regulations and review procedures concerning DATA CENTERS in order to address concerns or issues including, but not limited to, setbacks, noise levels, lighting, application fees, wildlife, and decommissioning, and;

WHEREAS, understanding the concerns regarding the impact of operation and construction of DATA CENTERS with at least 10,000 square feet to the citizens of White County require additional time and effort to reach conclusion, and;

WHEREAS, White County government officials need additional time to complete the drafting process so that all interested and concerned parties can be informed of all proposed regulation changes and so that White County government officials have adequate time to give due consideration to all proposed regulations concerning DATA CENTERS, and;

WHEREAS, in order to prevent irreversible damage to the resources of White County, Illinois, prior to the consideration and implementation of any regulation changes, the White County Board has determined it is necessary and in the best interests of White County and its citizens to impose a short term temporary moratorium on the acceptance and issuance of County permits or approvals for DATA CENTERS with at least 10,000 square feet in order to provide sufficient time for the White County Board and applicable County officials to consider all necessary regulation changes regarding DATA CENTERS, and;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF WHITE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:

A. Beginning on the effective date of this Ordinance, no application for any County permit, approval, or other County authorization for the construction of a DATA CENTER with at least 10,000 square feet on any parcel in White County, Illinois, shall be accepted or processed to its completion by White County, Illinois.

B. The temporary moratorium shall remain in full force and effect for a limited period of 12 MONTHS from the effective date of this Ordinance, unless sooner terminated by an ordinance duly adopted by the White County Board.

Presented, Approved, and Adopted this 21st day of July 2026.

Amanda Cannon
White County Board, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Kayci Heil, County Clerk