

Pinal County Board of Supervisors

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Re: Support for La Osa Energy Project PZ- 003-26/PZ-PD-003-26

Dear Chairman McClure and Members of the Pinal County Board of Supervisors and Mr. Lew,

I am writing to encourage you to vote in favor of the La Osa Data Center project. This high-tech development represents one of the most significant investments in the history of Pinal County. According to data from Elliott Pollack and Company, this project will create a minimum of nearly 1,700 direct jobs which would make it the *fourth largest employer in Pinal County*. The total job creation, including direct and indirect jobs, is 3,600 jobs which generates over \$200 million in annual wages to people living and working in Pinal County.

Unfortunately, there has been a tidal wave of misinformation about this project. Due to misinformation many people are reasonably concerned about the prospects of a large data center project like La Osa, but, fortunately, this project appears to avoid the commonly held concerns. The La Osa project is committed in its zoning to use only a closed-loop cooling system, which means according to engineers at EPS, that water will not be used for cooling. I ask that the Board carefully consider only permitting data centers that similarly make a commitment to use only closed loop technology.

Further, the project will be building its own generation resources and contracting with Electrical District No. 4 for energy services. This smart energy development means that other ratepayers in Pinal County will not be paying the bill for this development.

The fiscal impact from the project is going to be substantial. The La Osa project is predicted to generate over \$500 million in tax revenue by the time it is done being constructed and another \$125 million annually in operation. This tax revenue will benefit the schools and community colleges of Pinal County and Arizona, supports greater infrastructure throughout our community, and helps keep taxes lower for the rest of us.

In addition to all the project's benefits, the project appears to be ideally located. It sits 45 miles from Maricopa, 25 miles from Cas Grande and 27 miles from Coolidge. Indeed, this rural location is still 12 miles from Eloy, the nearest city. It is also broadly supported by neighboring landowners who see the value of the project to the community and welcome the economic development aspects of the project. If you cannot build a low water using, major employer that will generate billions in taxes over the life of the project here, in this location, where can you build it?

Please do not let misinformation and fear rip away an incredible opportunity from our county. Please continue your leadership that has helped position Pinal County to capture these technologies of the future. Thank you for your support of this item.