CONGRESSWOMAN

MAXINE DEXTER M.D.

OREGON'S 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Protecting Our Public Lands from Data Centers Act

As AI rapidly develops, the Trump Administration is opening our public lands to massive data centers, putting the places Americans hunt, fish, hike, and draw clean water from at risk.

At least 17 data center campuses are being proposed on public land across six Western states, including one on 106 acres near Hermiston, Oregon. These facilities drain water, strain the grid, and some come with their own gas-fired power plants. Once fenced off, the land is closed to hunting, grazing, recreation, and wildlife for good. Public lands belong to the American people, not Big Tech.

Congresswoman Dexter has developed legislation that would keep data centers off the public lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Interior. This legislation would:

- Ban the development, sale or transfer of federally-owned public lands for the purpose of constructing new data centers and associated infrastructure nationwide; and
- Ensure any of these lands sold or transferred revert to public ownership if used for a data center, unless Congress approves; and

Our public lands are a shared inheritance, not a playground for Big Tech. Communities deserve a voice in how these lands are used, and future generations deserve to inherit them intact.

Endorsed By: Center for Biological Diversity, WaterWatch of Oregon, Bark, Oregon Wild, Columbia Riverkeeper, and Oregon Data Center Defiance Coalition

Questions? For questions or to cosponsor, please reach out to Gillian Mead (gillian.mead@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Dexter's office.