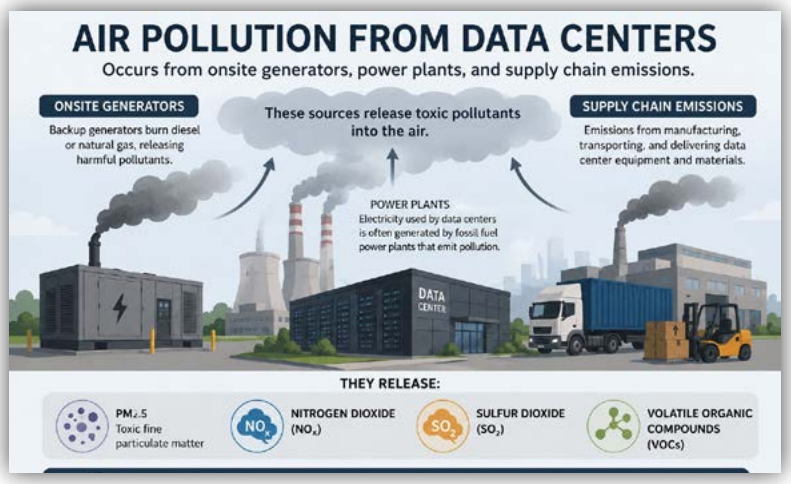
MOMS ACROSS AMERICA
DATA CENTER ACTION

Air Pollution

Air pollution from data centers poses an acute threat to public and environmental health. The rising electricity demands for data centers drives greater greenhouse emissions and air pollution, increasing chronic illness.

KEY FACTS

1. According to the **World Health Organization**, air pollution is one of the greatest risks to child health.
2. The **air pollution from data centers** occurs from onsite generators, power plants, and supply chain emissions. They release toxic fine particulate matter (PM2.5), nitrogen dioxide (NOx), sulfur dioxide, and volatile organic compounds into the air.
3. These **air pollutants can travel a long distance** (a.k.a. cross-state air pollution), posing direct and significant risks to public health over large areas, particularly for vulnerable populations including the elderly and individuals with respiratory conditions..
4. Communities within one mile of **Environmental Protection Agency** regulated data centers tend to be disproportionately people of color and have a higher average of particulate matter (PM2.5) in the air than the national median.
5. According to **multiple studies**, these gaseous and particulate pollution are linked to serious health harms including respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, various cancers, neurological disorders, and conditions such as stroke, dementia, diabetes, and childhood asthma. Moreover, air pollution has been linked to reduced fertility, lower live birth rates, and increased risks of miscarriage and stillbirths, highlighting significant concerns for female reproductive health.



QUESTIONS FOR LOCAL OFFICIALS

- Do energy reporting practices extend to include assessments for air pollutants and associated public health impacts?
- Are technology companies evaluating the cross-state public health burdens of their operations when deciding where to build data centers and how to source electricity?
- What ongoing research is being conducted to better capture cross-state and downwind impacts of air pollution to improve the data of morbidity and mortality from the data centers?
- What environmental mitigation strategies are in place for the air pollution threats posed to local wildlife and livestock from data centers?