

From: (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy
To: [Espinosa, Monica](#); [ECRD Complaints](#); [R7 Actionline](#)
Subject: Berkeley Missouri Data center
Date: Monday, March 30, 2026 4:21:01 PM

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March 30, 2026

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of External Civil Rights Compliance
Mail Code 2310A

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

ATTN: Title VI Complaints Division

CC: Monica Espinosa, EPA Region 7 Environmental Justice Program Coordinator

Espinosa.Monica@epa.gov

U.S. EPA Region 7

11201 Renner Blvd.

Lenexa, KS 66219

RE: Formal Title VI Civil Rights Complaint — Environmental Justice Violation —

Oppidan/AWS Data Center, North Hanley Road, Berkeley, Missouri 63134

COMPLAINANT:

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy

Founder & President, (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy

(b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy

RESPONDENT:

Oppidan Investment Company / Connect Data Centers
and its corporate tenant, Amazon Web Services (AWS)

North Hanley Road, Berkeley, Missouri 63134

Dear Title VI Complaints Division and Ms. Espinosa,

My name is (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy. I am the Founder and President of (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and certified (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy

serving all 114 Missouri counties for over 25 years. I am also a (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy with over 30 years of clinical experience, a (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy, and a candidate for (b) (6) Privacy, (b) (7)(C) Enf. Privacy in 2028.

I am filing this formal complaint pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. I am requesting that the EPA's Office of External Civil Rights Compliance open a formal investigation into the approval and construction of a large-scale data center facility in Berkeley, Missouri — a decision that has disproportionately impacted a predominantly Black community without meaningful environmental review, community input, or benefit sharing.

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED COMMUNITY

Berkeley, Missouri is located in North St. Louis County. According to the 2020 U.S. Census,

Berkeley has a population of approximately 8,228 residents, of whom approximately 85% are Black or African American. The city is among the most economically vulnerable communities in St. Louis County, with a median household income significantly below the state average and a poverty rate of approximately 34%.

The data center facility in question is located on North Hanley Road in Berkeley — at the intersection of Springdale, a corridor that runs east-west and directly connects the communities of Berkeley, Bel-Ridge, Kinloch, and Ferguson. These four communities collectively represent approximately 28,000 residents, the overwhelming majority of whom are Black.

Kinloch, Missouri is historically significant as the first Black incorporated city in the state of Missouri. These communities have endured generations of racial disinvestment, environmental burden, and exclusion from economic development decisions. They deserve the full protection of federal civil rights law.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION

Minnesota-based Oppidan Investment Company, through its subsidiary Connect Data Centers, has constructed a large-scale data center facility along North Hanley Road in Berkeley, Missouri. The corporate tenant of this facility is believed to be Amazon Web Services (AWS). To my knowledge and based on my research:

No meaningful environmental review was conducted prior to the approval and construction of this facility

No air quality impact study was performed assessing the effect of diesel generator emissions, cooling tower particulates, and associated air pollutants on the surrounding residential communities

No community benefit agreement was negotiated with the affected communities

No meaningful public participation process was conducted to allow residents of Berkeley, Bel-Ridge, Kinloch, and Ferguson to provide input before this facility was built in their neighborhood

No air dispersion modeling was made publicly available showing how far emissions from this facility travel through the North Hanley Road and Springdale corridor

As a ^{(b) (6) Privacy, (} with over 30 years of clinical experience, I can speak with professional authority about the health consequences of diesel particulate matter and air quality degradation — particularly on children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing respiratory conditions. These are the very populations that make up the communities surrounding this facility.

III. BASIS FOR TITLE VI COMPLAINT

The siting of this industrial data center facility in a community that is 85% Black, without environmental review, without community input, and without benefit sharing, constitutes a pattern of disparate impact on the basis of race in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

This complaint is consistent with the findings of the EPA's own investigations into similar environmental justice violations, including the agency's historic investigation into the Denka Performance Elastomer facility in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana — where the EPA confirmed that elevated environmental health risk "disproportionately impacts Black residents." The pattern in Berkeley, Missouri mirrors that same pattern of racial disparate impact.

IV. RELIEF REQUESTED

I respectfully request that the EPA:

Open a formal Title VI investigation into the approval and construction of the Oppidan/AWS data center facility on North Hanley Road in Berkeley, Missouri

Require an independent air quality and environmental impact assessment of this facility and its effects on the surrounding communities

Require Missouri state and local agencies to demonstrate that proper environmental permitting and community participation processes were followed

Direct Missouri DNR to produce all air quality permits, environmental impact documents, and zoning approvals related to this facility

Require a community benefit agreement between the facility's developer and tenants and the affected communities of Berkeley, Bel-Ridge, Kinloch, and Ferguson

Assign an EPA Region 7 environmental justice representative to serve as the direct point of contact for the affected communities and for [REDACTED] as the filing organization

V. REQUEST FOR LOCAL MISSOURI CONTACT

I respectfully request that the EPA assign a local Missouri-based representative from EPA Region 7 to contact me directly regarding this complaint. The communities affected — Berkeley, Bel-Ridge, Kinloch, and Ferguson — are located in North St. Louis County and require a representative who can engage locally, attend community meetings, and serve as a direct liaison between the EPA and the residents on the ground.

Please direct your Region 7 Missouri representative to contact me at:

[REDACTED]

Via [REDACTED]

I am available to meet, provide documentation, and coordinate community engagement at any time.

VI. CONCLUSION

The residents of the North Hanley Road corridor have borne the burden of racial disinvestment and environmental neglect for generations. They deserve the full protection of federal civil rights law. I am filing this complaint on their behalf and on behalf of [REDACTED], which has served these communities for over 25 years.

I respectfully request that the EPA act promptly and decisively to investigate this matter and ensure that the rights of these communities are protected.

Respectfully submitted,

[REDACTED]

Founder & President, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FEMA-Certified Disaster Relief Organization

[REDACTED]

Host, [REDACTED]

The NOW Television Network & NLEC TV | 236 Million Homes Globally

[REDACTED] Candidate, 2028

[REDACTED] please respond to me by April 10, 2026.

Thanks