

To: NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Application: SSD-82052708 — Proposed Data Centre, 12 Mars Road, Lane Cove West

Date: May 2026

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I am 13 years old. I live in Lane Cove West and I want to object to the proposed data centre at 12 Mars Road.

I know I am young but I think it is important that someone my age has a say in this, because it is my community too and this development would affect it for my whole life, not just for a few years.

Blackman Park is somewhere I go almost every week. I play rugby there on weekends during the season, and I walk my dog there regularly. It is one of my favourite places. The fields are great but what I also love about it is the bush along the edge — you can hear birds, and sometimes at dusk you see bats coming out, and it just feels like a proper natural place even though it's right next to a suburb. My dog loves it too.

I have been told that the proposed data centre would have 49 diesel generators that would be tested on weekday mornings and afternoons — during school hours and after school. I do not think that is okay when there is a park right there that kids use all the time, and a primary school nearby. I also know that the company's own documents say that if there is a power outage and all the generators run at the same time, the air quality near the park could exceed safe limits. Kids would be playing sport in that air. I would be playing sport in that air.

I have also read that between 82 and 121 trees would be removed — the application documents apparently can't agree on the exact number, which seems like a problem on its own. Some of those trees take more than ten years to grow back to the same size. The bats and owls that live in that area need those trees. They can't just wait ten years for new ones to grow.

I understand that data centres are important and that the internet needs infrastructure. But I don't think this is the right place for one this big. It is too close to a park where kids play sport, too close to a school, and too close to bushland that is home to animals that were there long before any of us.

I am asking the Department to refuse this application.

I have two questions I would like an answer to:

1. Kids my age play sport at Blackman Park regularly, including during the times when the generators would be tested. The company's own documents say the air quality near the park could reach unsafe levels if there is an emergency and all the generators run at once. What exactly would happen to protect the kids playing sport in the park if that happened — and is "we will notify your neighbours" really good enough when the people most affected are children who have no way of knowing what is in the air they are breathing?

2. The trees being removed are home to vulnerable species including the Powerful Owl and the Large-eared Pied Bat. These animals need connected bushland to survive. Once those trees are gone, that habitat is gone too — at least for many years. What has Goodman actually done to find a design that removes fewer trees and protects the wildlife corridor between the industrial area and Lane Cove National Park, and who decided that a commercial deadline was more important than that?

Thank you for reading my submission.