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July 9, 2026

Mr. Mark Zuckerberg
Chief Executive Officer
Meta Platforms, Inc.
1 Meta Way
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Dear Mr. Zuckerberg,

To inform Wyoming's statewide discussion around the growing presence of data centers in our communities and to assist Congressional consideration of data center policy, I am requesting information related to the discharge of *Cupriavidus gilardii* into Cheyenne's municipal reuse water system by Meta's Cheyenne Data Center.

The Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities (BOPU) issued a notice that its laboratory staff identified a bacterium during wastewater sampling, which was identified as *Cupriavidus gilardii*. BOPU traced the source to an industrial user within the system, Goat System LLC, a contractor used by Meta in the construction of its Cheyenne Data Center. The contamination seemingly occurred during a fill-and-flush operation for the closed-loop cooling systems at the Meta Cheyenne Data Center. Goat Systems had its industrial discharge privileges for fill-and-flush operations revoked, and Cheyenne's reuse water system was taken offline since the bacterium established within the biological treatment processes at both BOPU Wastewater Reclamation facilities.

This development raises a number of concerns for Wyoming and my constituents. Water is always one of our top issues, regardless of whether data centers are constructed here. Water for irrigation, like that in the reuse system, is a precious resource that cannot be wasted or taken offline. Many are rightfully concerned about high water consumption rates by data centers in our communities where every drop of water is accounted for and needed, so I am even more concerned that this contamination seemingly came from your facility's closed-loop cooling system, a technology that is marketed as being a solution to high data center water consumption rates.

Many Wyomingites are also rightfully concerned that they learned about this contamination on June 26th and that the Meta Cheyenne facility was identified as the culprit on July 2nd, when the discharge privileges for Goat Systems was revoked on March 24th. Wyoming is a small community, and one that works together for the advancement of our state. New industries seeking to participate in this unique system succeed only with support from the local communities, support which is earned built on trust, collaboration, and communication with our citizens. I am deeply concerned that Meta did not follow this model in this instance.

For these reasons, I am asking that you provide my office with answers to the following questions:

1. How did this contamination occur from your facility? How did the closed-loop cooling system discharge contaminated water into the public water system, and has this happened elsewhere?
2. When did Meta, Fortis, Goat Systems, and any other contractors on the Cheyenne Data Center project first become aware of the issue, and what steps did you take to alert local, state, and federal authorities to the issue and mitigate the threat?
3. Where is wastewater from the facility now being taken, and how will this revised process prevent similar threats to Wyoming communities?
4. Does Meta plan to conduct community outreach on this incident through the remainder of the construction process and once the data center is operational?
5. Can closed-loop cooling systems still be relied on to safely scale down water consumption from your data centers?

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your timely response to these questions. Wyoming deserves information and consultation from the industries which plan to call our state home.

Sincerely,



Harriet M. Hageman
Member of Congress