

County of Riverside

REVISIONS OFFICE:
4000 Lemon Street, 5th Floor
Riverside, CA 92502-1667
(951) 955-1040
Fax (951) 955-2194



DISTRICT OFFICE/MAILING ADDRESS
78015 Main Street, Ste. 205
La Quinta, CA 92253-3420
(760) 863-8211
Fax (760) 863-8965

SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ
FOURTH DISTRICT

March 9, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

As Riverside County Supervisor for the Fourth District, representing the Coachella Valley, eastern Riverside County and the mountain communities, I closely follow projects that have the potential to shape our economic future while supporting responsible infrastructure development.

The Coachella Municipal Utility and the associated Coachella Data Center campus represent one of the most significant infrastructure opportunities for eastern Riverside County in recent years. I am pleased to offer my strong support for the City of Coachella's effort to establish the Coachella Municipal Utility and advance development of the Coachella Data Center campus, including both Phase I and Phase II. This initiative represents a meaningful opportunity to strengthen the regional economy, attract long-term investment and support sustainable infrastructure growth throughout the Coachella Valley.

The proposed project will generate substantial economic benefits for the City of Coachella and its residents. Based on current city and project estimates, the project is expected to generate approximately \$50 million in new revenue for the city through utility operations, local taxes, fees and associated economic activity. For a city the size of Coachella, this level of new revenue could meaningfully strengthen the city's long-term fiscal capacity. These revenues will provide long-term resources that can be reinvested into public safety, infrastructure improvements, parks and community programs that directly benefit residents throughout the city.

The benefits of this project extend well beyond the municipal boundaries of Coachella. Construction of the data center campus will generate skilled construction employment, regional contracting opportunities and increased economic activity across the Coachella Valley. Projects of this scale also create opportunities to expand workforce training partnerships that serve residents of the Coachella Valley. Once operational, the facilities will support permanent technical and operational jobs while bringing modern digital infrastructure to eastern Riverside County. This type of infrastructure is increasingly necessary to support economic diversification and attract investment in technology driven industries.

The project also represents a meaningful opportunity for the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) and the regional electric system. The data center campus will create a large, stable and long-term electrical load that will utilize IID's existing transmission and distribution infrastructure. Phase I of the project includes three data center halls with a total connected load of approximately 270,000 kVA (270MW), and Phase II mirrors that scale, bringing the total project load to roughly 540,000 kVA (540MW).

The project is expected to generate ongoing revenues for IID associated with use of IID's transmission and distribution system, subject to applicable tariffs, final system configuration and actual energy volumes. Just as importantly, a consistent individual load of this magnitude strengthens overall system utilization and provides long-term load stability for the regional grid. Stable industrial loads of this type can also support long-term system planning and contribute to rate stability for the customers served by IID. Large, predictable loads help support efficient infrastructure planning and contribute to the continued financial strength and reliability of the electric system serving the Imperial and Coachella Valleys.

Energy reliability and environmental responsibility, both of which are priorities for the residents I represent in the Fourth District, have been incorporated into the design of the project from the beginning. Each data center hall will be supported by a dedicated microgrid that includes fuel cells, battery energy storage systems and backup generation resources. These microgrids provide exceptional operational reliability while also allowing the project to integrate renewable and low carbon energy sources over time. By incorporating energy storage and distributed energy resources, the project strengthens local resilience and supports a more flexible and modern regional power system.

The project also provides an important water conservation benefit for the Coachella Valley. The project site is currently used for agricultural production. Transitioning these parcels out of agricultural production is expected to reduce water demand relative to historical agricultural use, subject to final land use, crop history and water use baseline documented in the applicable planning and environmental review materials. In a region where responsible water management is essential, this shift represents a meaningful step toward balancing economic growth with long term resource stewardship.

Taken together, the Coachella Municipal Utility and the Coachella Data Center campus represent a rare opportunity to align economic development, infrastructure investment, energy innovation and resource conservation. The project will strengthen the regional economy, expand opportunities for local residents, provide long term financial benefits for the City of Coachella and generate ongoing system revenues for the Imperial Irrigation District.

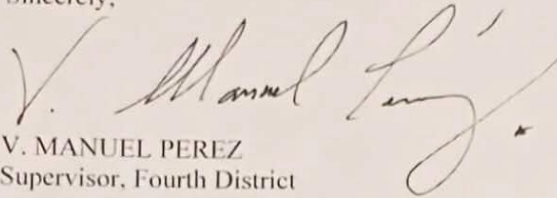
Coachella Municipal Utility and Coachella Data Center Campus

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For these reasons, I strongly support the establishment of the Coachella Municipal Utility and the development of the Coachella Data Center project, including both Phase I and Phase II. I believe this project represents a forward-looking investment in the economic future of eastern Riverside County and the Coachella Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Manuel Perez", with a small asterisk at the end of the signature.

V. MANUEL PEREZ
Supervisor, Fourth District

VMP:das