



City of Boardman

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June 21st, 2023

Dear Chair Sykes, Vice-Chair Wenholtz and Commissioner Drago:

This letter is in support of Rowan Digital Infrastructure's (Rowan) data center project in Morrow County. The City of Boardman is providing this letter to express our support for this project and the benefits it will deliver for our community. We understand that the first hearing for the Rowan project will be before the County Planning Commission on June 27, 2023, please include this letter in the official record.

The City of Boardman has experienced significant positive economic impacts that the data center industry has brought to our economy. Rowan's construction of a data center facility will undoubtedly add to these benefits by bringing hundreds of construction jobs and creating many high-paying permanent jobs locally.

We recognize that by deploying over half a billion dollars of capital investment locally, the project will lift all boats and be additive to the regional economy. This scale of development will have rippling economic development effects that will induce additional demand for data center service providers and suppliers. This project will increase general prosperity for our residents and benefit the Eastern Oregon region as a whole.

We are affirmatively in support of the Rowan project given that it will reposition unfarmable land from a passive, unproductive parcel into one that is economically beneficial to the community. This higher, better use creates an opportunity to expand our economic base and diversify of our regional economy, strengthening our position as a great place to live and work.

Boardman is a welcoming and collaborative place to do business and the Rowan team exemplified that approach. They have had productive conversations with us and other members of the community by sharing their plans and seeking feedback. The City of Boardman looks forward to helping this project and its benefits come to fruition.

We ask that the Planning Commission approve of Rowan Digital Infrastructure's land use application and that the Board of Commissioners do the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'R.A. Stokoe'.

Rick Stokoe
City Manager Pro Tem
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