

Morrow County Board of County Commissioners
100 S Court St.
Heppner, OR 97836

July 21, 2023

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

As a comprehensive community college, Blue Mountain is committed to providing responsive and high-quality innovative educational programs and services that promote personal and professional growth to strengthen our communities.

To further that mission, we are pleased to support Rowan Digital Infrastructure's proposed Percheron Data Center project. Please consider this letter of support a part of the official record for their application at each relevant public hearing.

As an education institution serving communities throughout eastern Oregon and the broader Pacific Northwest, we have seen firsthand the positive impacts that the emerging data center industry has had on our students. Projects like Rowan's signify boundless potential for our institution and those we serve to contribute to a high quality, high-paying, and resilient industry.

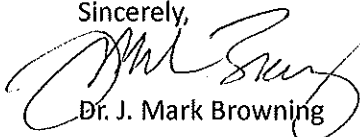
In fact, BMCC developed the one-year Data Center Technician certificate in partnership with local employers. Students completing this one-year certificate are fully prepared for employment in this rapidly-growing field, right here in our backyard. As of 2022, we are proud to say that this program has prepared more than 100 students to land jobs in the industry.

Rowan's proposed data center development could not only increase the stability of this program, but benefit our future students through increased investment in their communities right now through the economic development promise that the project represents.

Finally, we are grateful for the collaborative approach that Rowan taking toward our community. Their early outreach to community leaders and public officials throughout the region is important and welcome. We are hopeful to continue exploring opportunities to work with their team throughout this development and beyond.

Thank you for considering our point of view. We respectfully encourage your support of this project.

Sincerely,



Dr. J. Mark Browning
President