## RESOLUTION NO. 2025-7 OF THE LA PORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONE RS REQUESTIN G THE COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION CONSIDER A DATA CENTER ORDINANCE RESTRICTIN G SITING TO ONLY INDUSTRIALLY ZONED AREAS AND IMPOSING OTHER REASONABLE REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, we the members of the Board of County Commissioners continue to receive inquiry from constituents understandably concerned about data centers locating next to or near residentially zoned properties or further diminishment of prime agricultural land, and

WHEREAS, no plan for a data center to be located in unincorporated La Porte County is currently pending before either the La Porte County Plan Commission or the La Porte County Building Commissioner, and

WHEREAS, a Fortune 100 tech firm is purchasing significant tracts of land along U.S. 35 from 250 South to 400 South for what appears to be a data center with no authorization or consent from county government and with no indication that rezoning for "light industrial use" will be approved or is even desirable in such area, and

WHEREAS, this body believe it best that any proposal for a data center, when it does come to county government be governed by an up to date zoning and planning ordinance, and

WHEREAS, this body wants to make it clear to this developer or any other that we will ONLY entertain data center proposals in current industrially zoned areas such as Kingsbury Industrial Park, and

WHEREAS, Lake County government unanimously approved an ordinance in August, 2025 regulating the placement and operation of data centers located in unincorporated areas of the county, and

WHEREAS, under the ordinance - attached hereto - data centers will only be permitted in light or heavy industrially zoned districts with special approval. Data centers cannot be located in any area simply zoned for business, and

WHEREAS, under such an ordinance, data center operators also must provide the county, as part of the approval process, detailed site plan, emergency access plan, proof of sufficient water and power supply, a renewable resources commitment, a noise mitigation plan and a decommissioning plan among other requirements, and

WHEREAS, such ordinance would also mandate data center buildings be at least 200 feet from nearby agricultural or residential property lines, a maximum noise output of 55 decibels, all mechanical equipment out of public view, underground utilities, a security fence at least six feet height and annual training for firefighters serving the data center, as well as other obligations,

NOW THEREFORE, WE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, RESOLVE TO ONLY ENTERTAIN DATA CENTER PROPOSALS IN CURRENT INDUSTRIALLY ZONED AREAS AND WE RESPECTFULLY URGE THE LA PORTE COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION TO IMMEDIATELY UNDERTAKE CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE SIMILAR TO THAT ADOPTED BY LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, TO PROVIDE FOR PROPER AND RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH CENTERS.

All of which is adopted this 15th day of 000 bet, 2025.

Connie Gramarossa, President

Joe Haney, Member

Steve Holifield, Vice President

Attest; Mike Rosenbaum, Auditor

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