County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2026 Legislative Session Legislative Day No. **11**

Resolution No. 15-2026

Introduced by: Christiana Rigby

SHORT TITLE: Appointment – Hussnain Yaser – SMART Data Center Task Force

TITLE: A RESOLUTION appointing Hussnain Yaser to the SMART (Strategic Moratorium for Assessing Responsible Technology) Data Center Task Force as the appointee for the Third Councilmanic District.

Introduced and read first time Sept 8, 2026.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2026. Did not appear

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted___, Adopted with amendments___, Failed___, Withdrawn ✓, by the County Council on Oct 5, 2026.

Certified By Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment

LEG2727

9/23/2026 Request from sponsor to Withdraw MEA

WHEREAS, on June 1st, 2026, the Howard County Council approved Council Bill 31-2026, which established a temporary prohibition of issuance of certain approvals of development plans on data processing centers, and called for the creation of the SMART (Strategic Moratorium for Assessing Responsible Technology) Data Center Task Force (the "Task Force"); and

WHEREAS, the members of the Task Force are tasked with developing a definition of "Data Center" for the Zoning Regulations; recommending best practices for data center siting and location, setbacks and screening, water consumption and impact, power and energy infrastructure, noise and acoustic mitigation, impact fees or excise tax application, decommissioning plans, removing the data center tax credit; and assessing the impact of data centers on the Howard County Climate Forward: Climate Action and Resiliency Plan; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Council Bill 31-2026, each Councilmember shall nominate one member to the Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the County Council has the utmost confidence in the abilities and the character of:

Hussnain Yaser
Columbia, Maryland

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland this _____day of _____, 2026 that Hussnain Yaser be appointed as a member of the SMART Data Center Task Force of Howard County, Maryland, representing the Third Councilmanic District, to serve from the date this Resolution is adopted until August 3, 2027, or until a successor is appointed.

Withdrawn

Hussnain Ahmed Yaser, P.E.

Summary

- Master's in Mechanical Engineering with 12 years' hands-on experience in developing, evaporative, dry, and adiabatic cooling products.
- Expertise in product design optimization and thermal performance improvement using lab results, thermal simulation tools, and vendor's technical data.
- Experienced in hydronic system design, industrial refrigeration piping design, pumps and fans selections, and heat exchangers' analysis.
- Lead the cross-functional team to troubleshoot complex technical issues in the field.
- Proficient in airflow management for precise temperature and humidity control inside the room.
- Working knowledge of adiabatic cooling, free-cooling, direct liquid cooling, and other types of data center cooling systems.
- Improve the R&D lab thermal testing processes and VBA sub-routines.

Experience

Baltimore Aircoil Company, Jessup - MD
Global Thermal Test Lead **08/2022 to Present**

- Lead the team to improve the new products design and thermal efficiency by utilizing simulation tools, lab thermal test data, and vendors' technical data (fan and pump curves).
- Lead the cross-functional team to troubleshoot the cooling towers and evaporative condensers thermal performance and system operational issues in the field.
- Lead the factory acceptance tests to meet the thermal performance and product design specifications for critical cooling applications (Data Centers, Hospitals, Airports, etc.).
- Provide technical expertise to design and build thermal testing labs, including the system layout design, pumps and fans selection, pipes and valves sizing, boilers operation strategy, and troubleshoot the system start-up issues.
- Provided technical expertise to refurbish and improve the BAC evaporative condensers testing facility and in the event of an incident, fulfill the incident commander role.
- Lead the annual product line CTI (Cooling Technology Institute) thermal certification testing at BAC and ensure that each product line meets the CTI-certified thermal ratings.
- Drafted a comprehensive evaporative condenser piping manual to help the sales and applications team to quickly answer the evaporative condenser's installation questions.
- Improve the R&D lab thermal testing processes and VBA sub-routines to expedite thermal test data analysis, improve lab efficiency, and quality of the test data.
- Develop guidelines to conduct thermal testing, steps to troubleshoot thermal performance issues in the field, and lead training for new thermal test engineers and lab technicians.

Daikin Industries Limited, Houston - TX
Engineering Team Lead – Light Commercial Splits **08/2021 to 07/2022**

- Led the light commercial design engineering team to develop split air-conditioners and heat pumps to meet the Department of Energy 2023 energy efficiency requirements.

- In alignment with the overall project milestones, developed a detailed design engineering schedule (testing, design, and trial builds) to ensure that the design team meets all the project deliverables in a timely manner.
- Led the cross-functional collaborations to develop decision matrices and make optimal design decisions to meet technical challenges and business needs.
- Led DFMEA, design and quality reviews, cost reviews, and stage-gate reviews at different stages of the project.
- Led the efforts to collaborate with compliance, supply chain, and certification agency to meet the UL 60335 2-40 requirements.
- Reviewed and improved the product design to reduce manufacturing complexity, standardized parts across different product lines, reduced cost, and improved product reliability.

Baltimore Aircoil Company, Jessup - MD
Global Product Platform Engineer – Evaporative Condensers 06/2019 to 07/2021

- Led the development of new evaporative condensers and fluid coolers from stage-gate-1 to stage-gate-4 (product specification, design, prototype selection, testing, design validation, launch, post-launch product support).
- Prepared and presented thermal performance, airflow rate, and cost comparison analysis at different stages of product development.
- Worked with an outside service provider to plan and execute the CFD simulations to quickly iterate through the design ideas to finalize the product design.
- Drafted test reports and worked with the lead designer to improve the product design.
- Developed decision matrices and led the cross-functional discussions to make optimal design decisions.
- Conducted DFMEA for the new products with Quality, Manufacturing, Warranty Service, and other cross-functional teams.
- Performed root cause analysis to promptly identify and resolve the field issues for the newly introduced product lines and made design improvements.

Baltimore Aircoil Company, Jessup - MD
Thermal Test Engineer / Advanced Thermal Engineer 09/2013 to 06/2019

- Led multiple NPI projects during the development of CTI certified thermal ratings
- Proposed design improvements to improve thermal performance and lower the cost of the product to meet the NPI targets.
- Conducted annual thermal certification tests to maintain the Cooling Technology Institute (CTI) thermal certification for ten product lines.
- Provided thermal technology support to the existing product lines for special marketing and sales selections for high sales value projects (projects worth over $1 million).
- Developed and executed thermal test plans to validate innovative evaporative heat rejection technologies.
- Provided thermal expertise to predict the thermal performance of the new technologies.

CTI and IIAR Technical Committees Work

- Represent BAC at Cooling Technology Institute (CTI) and International Institute of All-natural Refrigeration (IIAR) in numerous technical committees.
- Lead and/or participate in CTI technical committee discussions to develop standards and guidelines for heat rejection equipment.
- Collaborate with the representatives from the other organizations (customers, competitors, suppliers) to draft new test codes, standards, and guidelines.
- Chairman of STD-201 Adiabatic, Thermal Certification Standard for Adiabatic Fluid Coolers – Expected to publish in Feb 2026.
- Voting member of CTI's test codes: ATC-105, ATC-106, ATC-150, and ATC-174
- Member ASHRAE

Education

- **Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering** **04/2014**
  University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
- **Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering** **06/2008**
  Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology, Pakistan

Harrod, Michelle

From: Anderson, Isaiah
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 2:33 PM
To: Harrod, Michelle; Respass, Charity
Subject: Fw: 9/22 - Reminder: Legislative Public Hearing

Same for Mr. Yaser (CR151-2026)

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Hussnain A. Yaser <hussnainyaser@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 September 2026 14:32:00
To: Anderson, Isaiah <ianderson@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Re: 9/22 - Reminder: Legislative Public Hearing

WARNING!!!
This email originated from someone outside of Howard County
DO NOT CLICK LINKS OR OPEN ATTACHMENTS
unless you recognize the sender and know for sure that the content is safe

Isaiah,

I will not be able to attend the meeting today.

Apologies for the delayed response.

Regards,

Hussnain

On Tue, Sep 22, 2026 at 11:09 AM Anderson, Isaiah <ianderson@howardcountymd.gov> wrote:

Good Morning Hussnain,

I wanted to touch base following my previous email regarding tonight's Public Hearing.

Will you be able to attend to provide testimony on your appointment to the SMART Data Center Task Force (CR151-2026)?

I can get you signed up on my end, but I wanted to confirm if you will be attending in person or virtually.

Happy to discuss if you have any questions; I can be reached at (410) 313-0832.

Thank you!

Isaiah Anderson

Harrod, Michelle

From: Gelwicks, Colette
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 3:30 PM
To: Harrod, Michelle
Subject: RE: CR151-2026 H Yaser

Hi Michelle,

Yes this is correct unfortunately. We are working to find an alternate appointee now.

Colette Gelwicks (hear name) *she/they*
Chief of Staff for Councilwoman Christiana Rigby, District 3

Howard County Council
3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043
cgelwicks@howardcountymd.gov
410.313.2421



Sign up for our newsletter!

From: Harrod, Michelle <mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 3:29 PM
To: Gelwicks, Colette <cgelwicks@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: FW: CR151-2026 H Yaser
Importance: High

Colette,

Just following up, please confirm this is correct. If so, we will put a motion to withdraw in the next legislative session script.

Thank you,
Michelle R. Harrod
Howard County Government
Administrator to the County Council

410-313-3111 (office)
443-398-6013 (cell)
mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov

From: Rinehart, Nick <nrinehart@howardcountymd.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 3:27 PM
To: Wimberly, Theodore <twimberly@howardcountymd.gov>; Harrod, Michelle <mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov>
Cc: Anderson, Isaiah <ianderson@howardcountymd.gov>

Subject: CR151-2026 H Yaser
Importance: High

FYI, I was talking with Colette about another assignment, and she mentioned that their nominee to the SMART Data Center Task Force opted to withdraw his name from consideration.

They don't currently have a replacement in mind.

Sincerely,

Nick Rinehart *(he/him)*
Legislative Analyst
Howard County Council
3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043
410-313-3126
nrinehart@howardcountymd.gov