



# FACT SHEET



# DC BLOX AIR QUALITY

## Air Quality & Our Data Centers

### A DC BLOX Community Resource

DC BLOX understands that communities may have questions about air quality when a data center is proposed. Data centers do not operate like factories, plants, or heavy industrial facilities.

A data center’s normal daily function is to house and protect computer and network equipment. Most systems inside the facility are powered by electricity, including the technology equipment, cooling systems, security systems, and network infrastructure. Backup generators are located on site for resiliency if utility power is interrupted.

Topic	What It Means
Normal Operations	DC BLOX data centers do not manufacture products, process chemicals, or operate smokestacks as part of daily business.
Backup Generators	Generators are used for emergency backup power and limited testing, not routine daily operations.
Air Quality Standards	Backup generator operations are subject to applicable federal and state air quality requirements, including EPA emissions standards and state permitting, monitoring, and compliance programs.
Testing Schedule	DC BLOX generators only run about half an hour once a month and about four continuous hours once a year for reliability testing.
Air Quality Profile	Because generator use is limited, data centers typically have a lower air-emissions profile than many industrial uses.
Compared with Other Uses	Some factories, processing plants, warehouses, or distribution hubs may involve continuous operations, production equipment, heavy truck traffic, fuel use, or process-related emissions.

### Why does this matter?

Air quality concerns are understandable, especially for projects in commercial or industrial areas. For DC BLOX data centers, emissions are limited because there is no manufacturing process, no continuous combustion, and relatively low daily traffic. Backup generators are used for reliability during outages and limited testing, helping keep critical digital infrastructure available without operating like a traditional industrial facility.



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### Have questions?

Learn more about DC BLOX and how digital infrastructure projects connect communities like yours to the world.