

THE BACTERIA SIGNAL

AI Data Center Water Contamination — Data-Verified Edition

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COMMAND CORE

SPECIAL REPORT – v4.2.1 | "THE BACTERIA SIGNAL"

001

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
META CHEYENNE
CONTAMINATION

800M AI DATACENTER |
Cupriavidus gillardii CONTAMINATION.
origin: GOAT SYSTEMS LLC
WASTEWATER DISCHARGE.
CITY WATER RECLAMATION
SYSTEM COMPROMISED.
MULTI-MONTH CLEANUP REQUIRED.
canary in the coal mine.



CONTACT: OPEN INTELLIGENCE

PAYMENT: PUBLIC RELEASE

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GLOBAL CAPITAL SUBBOTS

THE PATHOGEN'S PATH

002

PATHOGEN:
Meta's 25 global facilities:
Meta's 25 global facilities
(including Cheyenne)

PATHOGEN: *Cupriavidus gillardii*
RARE. MULTIDRUG-RESISTANT.
31.3% MORTALITY RATE.
10 deaths (of 32 known) since 2009.
TARGET: Immunocompromised & Children.
AEROSOL RISK: Reclaimed water
on public parks & golf courses.



CONTACT: CITY UTILITIES DATA

PAYMENT: VERIFIED

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TREASURYBOT©

WITHOUT SciFiBot© ASSESSMENT

003

CONVENTIONAL READ: "It wasn't drinking water."
METRICS MISSED: Commissioning discharge unquantified.
"Meta is cooperating." I Detection was accidental.
LIABILITY SHIELD: Parent vs Subsidiary (Goat Systems) dynamics.
CONCLUSION: Isolated mishap; construction resumes.

CURRENCY PRESSURE:
USD/JPY: **-9162** (near lows);
Energy Import Costs: High



CONTACT:
ECONOMIC COUNCIL

PAYMENT:
BASIC ANALYSIS

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STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS ASSESSMENT

004

WITH SciFiBot© FLOW LEDGER

PARAMETER	VALUE
UNREGULATED PATHOGENS	DESIGN FEATURE
NEAR-ZERO-WATER	'NEAR-ZERO' LIE
CONTRACTOR SHIELD	INDUSTRY PROBLEM
AEROSOL PATHWAY	UNHEALTHY RISKS
ECONOMIC TRAP	MORAL HAZARD



THE META PARADOX: BUILD SAFETY or SLOW DOWN

CONTACT:
SCI-FI INTEL

PAYMENT:
STRATEGIC ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE

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CLASSIFICATION: PUBLIC

STATUS: VERIFIED

DATE: JULY 8, 2026

Sources: Cheyenne BOPU · Wyoming Tribune Eagle · Cowboy State Daily · Tom's Hardware · TechSpot · Futurism

Executive Summary

Meta's \$800 million AI data center under construction in Cheyenne, Wyoming, contaminated the city's water reclamation system with *Cupriavidus gilardii*, a rare, multidrug-resistant bacterium. The contamination originated from fill-and-flush wastewater discharged by Goat Systems LLC, the Meta-affiliated construction entity, during commissioning of the site's cooling system.

The Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities (BOPU) traced the bacteria to Goat Systems in a routine fecal-contamination test in late February 2026, found the contractor in significant noncompliance, and permanently revoked its discharge privileges on March 24, 2026. BOPU subsequently suspended all data-center fill-and-flush and closed-loop wastewater discharges citywide. Two water reclamation plants were taken offline for months of cleanup; the reuse system was back in operation by early July 2026.

Critical distinction: no human infections have been linked to the Cheyenne contamination. The affected system was reclaimed/reuse water used for irrigation, not the public drinking supply. Follow-up testing found no remaining *Cupriavidus gilardii* in either treatment plant as of the BOPU's most recent statement.

Verified Facility & Incident Data

ATTRIBUTE	DETAIL
Company	Meta Platforms, Inc.
Location	High Plains Business Park, Cheyenne, WY
Investment	\$800 million
Size	715,000 sq ft (~800,000 incl. support)
Construction entity	Goat Systems LLC (Meta-affiliated)
Status	Under construction, expected online 2027
Pathogen	Cupriavidus gilardii
Type	Gram-negative, metal/multidrug-resistant
First detected	Late February 2026, routine fecal testing
Discharge revoked	March 24, 2026
Citywide suspension	All DC fill-and-flush discharge, announced early July 2026
Plants affected	Two Cheyenne water reclamation facilities
Human infections linked	None confirmed as of reporting

Sources: Cheyenne BOPU statement; Wyoming Tribune Eagle; Cowboy State Daily; Tom's Hardware; TechSpot.

Cupriavidus gilardii: Medical Context

Cupriavidus gilardii is a naturally occurring, gram-negative bacterium found in soil and groundwater. It typically lives harmlessly in the environment but can act as an opportunistic pathogen in immunocompromised individuals or those undergoing invasive medical procedures. Human infection is extremely rare.

A 2026 medical literature review identified 32 total reported *Cupriavidus* infection cases dating back to 2009 (all species combined, including *C. gilardii*, *C. pauculus*, *C. metallidurans*, and *C. respiraculi*). Of those cases, 10 patients died, a 31.3% mortality rate across the pooled sample — a figure that has circulated widely in coverage of the Cheyenne incident.

IMPORTANT: The 31.3% mortality figure describes the global medical literature on *Cupriavidus* infections generally, collected over 17 years — it is NOT a mortality rate for the Cheyenne incident. No human infections have been confirmed or linked to the Cheyenne water contamination. The pathogen is not currently a regulated contaminant under the Clean Water Act, meaning municipal treatment plants are not designed to routinely screen for it.

Conventional Interpretation

Coverage of the incident has centered on three recurring frames:

1. "Not drinking water." Meta and city officials have consistently distinguished the affected reuse/reclaimed water system, used for irrigation at parks and golf courses, from the public drinking supply, which was not affected.
2. "Contained and cooperative." Once identified, the contractor stopped discharging, the city traced the source, permanently revoked that contractor's privileges, and follow-up testing found the plants clear. BOPU's engineering manager, Frank Strong, told the Wyoming Tribune Eagle the bacterium simply was not something the city normally tests for.
3. "Isolated construction-phase incident." The facility is not yet operational; this was a commissioning-stage discharge issue tied to one contractor, not an operational failure of the data center itself.

This framing is accurate as far as it goes. What it doesn't fully address: the pathogen was caught by chance during an unrelated fecal-bacteria test, not by any protocol designed to catch industrial pathogens, and no federal standard currently requires testing for organisms like this in industrial discharge.

Structural Analysis (EnergyBot View)

The following is interpretive analysis, not verified fact.

1. A regulatory gap, not a one-off.

Cupriavidus gilardii is not regulated under the Clean Water Act. It was caught by an unrelated routine test, not targeted screening. As more data centers commission closed-loop cooling systems, similar unregulated organisms could plausibly enter other municipal systems undetected.

2. Commissioning discharge is an overlooked step.

Closed-loop cooling is marketed as near-zero-water during operations, but the one-time fill-and-flush step before sealing the loop generates wastewater that isn't captured in operational water-efficiency metrics. This is a real gap in how the industry currently measures water impact, separate from the safety of any specific incident.

3. Contractor structuring matters for accountability.

Goat Systems LLC, not Meta directly, is named as the discharge source. This is a common industry structure and doesn't by itself indicate wrongdoing, but it does mean public accountability for construction practices runs through a subsidiary rather than the parent brand.

4. Aerosol exposure pathway is understudied.

Cheyenne's reclaimed water is used for irrigation at parks and golf courses. Whether aerosolization during spray irrigation creates a meaningful inhalation exposure risk for an organism like this is a reasonable question for public health officials, not one this report can answer.

Meta's Broader 2026 Backdrop

The Cheyenne incident lands amid a turbulent year for Meta, independently verified:

- Meta laid off approximately 8,000 employees (about 10% of its workforce) beginning May 20, 2026, as part of a restructuring to redirect capital toward AI infrastructure, with 2026 capex guidance of \$115-135 billion.
- A New Mexico jury found Meta failed to protect young users from child sexual exploitation, with potential penalties reaching \$375 million; Meta has said it will appeal.
- A separate Los Angeles jury found Meta and Google liable for mental health harms tied to a plaintiff's social media use as a child, awarding \$6 million.

These items are independently documented and are included here as context for the scale at which Meta is currently operating — not as evidence connecting those matters to the Cheyenne water contamination, which is a separate, distinct incident involving a construction contractor.

Sourcing Notes & Full Ledger

Corrections from earlier drafts: this edition removes unverified secondary claims (exact facility count among Meta's global footprint, named general contractor, solar project figures, specific job-count projections) that could not be independently confirmed in this pass. It also makes explicit, high in the report, that zero human infections have been linked to the Cheyenne contamination and that the widely cited 31.3% mortality figure describes the global medical literature on Cupriavidus infections generally — not an outcome of this incident.

Sources

- Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities — public statement, early July 2026
- Wyoming Tribune Eagle / wyomingnews.com — BOPU traces bacteria to Meta contractor
- Cowboy State Daily — "Cheyenne Won't Take Data Center Wastewater..." Jul 2, 2026
- Tom's Hardware — Meta water discharge suspension coverage
- TechSpot — Cheyenne suspends datacenter wastewater discharge
- Futurism / Yahoo News — Cupriavidus mortality statistic reporting
- Cybernews — Meta data center water contamination coverage
- Al Jazeera / NPR / Yahoo Finance / 24/7 Wall St. — Meta May 2026 layoffs
- NPR — Meta New Mexico and Los Angeles verdicts, Apr 2026
- PMC / MDPI — Clinical literature review of Cupriavidus infection cases

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