

Eileen Gay

As I mentioned, my husband Jon and I are Painted Rock residents in Storey County where the Blockchain Innovation Zone development is proposed.

The Innovation Zone Bill includes many dazzling elements: the type of currency to be used in the Innovation Zone, an undefined right to build any type of development they choose, a change of governance, a claim about jobs, etc – way too many diverse issues within one proposal to hide what is really wanted by the proponents - No oversight by anyone but themselves.

It's the secession from the county that should be questioned the most.

This won't be the last county to have to deal with the Innovation Zone issue if other mega rich companies decide to take advantage of the unfettered 'opportunities' of Innovation Zones. It's important to carefully consider what is really being asked for here - the ability to build whatever the Innovation Zone developer wants, however they want, with regard to no one.

Just an example: We here at Painted Rock are neighbors to what would be the first Innovation Zone. No one from the developer, I repeat, no one has bothered to contact any of us in our neighboring community about our thoughts or concerns about taking over the area adjacent to us that would effectively cut us off from Storey County.

This developer doesn't care how they will impact us because if an Innovation Zone is in place, they have no obligation or motivation at all to be good neighbors. None.

I reiterate, all the agencies that Innovation Zone proponents say will slow down its construction are there for good reason. Oversight is what makes for safe, well considered, and well-balanced development. To allow any developer to show up, buy a large a chunk of land in a rural county and, by waving a lot of money around as inducement to the state, jump over all the guidelines that have been carefully put in place over time to protect the environment, the public interests, and various long-term relationships and interests in the area, is unconscionable.

Respectfully,
Eileen Gay