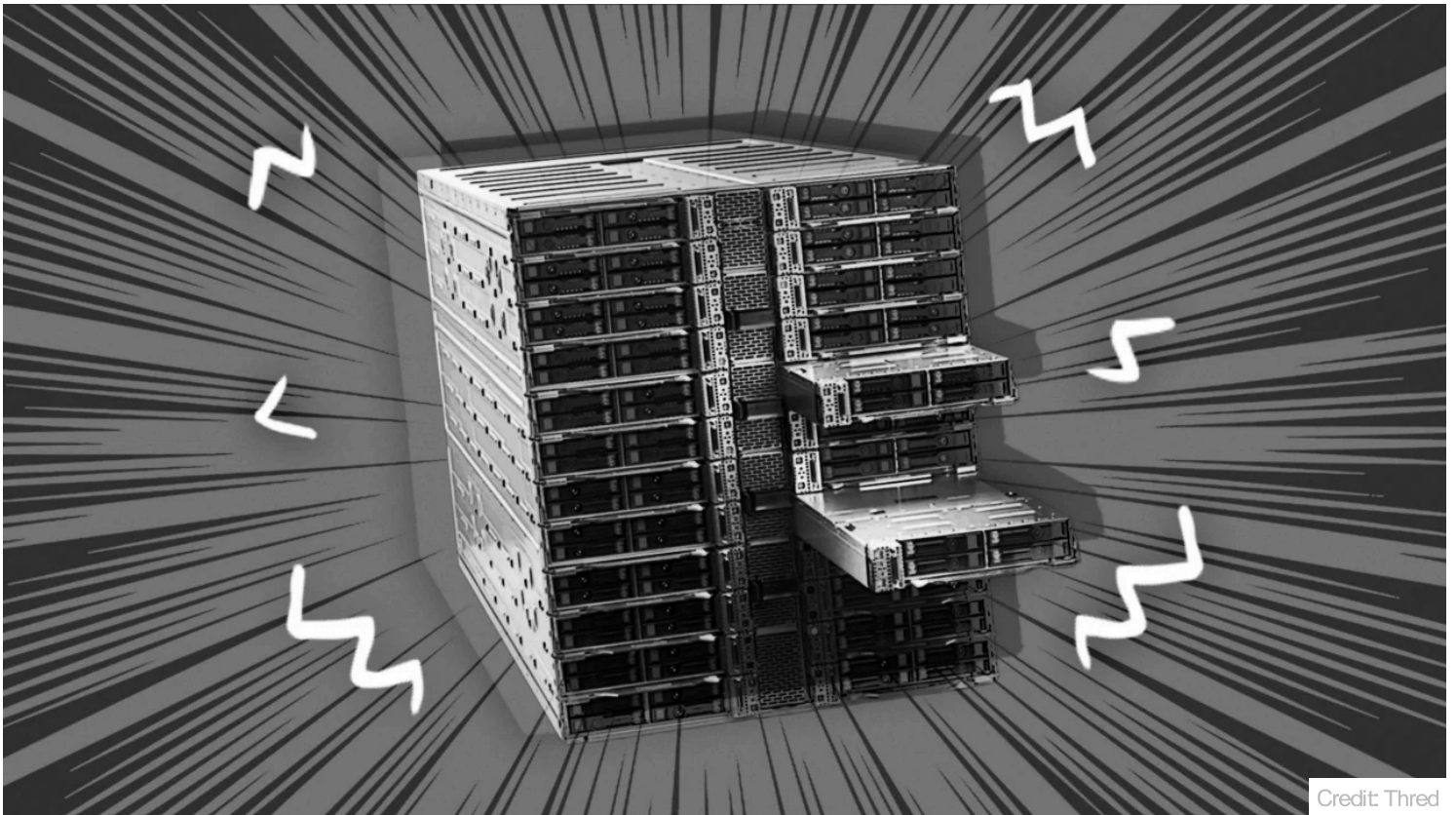


# US

TECH TECHNOLOGY Posted 6 January, 2023



Credit Thred



By Jamie Watts London, UK

0 comments

## We know all about the ecological toll of Bitcoin mining. but a lesser talked about issue is iust how

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place to live.

The soft crashing of the famous waterfall has been drowned out by the relentless hum of giant server fans since 2019. Allured by cheap hydroelectric power, cryptocurrency mining firms Blockfusion and Bitcoin have moved in and set up shop on an industrial scale.

Across the US in general, mining plants continue to sprout up following China's uncompromising ban on the practice last year. Now far and away the leading territory for crypto, the US has filled the void to keep blockchain empires afloat.

We've written countless times about how energy intensive blockchain technologies are, with estimates stating that mining a single Bitcoin uses the same amount as the average US household over 50 days. We hear far less, however, about the ridiculous measures taken to keep all this gear cool and ticking over.

### Bitcoin mining center causing noise complaints



Literally thousands of industrial-grade fans whir ceaselessly to prevent

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An anonymous local who lives more than 1.5km from the nearest Bitcoin plant likens the processing noise to a 747 jet. The once audible running of Niagara Falls 3km from his garden is now just a distant memory.

Faced with constant complaints – mainly regarding US Bitcoin – the mayor of Niagara Falls announced an embargo on any new mining activity in December 2021, and then brought a noise limit of 50 decibels within residential areas into effect for 2022.

### Inside the Largest Bitcoin Mine in The U.S. | WIRED



‘The noise pollution of this industry is like nothing else that has been there,’ said Robert Restaino, who ordered the closure of two crypto farms last month until they’re able to comply with local limits.

For context, the average Bitcoin mining machine produces between 70 and 90 decibels as a by-product, which explains why grievances continue flooding in for City Hall officials nationwide. Not all of these instances are easily resolved, either, with noise pollution regulated at local level by states and ignored by federal governments.

*In the rare instances that crypto companies attempt to proactively stifle*

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Jamie Watts

Tech Editor      London, UK

I'm Jamie (He/Him), the Editor in Chief at Thred. Keeping up with gaming and revolutionary technology is my forte, but when away from my keyboard, you'll probably find me wrapped around a large Tango ice blast at the latest mediocre horror flick. Follow me on **Twitter**, **LinkedIn** and drop me some ideas/feedback via **email**.

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Recent advancements in transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) offer new, accessible at-home options and change the course for depression treatments. Depression affects individuals uniquely, with symptoms and underlying causes that vary widely. For some, depression may stem from biochemical imbalances, while for others, it could be linked to traumatic...

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Credit: Unsplash

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## **Space travel might be worse for human health than scientists thought**

New research by a British non-profit suggests that the health consequences of being in space may be more serious than originally believed. As far as suitable environments go, space is pretty uninhabitable. Not only does it lack oxygen, but the atmosphere is either far too hot or far too cold for humans to survive in without help from special suits and space stations....

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**TECHNOLOGY**

## **Universal partners with 'ethical' AI music generator KLAY**

A company called Klay Vision is building a 'Large Music Model' called KLAYMM, which aims to set ethical foundations for AI music generation. Universal Music has partnered and says the 'next Beatles will play with KLAY.' After 'BBL Drizzy' something needs to change. Last May, comedian Will Hatcher went viral when Metro Boomin sampled his AI-generated so...

By [Jamie Watts](#) London, UK



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