U.S. Data Centers and Responsible Energy Use

Data centers power the digital services we rely on every day, from healthcare and banking to education and communications. As demand for digital services grows, so does the demand for electricity. The data center industry is working alongside utilities, regulators, and grid operators to advance an affordable, reliable grid that supports modern economic growth.

Supporting Affordable Electricity Through Long-Term Infrastructure Investment

Full Cost of Service Commitment

DCC member companies are committed to paying their full cost of service for the energy they use. Data center companies routinely pay utilities for project-specific equipment and infrastructure, like breakers, transformers, entire substations, and supporting infrastructure.

Why it matters: these practices help ensure other customers are not left paying for infrastructure tied directly to a data center project.

Independent Validation

Virginia JLARC
Current rates appropriately allocate costs to the customers responsible for incurring them, including data center customers.

Arizona Corporation Commission:
The data center industry is paying its fair share of expansion of power generation and infrastructure under existing utility rate structures and Commission practices.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory:
Data center growth was not a driver of electricity bill increases, and adding data centers to the grid can help lower energy costs for other customers.

Expanding Access to Clean Energy

84%
of tracked U.S. clean energy procurement

According to S&P Global Insight, technology and web services companies accounted for more than 84% of tracked U.S. clean energy procurement from February to July 2025. The data center industry has been a leader in expanding access to clean energy and remains committed to sustainability and innovation.

DATA CENTER COALITION

Utilities are Highlighting the Benefits of Large Energy Users

Data centers and other large loads offer a unique opportunity to reduce energy costs for other customers while supporting new infrastructure development. Because data centers generally use large amounts of electricity around-the-clock, these large loads can take on a higher share of fixed utility system costs that would have otherwise been borne by homes, businesses, and other existing customers. At a time when affordability is top of mind, utilities across the country are explaining and unlocking this opportunity.

California – PG&E

1-2%

Estimated long-term bill savings for customers for every 1 GW of new electric demand. PG&E said "This growth can help lower costs for all electric customers.

Arkansas, Louisiana, & Mississippi – Entergy

$7B

Projected customer savings over the next 20 years from recent agreement between Entergy and data center operators, benefitting 2.3 million customers.

Pennsylvania – PPL Electric

10%

Estimated reduction in transmission costs for customers from the first GW of new large-load growth connected to the grid.

Virginia - Dominion Energy

10%

Decline in residential customers' share of transmission costs since 2020, while data centers' allocation has increased by 10%.

Data Centers are Investing in America's Energy Future

Data center companies are helping accelerate investment in energy technologies. These technologies can support reliable, around-the-clock power and a stronger grid over the long term:

- **Advanced nuclear energy**
- **Enhanced geothermal**
- **Long-duration storage**
- **Carbon capture & grid support**

Planning for Future Energy Demand

Utilities and grid operators across the country are updating how they plan for large new energy users. These efforts help ensure that the grid is prepared, costs are fair, and reliability is protected for all customers.

The Bottom Line

Data centers are not only powering the digital economy, they are also helping drive investment in the nation's energy future. From supporting grid infrastructure and advanced energy technologies to helping utilities manage long-term system costs, the industry is working alongside regulators, utilities, and policymakers to support reliable and affordable electricity service for the long term.

About DCC

The Data Center Coalition (DCC) is the national membership association for leading data center owners and operators, as well as large end users. As the voice of the industry, DCC advocates for a strong business climate, as well as policies and investments that support the growth and success of the sector.