

Data Centers

**Economic Development and Workforce
Services Interim Committee**

August 19, 2026



**Energy
Development**



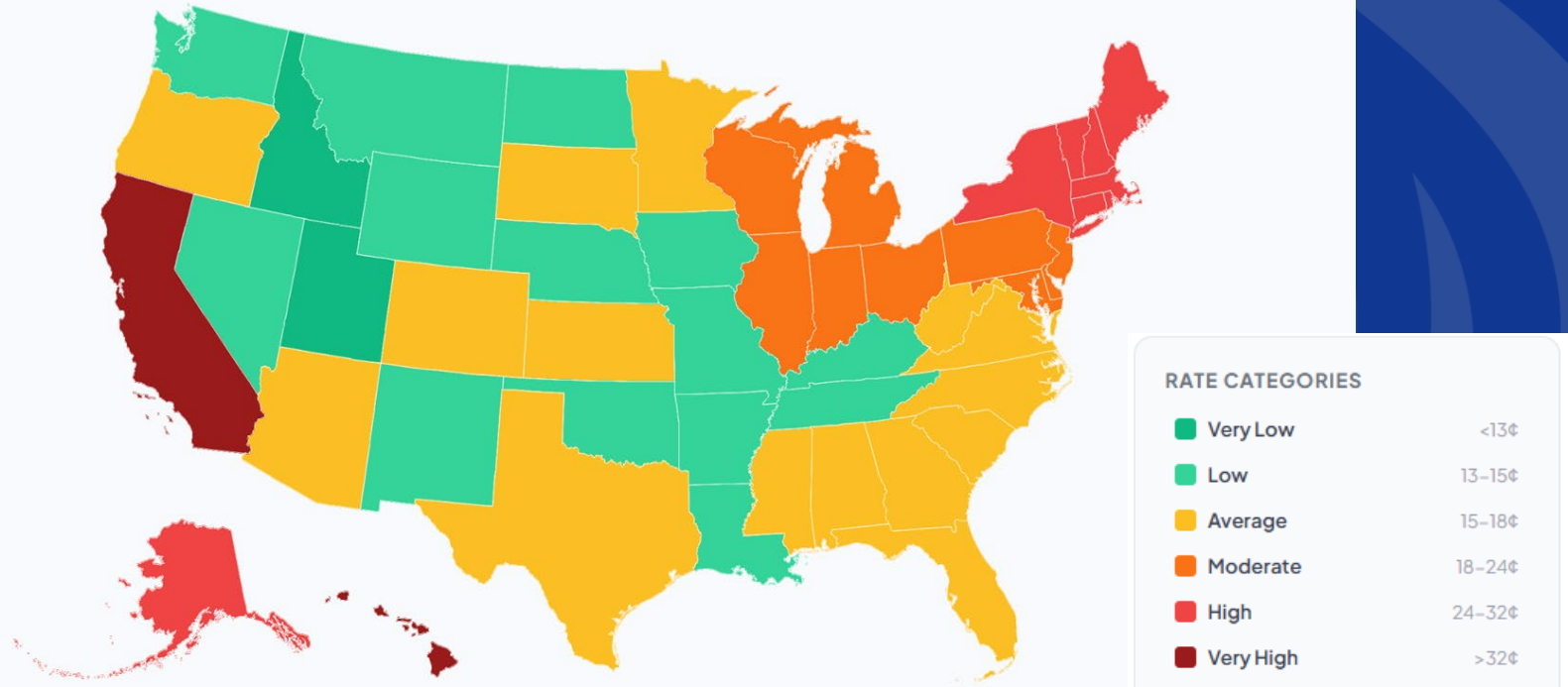
S.B. 132- National leader in data center policy

- “Cost-causer pays” policy
- Data center generation and infrastructure cannot get into the rate base
- Drives economic development for “behind the meter” development in rural communities
- Likely inspired policy behind President Trump’s March 2026 “Ratepayer Protection Pledge”



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Electricity Rates in Utah

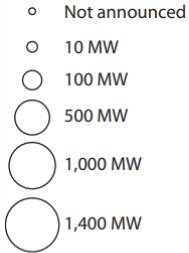


Map of Data Centers in Utah

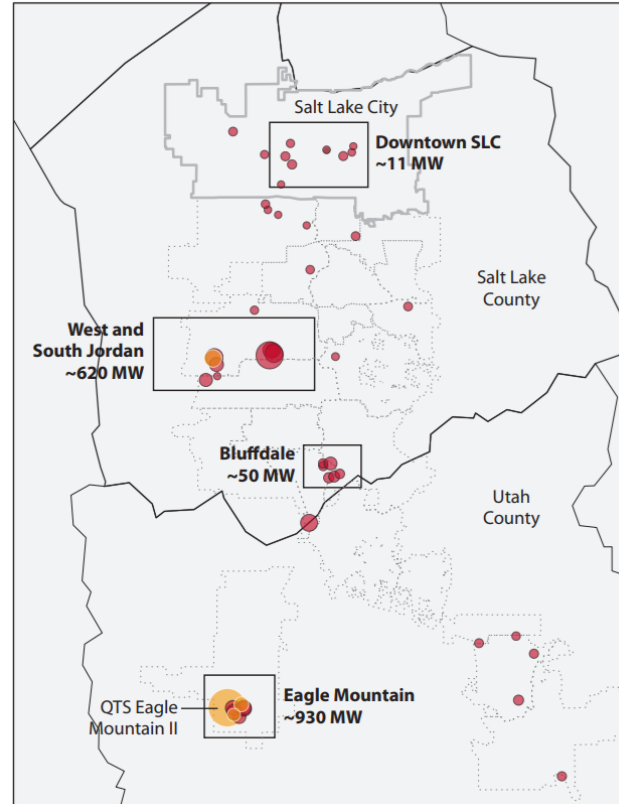
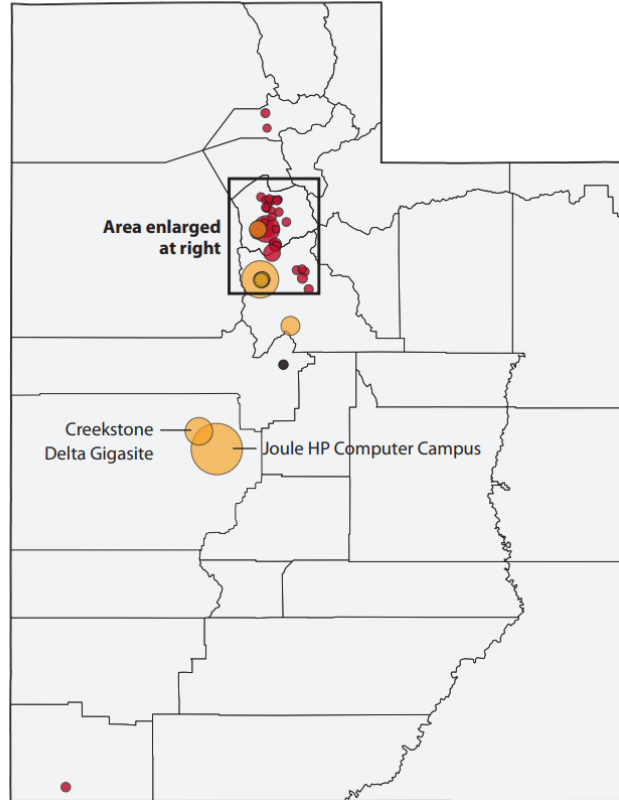
Utah's Data Centers, 2026

MW Capacity

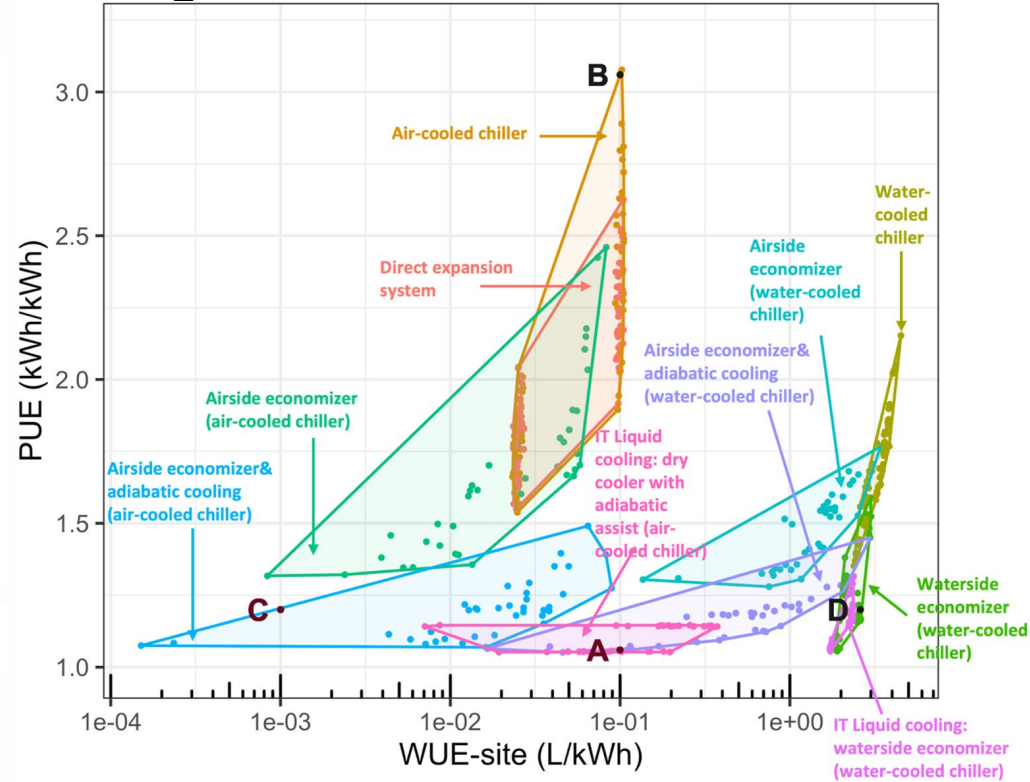
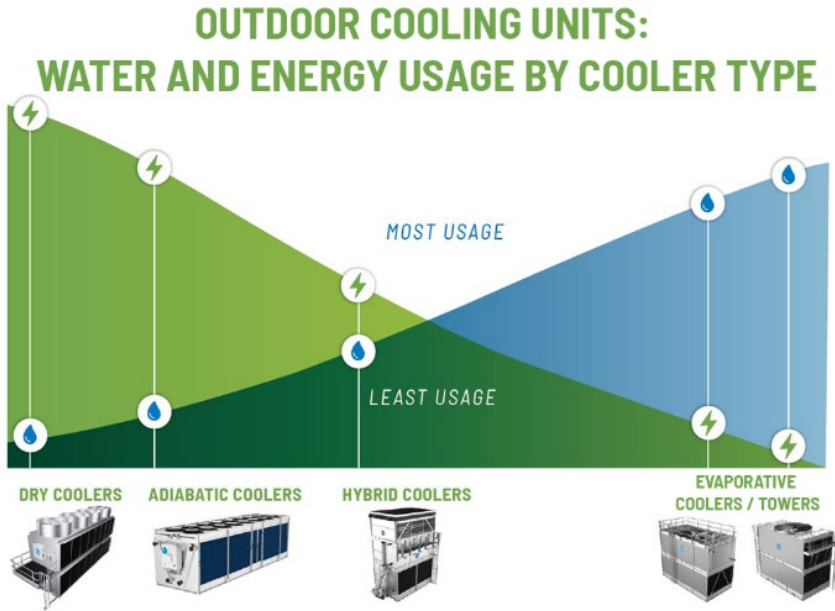
(IT load if available;
else total utility)



Status



The Range of Cooling Technologies

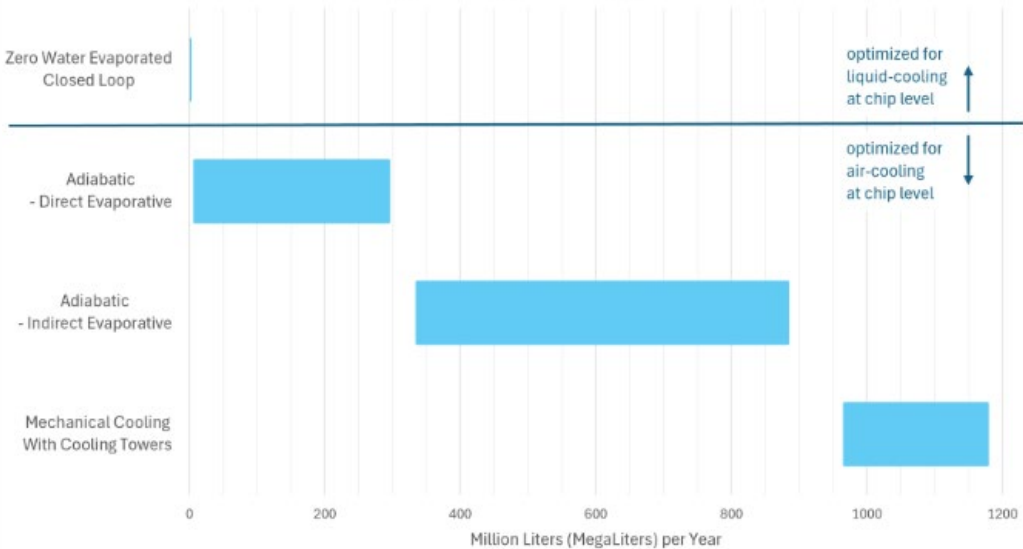


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<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0921344925001892?via%3Dihub#fig0004>
<https://baltimoreaircoil.com/articles/energy-water-efficiency-data-center-metrics>

Where does Water Use Come From?

Typical Water Usage Range per Microsoft Datacenter
by Cooling Technology



These data represent technologies used at Microsoft Owned Operational Datacenters.

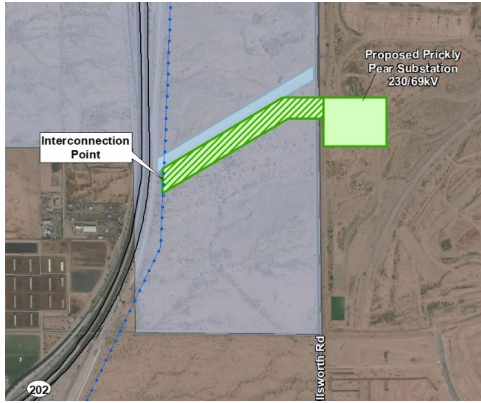


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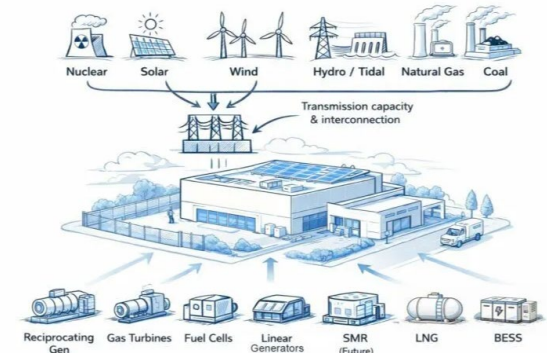
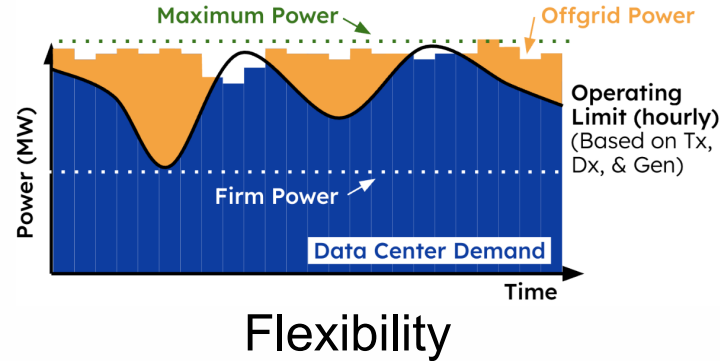
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-cloud/blog/2024/12/09/sustainable-by-design-next-generation-datacenters-consume-zero-water-for-cooling/>
<https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/sustainability/amazon-data-center-water-usage>

Company	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Microsoft	0.49	N/A	N/A	0.30	0.27
Google	N/A	N/A	1.15	1.15	N/A
Meta	0.26	0.20	0.18	0.19	N/A
Amazon/AWS	0.25	0.19	0.18	0.15	0.12

How can Datacenter Help the Grid?



Infrastructure
Buildout



New
Supply



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<https://www.srpnet.com/grid-water-management/grid-management/improvement-projects/project-huckleberry>
<https://www.camus.energy/blog/how-flexible-interconnections-can-help-data-centers-connect-faster-without-overloading-the-grid>
<https://www.eaton.com/gb/en-gb/markets/data-centers/transform-your-power/energy-aware/eaton-microsoft-grid-interactive-data-center-whitepaper.html>

Examples of Data Center Innovation in Utah



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Nowva Data Center- West Jordan



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Valar Atomics-Nvidia Partnership



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Fervo Energy and Data Center Opportunities



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Faraday Solar Project Utah County

- 1.2 Million Solar Panels
- 525 MW of electricity
- 20 year PPA to RMP
- Provides electricity to Meta's Eagle Mountain Data Center



Creekstone Energy Delta Gigasite

- “Gas Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines” (RICE)
- Use of closed loop, air-cooled dry radiators rather than water evaporation greatly reduces water use





Thank You!
energy.utah.gov



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