



Beyond Land Leases: Harnessing Data Centers for Tribal Economic Development

Data centers are getting a lot of attention right now. While they have been around for a long time, what's new is how quickly a huge number of hyperscale data centers are standing up to support growth in the use of artificial intelligence and manufacturing.



Opportunities and Considerations for Tribes

Partnering with a data center developer holds tremendous opportunity right now—from land leases to selling power to the data center through a power purchase agreement to infrastructure developments and job expansion. Although there are several benefits, factors such as water use; local and community impacts; and transmission infrastructure, interconnection, and fiber access requirements should be considered.

Opportunities for Tribes



Land Leases



Power Purchase
Agreements



Infrastructure
Development



Job Creation

Data Center Site Considerations



Water Use



Local Impacts



Transmission
Infrastructure



Fiber Connectivity

Let's Work Together

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy offers support to Tribes at many different stages of the planning process and has worked with Tribes with varying levels of technical capability and experience. If we've worked with your Tribe before, we are available to work with you again!



Workshop attendees at the Community-Scale Renewable Energy Project Development and Finance Workshop. Photo by John De La Rosa, NLR 028047

The Office of Indian Energy Can Support Many Different Stages of the Planning Process

- Curious whether you have a good site for a data center?
- Approached by a developer?
- Interested in finding a developer to partner with?
- Considering legal, regulatory, and/or utility impacts of a data center?
- Looking for energy project funding?



Legal and Regulatory
Technical Assistance



Introductions to
Developers



Project Feasibility and
Planning Assistance



Site Evaluation
Support

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