Stop approving the construction of IDC Internet Data Center data centers



Overview

Mapped: Where Data Centers Are Facing Bans and MoratoriumsAmericans across the country are rallying against the AI-inspired data center boom. Now, an incre.

Key Takeaways

Communities and environmental groups are actively pushing for moratoriums and stricter regulations to halt new data center construction due to energy, water, and economic concerns.

Reasons for Opposition

Data centers consume large amounts of electricity and water, often straining local utilities and natural resources. In 2024, U. S. data centers accounted for over 4% of total electricity consumption, and energy demand is projected to nearly triple by 2035.

Residents are concerned about rising utility bills, environmental impacts, and the limited local economic benefits, as these facilities often provide few permanent jobs despite receiving tax incentives. The rapid expansion of data centers, fueled by AI and cloud computing, has intensified these concerns.

Advocacy and National Efforts



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Hundreds of organizations, including Food & Water Watch, Friends of the Earth, and Greenpeace, have petitioned Congress for a national moratorium on new data centers until adequate regulations are in place. These groups emphasize the need to protect communities from rising electricity rates, water shortages, and greenhouse gas emissions associated with large-scale data center operations.

State and Local Actions

Several states and municipalities have introduced temporary bans or moratoriums on new data center projects: Vermont: Proposed ban on new data centers through July 2030. New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma: Bills requiring studies on economic and environmental impacts before approval. Cities and counties: St.

Charles, Missouri, and multiple counties in Indiana and Georgia have temporarily suspended new data center projects. These measures aim to pause construction while assessing the long-term effects on local infrastructure, energy grids, and the environment. How to Support or Initiate a MoratoriumCommunity Organizing: Residents can form coalitions to raise awareness and engage with local officials, as seen in successful campaigns against some large tech companies.

Engage Lawmakers: Advocate for state or federal legislation that imposes moratoriums or stricter regulations on new data centers. Environmental and Economic Studies: Push for impact assessments on water usage, electricity demand, and local economic benefits before project approval. Public Comment and Hearings: Participate in planning and zoning meetings to voice concerns and influence approval processes.

Conclusion

Stopping or slowing the construction of IDC data centers involves a combination of community advocacy, legislative action, and regulatory oversight. By highlighting environmental, economic, and social impacts, communities and organizations are increasingly able to halt or delay projects until adequate protections and regulations are established.

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Article Content

Mapped: Where Data Centers Are Facing Bans and Moratoriums

Americans across the country are rallying against the AI-inspired data center boom. Now, an increasing number of local lawmakers are backing them up, issuing restrictions, imposing

$64 billion of data center projects have been blocked or

There are at least 142 activist groups across 24 states organizing to block data center construction and expansion. Opposition to data center construction is

Environmental groups call for halt to new data center construction

More than 230 organizations, including Food & Water Watch, Friends of the Earth, and Greenpeace signed a public letter urging members of Congress to support a national moratorium on

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A Political Battle Is Brewing Over Data Centers

A 10-year moratorium on state-level AI regulation included in President Donald Trump''s “Big Beautiful Bill” has brushed up against a mounting battle over the growth of data centers.

Which States Are Banning Data Centers?

As data centers continue to generate attention, lawmakers in 15 states are considering banning their development. Proponents argue that moratoriums on data centers will allow additional

New York Democrats propose sweeping pause on data center

New legislation in Albany would freeze state and local approvals for data centers for three years — a sweeping moratorium that has not previously been reported. The pause would continue

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Local backlash against data centers gains traction

Measures seeking to block or rein in data center construction are gaining momentum at the state and local level, as Americans increasingly sour on the massive buildout of AI infrastructure in...

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At least 16 data center projects, worth a combined $64 billion, have been blocked or delayed as local opposition mounts to the developments, according to a new study.

Why are communities pushing back against data centers?

Data centers, which house computer systems that help train AI models, are blanketing the country, a boom fueled by surging interest in AI and

$64 billion of data center projects have been blocked or

Executive Summary $18 billion worth of data center projects were blocked, and another $46 billion of projects were delayed over the last two years in the face of

State Rules Shaping United States Data Center Projects

Key Takeaways State regulations governing data center development vary widely, making early legal review essential for zoning, land-use approvals, and infrastructure planning. Energy

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The demand for data centers is skyrocketing in the era of digital transformation, driven by the growth of cloud computing and AI technologies. Historically, China has tightly restricted or even

Navigating Regulatory Regime of Data Centres in China (I): –

As the global march towards digitisation accelerates, Internet Data Centres ("IDC") have emerged as the pivotal backbone supporting modern business operations.

Local backlash against data centers gains traction

The backlash against data centers has been rising over the past year, as local communities worry about the impacts of the sprawling energy

Data Centers, Local Zoning, and Land Development: How to Protect

Data center development continues to surge, yet local zoning and land development frameworks have not kept pace. Across the country, projects are encountering delays and added risk

What states have banned or paused data center

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What state have banned data center development? What is Kevin O''Leary''s project in Utah? Why do states want to stop data center construction?

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