

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10321

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish best practices for the siting
of data centers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM (for himself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. CARSON, Ms. SCHOLTEN,
Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. STANTON, and Mr. LEVIN) introduced the following
bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish best practices
for the siting of data centers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Responsible Data Cen-
5 ter Siting Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. BEST PRACTICES FOR SITING DATA CENTERS.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy, in
8 consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commis-
9 sion, the Secretary of Defense, and other agencies the Sec-

1 retary of Energy determines appropriate, shall establish
2 best practices for the siting of data centers.

3 (b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing or revising
4 best practices for the siting of data centers under this sec-
5 tion, the Secretary of Energy shall take into consider-
6 ation—

7 (1) the impacts of a data center on the electric
8 grid, including transmission infrastructure, includ-
9 ing—

10 (A) changes in electricity prices for con-
11 sumers that may be attributed to a data center;

12 (B) any additional transmission infrastruc-
13 ture buildout needed to supply electricity to a
14 data center; and

15 (C) the availability and capacity of existing
16 transmission infrastructure to transmit elec-
17 tricity to a data center and timelines for the
18 connection of a data center to the electric grid;

19 (2) the impacts of the water use by the data
20 center, including impacts on water availability to
21 local residents and the surrounding environment;

22 (3) the impacts of a data center on the sur-
23 rounding environment, including—

24 (A) impacts on water quality and air qual-
25 ity;

1 (B) impacts to surrounding ecosystems;

2 (C) impacts on emissions, including from
3 on-site electricity generation; and

4 (D) any other environmental impacts the
5 Secretary determines appropriate;

6 (4) the impacts of a data center on local com-
7 munities, including impacts of—

8 (A) noise and light generated by a data
9 center, including from on-site electricity genera-
10 tion; and

11 (B) the appearance of a data center on the
12 character of the community;

13 (5) the national security implications of the
14 siting of a data center at various types of locations,
15 including implications of siting multiple data centers
16 in a particular location;

17 (6) the impacts of a data center on the local
18 workforce, including on long term and short term
19 job opportunities; and

20 (7) the impacts of a data center on the local
21 economy, including on tax revenue, with consider-
22 ation of tax benefits offered at the State level.

23 (c) INCLUSION.—The Secretary of Energy shall in-
24 clude in the best practices established or revised under this
25 section—

1 (1) the characteristics of a site for the siting of
2 a data center that would minimize any impacts de-
3 scribed in subsection (b) that are negative; and

4 (2) a list of ideal locations that meet such char-
5 acteristics for a data center to be sited.

6 (d) INITIAL PUBLICATION.—Not later than 1 year
7 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
8 Energy shall make available on the public website of the
9 Department of Energy the best practices for the siting of
10 data centers established under subsection (a).

11 (e) REVISIONS.—Not later than 2 years after making
12 available on the public website of the Department of En-
13 ergy best practices for the siting of data centers under
14 subsection (d), and at least once every 2 years thereafter,
15 the Secretary of Energy shall—

16 (1) review and revise the best practices as the
17 Secretary determines necessary; and

18 (2) make available on the public website of the
19 Department of Energy any such revised best prac-
20 tices.

21 (f) DEFINITION.—In this Act, the term “data center”
22 has the meaning given such term in section 453 of the
23 Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42
24 U.S.C. 17112).

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