



IBEW DATA CENTERS PRINCIPLES



The IBEW is essential to the future of A.I.

- IBEW members build, maintain, and operate data centers.
- IBEW members build, maintain, and operate the generation, transmission, and distribution systems that power AI data centers.
- From microchips to transformers to the actual use of AI, IBEW members are trained to build, maintain, and operate all aspects of the technology that keep data centers and the power grid running efficiently and safely with minimal disruption.

Data centers and all associated infrastructure should be built and operated with high-road union jobs.

- Data centers are complex, energy-intensive facilities that demand the best-trained workforce to ensure they are constructed safely and with precision. Requiring prevailing wages, project labor agreements, apprenticeship utilization, and safety standards ensures data centers are delivered on time and on budget, reducing costly rework, outages, and safety incidents.
- Policies that encourage labor standards today will shape this vital sector for decades, creating a stable pipeline of middle-class careers instead of a race to the bottom on wages and safety.

Data centers should be powered with technology-agnostic, grid-connected energy generation.

- After decades of stagnant growth, the demand for electricity is soaring. Continuing to invest in an all-of-the-above approach to energy when it comes to AI is how to ensure data center construction is part of the solution for modernizing the aging power grid and meeting this historic demand.

Data centers should pay their fair share for energy so residential customers are protected.

- Many states have incorporated models that include tariff rates, separate rate classes, or other pricing structures.
- Owners of data centers should also be required to invest in upgrading and modernizing the power grid to meet their load demand to help achieve more affordable and reliable power for the ratepayers where that data center is located.





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Companies that bring their own power to a data center must be held to the same regulatory, permitting, siting, and legal standards for generation, distribution, and transmission as existing power providers.

- Energy is a critical resource that requires consistent regulation to ensure reliability and affordability.

Data centers should be engines of shared prosperity for the communities that host them.

- Public incentives should support projects that create local jobs, invest in pre-apprenticeships and union apprenticeships, and deliver long-term economic value to the communities they operate in.

The data center boom should drive domestic innovation and job growth in energy and emerging technology supply chains.

- Trade policy should be conducted as part of a broader strategy to support good union jobs and build resilient supply chains, not generate chaos and uncertainty that deters critical investments.
- The U.S. government should incentivize domestic manufacturing for data center supply chains, including data center equipment, the power infrastructure, and the raw materials needed to build, maintain, and operate them.

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