North Dakota Legislative Management

Tentative Agenda

27.5194.02000

Legislative Council
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DATA CENTER COMMITTEE

Monday, August 31, 2026
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

9:00 a.m.	Call to order Roll call Consideration of the minutes of the August 13, 2026, meeting
9:05 a.m.	Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a background memorandum regarding an overview of the development of data centers
9:15 a.m.	Presentation by Dr. Robert Mayo, Research Specialist, Challey Institute of Global Innovation and Growth, regarding policy concerns involving data center siting and development
9:55 a.m.	Presentation by Mr. James Dickey, Founder and Principal, JD Key Consulting, regarding current developments in data centers across the United States
10:35 a.m.	Presentation by Mr. Aaron Birst, Executive Director, North Dakota Association of Counties, regarding county considerations for data center siting
11:15 a.m.	Comments by interested persons
12:00 noon	Recess
1:00 p.m.	Presentation by Mr. Randy Christmann, Public Service Commissioner, regarding siting requirements and reclamation required for industries operating in the state
1:40 p.m.	Presentation by Mr. Jonathan Fortner, President and Chief Executive Officer, Lignite Energy Council, regarding how the growth of artificial intelligence, data centers, and other large electrical loads impact the state's coal industry
2:20 p.m.	Presentation by Mr. James L. Semerad, Director, Division of Air Quality, Department of Environmental Quality, regarding the state's role relating to regulation of data centers
3:00 p.m.	Presentation by Mr. Anthony F. Pipa, Senior Fellow, Center for Sustainable Development, Brookings Institution, regarding how communities can influence data center impacts on citizens
3:40 p.m.	Committee discussion
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn

A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: https://video.ndlegis.gov.

Committee Members

Representatives: Jonathan Warrey (Chairman), Mike Nathe, Anna S. Novak, Todd Porter, Mary Schneider
Senators: Jose L. Castaneda, Kyle Davison, Janne Myrdal, Dean Rummel, Mike Wobbema
Citizen Members: Tony Clark, Mark R. Hagerott

Staff Contacts: Erin K. Dohm, Counsel
Kim Yang, Policy Analyst