

# Wyoming Data Center Facts

Data centers strengthen the tax base without depleting natural resources, stabilize energy demand, and provide high-value employment that keeps young professionals in the state.



## Data centers are not large water users

Modern data centers in Wyoming are designed for air-cooled or closed-loop systems that dramatically reduce water consumption. In fact, data centers only use 1.2% of Cheyenne municipal water supply. Data centers pay for all infrastructure upgrades!

*“In calendar year 2024, all of the active data centers receiving City of Cheyenne’s water consumed ...1.2% of water delivered to all customers. The BOPU does not anticipate rate increase from future demand of the data centers.”*

Frank A Strong IV, P.E., Engineering and Water Resources Division Manager, City of Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities



## Data centers do not increase power bills for residents

1. Data centers build their own power infrastructure
2. They pay for all improvements.
3. Data centers help utilities maintain consistent revenue streams & improve grid reliability and efficiency,
4. “Wyoming produces far more energy than it consumes, using only about 40%, creating ample capacity to support new data center development.”

*“The Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) worked with Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power (CLFP) to develop a rate structure that would accommodate crypto currency mining and data center load growth while protecting current customers.”*

Anthony Ornelas, Administrator, Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate



## Data centers use power generated from natural gas and coal

While renewable energy is part of Wyoming’s energy mix, the majority of electricity used by data centers comes from reliable, dispatchable sources, specifically natural gas and coal.

*“Wyoming’s gas producers excel at developing the cleanest burning natural gas on the market. Unfortunately for Wyoming, those markets are either across the world, or in places on the west coast that need us to power their lives but don’t have our state’s best interests at heart. Growing an industry that needs Wyoming’s natural gas to stay right here in Wyoming is a game changer, and our gas producers look forward to providing the power to make it happen.”*

Pete Obermueller - President, Petroleum Association of Wyoming



## Data centers provide high-paying, long-term jobs

Data centers don’t just bring construction work - they create stable, high-wage technical and management positions - paying well above Wyoming’s median wage. Microsoft currently employs 250 full time employees that live and work in our community. mny

*“Wyoming has been home to Microsoft’s cloud infrastructure since 2012, and we deeply value our strong partnerships with government leaders, nonprofits, businesses, and schools. Our continued growth in Cheyenne has been driven by the skilled workforce that powers our data centers – from the hundreds of employees who operate our facilities to the certified electricians and construction professionals who support our ongoing expansion in Wyoming.”*

Chris Tetlow, Sr. Director, Wyoming Data Center Operations

*“Data centers have been strong partners and have delivered real, measurable impact for LCCC and our students - investing more than \$300,000 in scholarships, equipment, and program support, and directly or indirectly employing 80+ LCCC IT alumni.”*

Dr. Joe Schaffer, President, Laramie County Community College

# Data Center Zoning and Business Parks

## Business Park Zoning

Business Parks (zoned BP) in Cheyenne allow for a variety of uses that do not require a Heavy Industrial designation. These parks are governed by Commercial Owner Associations (COAs), Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs), and Development Agreements, all of which help protect the surrounding community and neighboring properties.

## Business Park Management

Cheyenne LEADS manages multiple Commercial Owner Associations (COAs) within Cheyenne's Business Parks, ensuring consistent oversight and coordination. This provides neighbors with a reliable point of contact and promotes shared responsibility among park tenants to maintain high standards.

## Why data centers are more important to America than ever before

Data centers are the backbone of the modern world. They support everything from banking and healthcare to national defense and everyday internet use. If a credit card, computer or phone is used, so is a data center.

Countries like China are investing heavily in technology and infrastructure. To stay competitive, the U.S. must continue building secure, reliable data centers here at home. Wyoming's strong energy resources make it an ideal place to support this growth and help strengthen America's economy and national security.

"The impact of data centers goes beyond technology or trade. This is about the future of freedom. While America invests in innovation, China is pursuing censorship, surveillance, and state control. America must lead the AI revolution."

U.S. Senator John Barrasso

## Data centers benefit all of Wyoming -

Real Property taxes Paid	\$7.3	Million
Sales Tax on Power (2018-2024)	\$27	Million
Permitting and Development Fees	\$36	Million
Tangible Personal Property Tax	\$48	Million
Construction Materials	\$3.2	Billion
Data Center Equipment Purchases	\$3.7	Billion

**That's over \$7 Billion!**

Data centers in Cheyenne actively invest in the community, supporting local nonprofits, schools, and workforce development programs. For example, Microsoft alone has contributed more than \$4.7 million to local organizations and community projects since 2018. Related Digital awarded the city of Cheyenne \$3.5M to support affordable housing in the community.

"Misinformation about data centers, at times intentionally spread, can create unnecessary fear and delay progress, while other countries continue to invest aggressively in technology and infrastructure."

Betsey Hale, CEO of Cheyenne LEADS

Questions? Contact Betsey at [betseyh@cheyyenneleads.org](mailto:betseyh@cheyyenneleads.org)