

Data Center and Similarly High Energy Consuming and Producing Facilities Resolution

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention in Green Bay, Wisconsin, July 19, 2025, urges federal authorities to establish national standards for data centers and similarly high energy consuming and producing facilities to ensure that future facilities approvals require inclusion of the following provisions in all permits:

1. Prior to construction, data centers and similar facilities should have local and regional input and be built to state-of-the-art standards considering the environment and community as a whole.
2. Whenever possible, locate data centers in industrial “brownfields” areas and well removed from public or residential areas to minimize impacts on neighbors and other land uses, such as agriculture or parks. Studies and data in relation to water, light, thermal, air, noise, and low frequency noise should be presented to the public prior to construction.
3. Require data centers to operate at the maximum extent practical on clean energy (solar photovoltaic, tidal, wind, etc.) power, to avoid additional carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from fossil fuels and not utilize coal power as a means of energy production .
4. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting is mandatory in every case. Urge the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop stringent guidelines in regulating data centers.
5. Whenever possible, water used for cooling be in a closed system and continuously recycled, with full compliance with all water quality, air quality, noise and other relevant regulations, to minimize impacts on local resources. Construction should not proceed whenever water supplies may be degraded in quantity and quality. Any water that is released into the environment may not be released at higher temperature than receiving water.
6. Prohibit the use of eminent domain to acquire energy transmission infrastructure to meet the demand load of any data center or similar facility.
7. Advocate local state and federal levels for the elimination of by-right zoning for data centers.
8. Property tax appraisal of site should be done at the level of the completed project, not at land value prior to development.
9. All studies aforementioned and otherwise are to be performed upon and within but NOT by the data center and data center industry itself. Studies should proffer guidelines and regulations using scientific methods and produce proof as to what is healthy for humans and wildlife in all environments from the immediate area of all data centers extended outwards in a radius of an anticipated impact to local flora, fauna and human populations.