Hogan Lovells

Charge Forward

Powering the future data centers, AI and electricity

What's Happening

- Tech companies are scrambling to build the data centers needed to support burgeoning AI technology
- One bottleneck for data center expansion is the need to secure large quantities of electricity

Why

- The rapid expansion of AI technology is driving an explosive increase in demand for electricity
- Simultaneously, years of flat growth, the closure of legacy power stations, and aging infrastructure limit the capacity of the existing grid to meet this demand
- Overlapping jurisdictions, onerous permitting requirements, and NIMBYism are barriers to expanding the supply of power

Why it matters

- The electric grid is increasingly under strain, resulting in higher prices and less reliable power
- The need for increased electric capacity is urgent and will likely have to be met by an "all of the above" approach to generation and expansion of the transmission system
- Renewable power is a viable option for powering data center whether through on-site generation and energy storage, the purchase of Renewable Energy Credits, or the use of physical or virtual power purchase agreements.

How we can help

- We have a full-service energy and regulatory team to help develop energy solutions, including corporate and finance attorneys that have worked in the energy sector for decades, and regulatory experts in environmental issues, utility regulation, nuclear regulation, transportation and land use
- Our team has decades of experience in helping clients develop, finance, and permit energy solutions, including, in particular, developing regulatory strategies for on-site generation
- We also have a global data center taskforce to assist you at all stages of the data center lifecycle, including ensuring the availability and reliability of power

What we do

Energy and Natural Resources

- Decades of experience in developing legal structures for self-supply and behind-the-meter generation
- Solutions-focused regulatory group with a deep knowledge of the industry and commercial issues
- An integrated team capable of interfacing with multiple agencies

Energy Transactions

- Physical and virtual power purchase agreements
- Development and construction agreements

Key contacts

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Future of Energy