

SENATE, No. 4658

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 1, 2026

Sponsored by:
Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN
District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Requires data centers to submit certain information to DEP; requires DEP to establish Data Center Transparency Dashboard.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning data center development and supplementing
2 Title 48 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. As used in this act:

8 “Community advisory board” means a coalition of organizations,
9 residents, and local government officials charged with negotiating,
10 monitoring, and enforcing a community benefits agreement with the
11 developer of a data center. A majority of members of the
12 community advisory board shall be residents, workers, and
13 community-based nonprofit organizations from the impacted
14 community. A community advisory board shall not include a data
15 center developer or an employee of a data center developer.

16 “Community benefits agreement” means a legally binding and
17 enforceable agreement between a community advisory board or a
18 community coalition and the developer of a data center for the
19 purpose of ensuring that the developer provides measurable
20 enforceable benefits to host communities, protects environmental
21 and cultural resources, and advances equity and justice.

22 “Community coalition” means a group of two or more
23 community-based organizations, such as workforce development
24 and training organizations, labor unions, environmental and social
25 justice advocates, local governmental entities, other organizations
26 that represent community interests and residents of the political
27 subdivision where a proposed data center will be located. The term
28 “community coalition” shall include residents of the municipality in
29 which the data center will be located. The term “community
30 coalition” shall not include a data center developer or management
31 employees employed by a data center developer.

32 “Data center” means a facility: (1) whose primary services are
33 the storage, management, and processing of digital data; and (2)
34 that is used to house computer and network systems, including
35 associated components such as servers, network equipment and
36 appliances, telecommunications, and data storage systems, systems
37 for monitoring and managing infrastructure performance, Internet-
38 related equipment and services, data communications connections,
39 environmental controls, fire protection systems, and security
40 systems and services.

41 “Data Center Transparency Dashboard” or “dashboard” means
42 the online dashboard established by the department pursuant to
43 section 3 of this act.

44 “Department” means the Department of Environmental
45 Protection.

46
47 2. a. The owner or operator of a data center that has obtained
48 all necessary federal, State, and local permits, is fully constructed,

1 and is operating in the State shall submit to the department on an
2 annual basis, in a form and manner determined by the department, a
3 report that contains the following information, at a minimum:

- 4 (1) basic information relating to the data center, including:
- 5 (a) the name of the data center;
 - 6 (b) the owner or operator of the data center;
 - 7 (c) the address of the data center; and
 - 8 (d) the month and year that the data center commenced
9 operation;
- 10 (2) a copy of any community benefit agreements entered into on
11 behalf of the data center;
- 12 (3) the total direct greenhouse gas emissions that stem from the
13 data center and indirect greenhouse gas emissions from consumed
14 electricity, steam, heating, or cooling purchased or acquired by the
15 data center;
- 16 (4) a detailed assessment of the data center's energy demands
17 and if data center demands more than 50 megawatts of electricity
18 per year;
- 19 (5) a detailed assessment of all violations at the data center
20 concerning water quality standards, if any; and
- 21 (6) a copy of any other reports the data center has submitted to
22 the department that are required by State law, rule, or regulation.

23 b. The owner or operator of a data center that is proposed for
24 construction in the State or has commenced construction and
25 obtained all necessary federal, State, and local permits but is not
26 operational shall submit to the department on an annual basis, in a
27 form and manner determined by the department, a report that
28 contains the following information, at a minimum:

- 29 (1) basic information relating to the data center, including:
- 30 (a) the name of the data center;
 - 31 (b) the owner or operator of the data center;
 - 32 (c) the address of the data center; and
 - 33 (d) the month and year that the data center plans to commence
34 operations;
- 35 (2) the status of any permits required for the data center,
36 including, but not limited to, any permits related to the siting,
37 zoning, and construction of the data center and its affiliated
38 projects;
- 39 (3) a detailed assessment of the data center's proposed energy
40 demands and if data center plans to demand more than 50
41 megawatts of electricity per year; and
- 42 (4) any other information as deemed necessary by the
43 department.

44 c. Each report submitted pursuant to this section shall be
45 accompanied by a fee, determined by the department, in an amount
46 that does not exceed the costs necessary to establish and maintain
47 the Data Center Transparency Dashboard.

1 community benefit agreements entered into on behalf of the data
2 center; (3) the total direct greenhouse gas emissions that stem from
3 the data center and indirect greenhouse gas emissions from
4 consumed electricity, steam, heating, or cooling purchased or
5 acquired by the data center; (4) a detailed assessment of the data
6 center's energy demands and if data center demands more than 50
7 megawatts of electricity per year; (5) a detailed assessment of all
8 violations at the data center concerning water quality standards, if
9 any; and (6) a copy of any other reports the data center has
10 submitted to the department that are required by State law, rule, or
11 regulation. The bill would require for proposed data centers or data
12 centers that have commenced construction and have obtained all
13 necessary federal, State, and local operating permits but are not
14 operational to include the following in a report: (1) basic
15 information concerning the data center; (2) the status of any permits
16 required for the operation of the data center, including, but not
17 limited to, any permits related to the siting, zoning, and
18 construction of the data center and its affiliated projects; (3) a
19 detailed assessment of the data center's energy demands and if data
20 center plans to or currently demands more than 50 megawatts of
21 electricity per year; and (4) any other information as deemed
22 necessary by the DEP.

23 As enumerated in the bill, the data centers would be required to
24 submit the report within a certain timeframe. The DEP would
25 assess a fee associated with the submission of the report which
26 would cover the costs to implement and maintain the dashboard.

27 The DEP would have no later than 90 days after the bill's
28 effective date to establish the dashboard. The bill would require the
29 DEP to publish the reports submitted pursuant to the bill to the
30 dashboard. Finally, the bill would require the DEP to provide
31 public notice to State residents located within a five-mile radius of a
32 data center reported in the dashboard with information concerning
33 how to access the dashboard.