



Data Centers in Fayette County— Sept. 10th, 2026

Quick Facts

- It is still the case that there are currently no proposed data centers within Fayette County.
- This does not mean there aren't plans!
- While no hyperscalers have been proposed in the county yet, there are supporting infrastructure projects at various stages of the approval process.

PJM and Power “Needs”

- PJM is the regional grid operator for our 13-state region. They are tasked with ensuring the stability of the wholesale energy market when it comes to costs, access, and reliability.
- PJM reports and predicts power usage over time, and uses these reports to determine how the energy market needs to change to meet demand.
- Depending on these needs, PJM uses market incentives to get new power plants, transmission lines, and substations built.
- PJM reports show that peak summer energy loads have remained somewhat consistent between 2004 and 2024, between ~150,000 and 170,000MW.
- By 2036, PJM expects summer peak loads to rise to 222,000MW. By 2046, PJM expects loads to **increase by 58%**.
- **PJM's own reporting attributes the majority of this growth to increased demand from hyperscale data centers.**

Proposed Grid Projects in Fayette County— all by NextEra Energy

- **Mid-Atlantic Resiliency Link (MARL)**
 - High-voltage transmission line from Fairchance, PA to Gore, VA
 - Operator threatening to seize private land through eminent domain
 - Fayette County Commissioners filed a formal protest against the project
 - Still seeking state approvals
- **Kammer-Juniata Transmission Line**
 - High-voltage transmission line from Marshall County, WV to Perry County, PA
 - Operator in preliminary talks with county officials throughout PA

- **East Riverside Energy Center**
 - 3.75-4.3GW gas-fired power plant in Luzerne Township
 - Proposes to use 30 million gallons of water per day from the Monongahela
 - Six 150-foot stacks planned for the site— even shorter than Homer City’s
 - Likely means increased localized air impacts

Homer City— a Use-Case for Hyperscale Data Center Impacts

- 4.4GW gas-fired powerplant/data center complex in Indiana County
- Largest single-site gas agreement in history with EQT— 665,000MMBTU/day
 - This is as much as **3,500,000 detached homes**.
 - Using average PA gas well production figures, approximately **300 fracking wells** would be needed to immediately satisfy just this agreement.
 - Production of fracking wells plummets after 5 years, meaning every 5 years, another 300 wells would likely be needed to serve the Homer City plant alone.
- 6-mile gas pipeline needed for the site, which will impact 31 streams and wetlands
- Powerplant seeking approval to discharge up to **6.84 million gallons/day** of wastewater into Blacklick Creek at temperatures up to **110 degrees fahrenheit**
 - This does not include any discharge from the proposed data center onsite!
- Powerplant will likely emit at least 75% of the CO2 that the old coal plant did, along with a new cast of harmful and/or carcinogenic pollutants including:
 - Sulfuric acid mist
 - Nitrogen oxide
 - Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Backup diesel generation is also planned for the site
- Amazon is the main company seeking an agreement with Homer City Redevelopment to operate data centers on the campus
 - Several property owners have reported their land being included in the plans for the data center campus with no explanation by Homer City Redevelopment or Amazon.