



Nevada State AFL-CIO

Susie Martinez
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Liz Sorenson
President

Resolution in Support of High-Road Standards for Data Center Development in Nevada

WHEREAS, data centers are the physical foundation of the internet and the digital economy. Because these facilities store, process, and transmit sensitive personal, commercial, and government information, maintaining secure data center infrastructure within the United States is critical to protecting the privacy of Nevadans and advancing our nation's cybersecurity and national security interests; and,

WHEREAS, Nevada is uniquely positioned to become a national leader in data center development due to its strategic location, expanding electrical infrastructure, business-friendly environment, and growing renewable energy resources; and,

WHEREAS, data center development represents billions of dollars in private investment and provides opportunities for thousands of family-supporting construction jobs, permanent operations and maintenance careers, and expanded opportunities for state and federally registered apprenticeship programs; and,

WHEREAS, data centers require substantial investments in electric generation, transmission, distribution infrastructure, water resources, telecommunications, transportation, and local government services, creating legitimate concerns regarding energy affordability, water conservation, environmental stewardship, and impacts on surrounding communities; and,

WHEREAS, Nevada's working families should not be forced to choose between economic growth and responsible stewardship of the state's natural resources and public infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, the labor movement believes economic development is most successful when workers, communities, industry, utilities, and government work together to establish clear expectations that protect the public interest while creating pathways to good union jobs and long-term careers; and,

WHEREAS, projects receiving public incentives, tax abatements, expedited permitting, or relying upon publicly funded infrastructure should deliver measurable public benefits through high-road labor standards, workforce development, responsible resource management, and meaningful community investment; and,

WHEREAS, Nevada has the opportunity to demonstrate national leadership by ensuring data center development strengthens local communities, protects utility ratepayers, promotes responsible use of natural resources, and expands economic opportunity while upholding the highest labor standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nevada State AFL-CIO supports responsible data center development that creates lasting benefits for Nevada's workers, families, businesses, and communities; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Nevada State AFL-CIO supports policies requiring data center projects to:

- Utilize Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) or equivalent high-road labor standards whenever appropriate;
- Pay prevailing wages and prioritize responsible contractors with demonstrated records of worker safety, legal compliance, apprenticeship utilization, and workforce development;
- Invest in Nevada state and federally registered apprenticeship programs to expand pathways into the building and construction trades, electrical industry, and long-term technical careers;

- Respect workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively throughout construction, operations, maintenance, security, and all related industries;
- Ensure permanent operations and maintenance positions are family-supporting careers that provide competitive wages, quality benefits, retirement security, and opportunities for advancement;
- Maximize opportunities for local Nevada workers and contractors while maintaining the highest standards of safety and craftsmanship; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Nevada State AFL-CIO supports policies ensuring data center development protects Nevada communities by:

- Preventing the shifting of electric generation, transmission, distribution, or infrastructure costs onto residential customers, small businesses, and existing utility ratepayers;
- Requiring transparency regarding projected energy demand, water consumption, environmental impacts, infrastructure needs, and community benefits;
- Encouraging the use of technologies that reduce water consumption whenever feasible, including recycled water, closed-loop cooling systems, dry cooling, and other water-efficient technologies appropriate for Nevada's desert climate;
- Encouraging the use of renewable, non-emitting, or other reliable energy resources whenever practical to support sustainable growth;
- Supporting investments in electric generation, transmission, distribution, and grid modernization necessary to serve new industrial demand while maintaining system reliability and affordability;
- Providing meaningful opportunities for public participation and local community engagement before project approval;
- Supporting policies that dedicate a portion of project-related revenues or fees toward community weatherization, energy efficiency, workforce housing, and other locally identified community priorities; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Nevada State AFL-CIO supports ensuring public investments produce meaningful public benefits by:

- Requiring data center operators receiving state or local tax abatements, incentives, infrastructure assistance, or expedited permitting to publicly report their progress toward meeting the goals of this resolution;
- Ensuring local governments, school districts, emergency services, and public infrastructure receive a fair economic benefit from data center development;
- Promoting policies that strengthen Nevada's supply chains, domestic manufacturing, and the use of union labor throughout the construction, operation, maintenance, and future expansion of these facilities;
- Supporting tax incentives tied to measurable improvements in energy efficiency, water conservation, workforce development, and community investment;
- Supporting the expansion of economic development incentives that prioritize projects meeting high-road labor and community benefit standards; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that the Nevada State AFL-CIO will advocate for state policies ensuring the growth of Nevada's digital infrastructure advances the interests of working people by creating good union jobs, protecting utility ratepayers, safeguarding Nevada's water resources and environment, strengthening local communities, expanding registered apprenticeship opportunities, and ensuring the benefits of economic development are broadly shared rather than concentrated among a few corporate interests.

Submitted by:
IBEW Local 357

Approved by:
Delegates to the 70th Nevada State AFL-CIO Constitutional Convention
August 18, 2026