



Google Announces New Data Center and Energy Agreements with AES in Wilbarger County, Texas

Air-cooled data center to eliminate operational water use, paired with new clean energy and generation capacity through “power first” approach in collaboration with AES

VERNON, Texas, Feb. 24, 2026 — Today, Google announced it will expand its longstanding presence in Texas with a new data center in Wilbarger County that will be co-located with clean power developed by AES. With a focus on advancing water security and energy affordability, these investments will help meet growing demand from Texans for Google's AI-powered services — such as Google Cloud, Workspace, Search and Maps — that local people, businesses and public sector organizations use every day.

“We are thrilled to finally be able to welcome Google and AES to Wilbarger County,” said **Wilbarger County Judge Greg Tyra**. “This project represents a major opportunity for our community to participate in the expanding global digital economy. We have worked closely with the Google and AES teams for the last couple of years to ensure this development would bring meaningful growth, economic benefits, and stability to Wilbarger County for years to come, that might have otherwise passed us by.”

Increasing Energy Abundance and Reliability

Google's [industry-leading energy efficiency](#), paired with its commitment to expand local energy supply everywhere it operates, helps ensure the company's infrastructure growth bolsters the electricity grid's long-term resilience. Google responsibly grows its infrastructure by bringing new energy resources and generation to meet demand, and by funding energy affordability initiatives designed to drive down monthly bills for local communities.

The Wilbarger County data center will be co-located with — or built in close proximity to — new clean power plants developed and operated by AES. This innovative “power first” approach means the Google data center will come online alongside its own clean power and generation capacity to meet its load, reducing the need for new infrastructure and optimizing existing grid utilization. Co-location is a key strategy for easing grid demands and complements Google's efforts to rapidly unlock cost-effective transmission buildout.

“We are proud of our long-standing partnership with Google and thrilled to bring them this advanced stage ‘power first’ clean co-located project,” said **Kleber Costa, Chief Commercial Officer, AES US Renewables**. “By capitalizing on AES's extensive development expertise and years of hard work in collaboration with the exceptional local leaders and communities, we are bringing to Google a site that is fully ready for construction, with land and interconnection agreements, as well as co-located generation under 20-year PPAs. There is not a better partner than Google to bring this project to full execution, as we advance construction on this combined data center and generation campus which enables faster expansion for Google's operations while creating lasting economic value for Texas communities.”

AES will own and operate the co-located generation assets, in addition to providing retail, cost optimization, and related services to Google's Wilbarger County data center campus under a long-term energy management agreement. With today's announcement, Google and AES expand their longstanding partnership to advance energy reliability and affordability goals, as well as fast time to power needs for data center development.

To date, Google has contracted to add more than 7,800 megawatts (MW) of net-new energy generation and capacity to the Texas electricity grid through power purchase agreements (PPAs) with energy developers like AES, [Clearway](#), Enel North America, [ENGIE](#), Intersect, [Ørsted](#), [SB Energy](#), [TotalEnergies](#), [UKA North America](#), and [X-Elio](#).

In November, Google announced a [\\$30 million Energy Impact Fund](#) to scale and accelerate energy initiatives across Texas over the next three years, starting in 2026. Google will establish a funding application process for community partners and local organizations, with a focus on energy affordability, home and public school weatherization upgrades, energy efficiency, and energy workforce development.

Advancing Water Security

Once complete, Google's facility in Wilbarger County will use advanced air-cooling technology, limiting water consumption to only critical campus operations like kitchens. Beyond its direct operations, Google aims to replenish more water than it consumes, and collaborates with groups like Texan by Nature and Texas Water Trade to improve watershed health across the state.

Deepening Roots in Texas Communities

Google has called the Lone Star State home for more than 15 years, with its operational data center campuses in [Midlothian and Red Oak](#), [Dallas cloud region](#), and under-construction sites in Armstrong and Haskell Counties. In November, the company announced a [\\$40 billion investment](#) in Texas through 2027. Google will continue to work with local leaders to drive economic value and develop the workforce across these communities, including Wilbarger County.

"Texas is at the center of the world's AI leadership, and our expansion into Wilbarger County is a testament to the state's incredible talent and infrastructure," said Andrew Hart, Head of Data Center Public Affairs for Texas at Google. "We are proud of our close collaboration with local leaders to bring a new Google data center to Wilbarger County, ensuring the Lone Star State continues to be home to American innovation and affordable, abundant energy."

For more information on Google's in Texas, visit g.co/economicimpact/texas.

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