



COMMUNITY INFORMATION SHEET

Data centres in your community

A plain-English overview of what to know — and what good practice looks like

Data centres and AI facilities bring investment and digital capability, but they also use local power, water, land and network capacity, and can affect amenity. This sheet is a quick map of the series. Each topic has its own sheet, and a companion “questions to ask” sheet helps you put these to a proponent or council.

The series at a glance

Group	Sheets
Understanding the technology	AI · GPUs · Data centres · AI factories · Cooling systems · Battery storage · Transmission lines · Renewable energy
Impacts & concerns	Energy & your power bill · Water · Noise · Heat · EMF · Backup generators & air quality · Traffic · Land use & visual amenity · Bushfire, flood & hazards · Cyber & data security · Sustainability & climate
People, place & process	Planning approvals · Jobs & community benefit · First Nations & heritage · Property values & local economy · Decommissioning
Reference	This overview · Questions to ask · Glossary

How decisions are made

A data centre needs a planning permit, assessed by the local council against Tasmania’s planning and environmental laws, often with input from the EPA, the electricity and water networks and the fire service. For most larger proposals the public can make a representation (a comment) during a notification period, and the council can attach binding conditions to any approval.

A note on balance

Across the series we describe both the genuine concerns and **what good practice looks like** — what a responsible operator should do and a community can reasonably expect. It is general information to support informed conversations, not advocacy for or against any project.

Want to know more? Your local council, the EPA Tasmania and ARPANSA publish further information. This sheet is general information, not medical, legal or planning advice; figures are indicative and a specific proposal is confirmed by qualified assessment.