



COMMUNITY INFORMATION SHEET

Sustainability & climate

Carbon, renewables, efficiency, water and waste — the whole picture

What's the concern?

Beyond any single impact, people ask whether a data centre is genuinely sustainable — its carbon emissions, its renewable supply, how efficiently it uses energy and water, and what happens to its equipment at end of life.

The measures that matter

| Measure | What it tracks |
|---------|---|
| PUE | Energy efficiency (lower is better) |
| WUE | Water efficiency (lower is better) |
| CUE | Carbon per unit of computing energy (lower is better) |
| REF | Share of energy from renewables (higher is better) |
| ERF | Share of energy reused as waste heat (higher is better) |
| NABERS | An overall measured star rating (target 5+) |

Sustainability also covers the carbon built into construction, the global-warming potential of refrigerants, and responsible handling of equipment and e-waste at end of life. Tasmania's low-carbon grid gives a strong head start.

What good practice looks like

- Clear, measurable targets (PUE, WUE, CUE, REF, ERF, NABERS) that are reported publicly.
- Real, additional renewable supply and a credible path to low operational emissions.
- Waste-heat reuse where feasible, and attention to embodied carbon and refrigerants.
- An environmental management system (e.g. ISO 14001) and responsible end-of-life handling.

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.