



Government Administration Committee A

Inquiry on AI Data Centres in Tasmania

The House of Assembly Standing Committee on Government Administration A has resolved to inquire into and report upon the construction and operation of AI data centres in Tasmania.

Members of the public may use this form as a template to provide comment on the Committee Inquiry Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference are set out below and comments should be limited to these areas.

Submissions become Committee documents that may be published on the Committee website and quoted in the Committee's report to Parliament. Should you not wish whole or parts of your submission to be published, please clearly indicate this in your submission. Persons making submissions must not release them without the approval of the Committee. Submissions are protected by parliamentary privilege but the unauthorised release of them is not.

Submissions should be received by the closing date of **Monday, 21 September 2026** and should be emailed to assemblygaa@parliament.tas.gov.au, or posted to: Secretary, Inquiry into AI Data Centres in Tasmania, Parliament House Hobart, 7000.

Submitters contact details:

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(The above information is used by the Secretariate to verify submissions and to contact the submitter should the Committee wish to seek further information. Should you not provide the above information, the Committee may not accept your submission to the Inquiry.)

- do contact me please!!!

Terms of Reference:

Inquire into and report upon the construction and operation of AI data centres in Tasmania, including recommending future legislation and regulations necessary to:

1. Protect public resources and the environment;

Legislation MUST be implemented BEFORE the huge influx (6 we've been told) of AI data centres. 450 MW of energy from Hydro? 104 MW at moment for Launceston AI but there will be 5 more. 450 MW is 30% of Tasmania's present energy use. At what cost? Water taken from farmers is simply NOT on. Resources must be protected & legislation with community (not corporate) input must be valued & implemented. Our planning & environment laws are not designed for 6 plus clustered data centres. I'd like to point out that our Environment Report was 15 years late and it has still not been acted upon. Until then NO AI data centre is allowed!!

2. Ensure Tasmania's Resource Management and Planning System adequately recognises and addresses the specific impacts of the development and construction of AI and data facilities;

New laws have not been developed nor implemented regarding renewable energy requirements for AI data centres & nor access to water. Are these AI companies financially stable, how much energy needed? Where can they be built without having avoidable impacts on us Tasmanians. Where will the water come from, irrigation water??? Tasmania is NOT flush with water!!

* Tangatinah Power Station burnt down on September 2, 2026. It supplies 5%, 142 MW of Tasmania's power! In April/May 2016 the lowest recorded modern level 12.5% to 13.6% hydro storages dropped triggering a major energy crisis for Hydro Tasmania!!

3. Provide Parliamentary oversight and accountability for new facility construction and resource allocation;

There must be a dedicated inquiry in all Data centres in Tasmania due to secret ~~of~~ more data centres as well as Firms's 3. The power usage, the water usage must be legislated for. You simply can't have these massive energy & water users proliferating at will & govt not telling us before they approve them. 500 MW of additional power to Firms's 3 data centres $\approx$ 450 MW! You simply cannot allow data centres to dictate terms: where, how big, water grabs, power lines, poles, wind farms, everywhere - no matter impacts on environment (light, noise etc) & on farmers, people!!! have Pedder must be restored b/c it has no impacts on energy grid - no need to spend \$100m on Scott peak dam. Tasmania must be protected from AI data!!!

4. Ensure transparent public disclosure of resource consumption;

This is a must: severe hydro electricity short-falls closely emptied storages due to drought 1967, & 2006-2008 then now 2024-2025 when hydro generation dropped to 20 yr low. There must be laws/management of Tasmania's water resources. b/c they are NOT infinite! There must be a BALANCE not a flipping to AI data proliferation and must be constantly assessed. There must be transparent public disclosure, not hidden away in some pathetic "commercial in confidence" jargon. Tasmanians do not need or want 90 AI data centres scattered everywhere sneakily, making 24/7 noise, 24/7 light, water usage, energy usage. What happens in a drought/climate change do AI data centres get preference!!!

5. Provide the Tasmanian community with adequate opportunities for consultation;

There has been NO consultation regarding the proliferation of 9+ AI data centres. In the north where the Tasmanian community objected the council ignored them!! Shocking! There must be rigorous consultation b/c of the very serious impacts on our environment where we live & work & play. AI data centres do NOT dictate to us, we dictate to them. You must remember the objections to wind farms & the lights & humming noise & bird impacts they create!!! Do not repeat the Robbins Island debacle!! — a migratory path for birds?

6. Ensures the Tasmanian community receive tangible benefits from all AI and data facilities constructed in the state; and

We do not need 9 plus data centres in Tassie we have to have limits - the Marinus link etc are not a facilitator for 9 plus AI data centres — just because!). Only what benefits Tasmanians please!

Do you really call, noise, light, power, water usage in these huge ugly buildings as beneficial —

Surely politicians must be held to account — "we the people"

Why should we BEG to have our concerns: noise levels, to water and energy use & lack of consultation be dismissed by Mr Ellis, by Firms & other corporates wanting to access, destroy Tasmania's supposed "clean, green" image.

We do not want or need or approve of corporates like Firms, like AFL, dictating to us. Totally ignoring, with great arrogance and political lobbying, what we Tasmanians hold dear. Stop it

5% of our power

PS. Hydro doesn't know if Taugatua power station is back online.