



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:

Name: George Gowan

Email:

Contact number:

(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.)

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;

As a resident of Tasmania, I do not find any value in data centers for me or anyone I know. Data centers will provide few long term jobs and they will consume a vast amount of energy resources. I have seen NO conversation or even justification about why they are being proposed other than it appears to be a profitable venture for some. This has no benefit to the public and supports an emerging system that is often shown a lack of security, integrity, nor a long term vision for a healthy society. Our resources should not be wasted on this infrastructure as it shows no benefit for our community nor our environment. Those involved in the fast tracking of data center approvals are displaying their willingness to ignore those they have been elected to represent. This is damaging behavior for our society, weakening our social environment to have elected officials acting against the vast public's interest.

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;

Tasmania's resource management and planning system should also prevent any development where it is not supported by the community. Data centers have no benefit to the public, and our resources should not be used for data centers.

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

Yes to accountability. And actionable retribution to any official who has been acting in ill faith.

4. Ensure transparent public disclosure of resource consumption;

The public shall always be consulted in matters that affect our society and the opinions voiced shall be represented, not ignored.

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

Provide the Tasmanian community with adequate opportunities for consultation and stand to represent the opinions received from the consultation. We want real representation and not lip service.

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

I don't see any benefits and haven't heard anyone talking of any. It appears to be another lucrative venture for some and a parasite on society for the general public. Consuming large amounts of energy and setting a precedent that the public isn't being represented while those with lots of money can do what they like without consideration for our environment, our social integrity and trust in government systems. This is showing how our government cannot protect our society from the short sighted mass developments that a few can profit from. How there are rules for some and not for others.

7. Any other matter incidental.

I do not support AI development until there are appropriate developmental guidelines in place. These guidelines would hold preservation of a healthy sustainable society & environment as the highest priority. We cannot waste the precious resources we have for the profit of a few. If a large change to our environment (digital or organic) doesn't substantially benefit society's health and well being, it should not be permitted. Our state has a great future in preserving it's natural heritage and it should not be wasted away for a short term profit. We need long term goals which benefit our society, we need sustainable systems and planning for our future, and generations to come.