



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: [Louise Drury](#)

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;

Australians, and everyone on the globe are currently facing the symptoms of decades of inaction and slow progress resulting in the current climate emergency. Reducing our demand on resources, should be one of the highest priorities of governments in this century.

I am proud to live in Tasmania, a state centered by its connection to the natural world and support of renewable power during the increasingly evident climate emergency.

I am concerned that rapidly increasing the energy demand of the state is not aligned with a mindful use of energy and resources, at a time where it is more critical than ever before. This risks derailing the transition to clean energy, and holding back progress on progressing towards net zero and future proofing society.

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;

444MW is a huge additional requirement of power for Hydro Tasmania to provide to just a small selection of the new AI Data centres that are being proposed in Tasmania. This will require significant upgrade to existing generation infrastructure to be able to safely provide this power. This new generation will additionally have to go through planning approvals, environmental impact studies, to ensure it is a good fit for Tasmania. It is important that these are considered carefully, rather than quickly, cutting red tape to ensure a speedy return on investment. Tasmania's climate is changing. It is important that planning approvals account for the weather conditions of the future, particularly with regards to the increased heatwaves and maximum temperatures, and how this may impact cooling requirements and additional energy demands of data centres.

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

All Data centres should be considered holistically, with particular attention to any increased demands on resources that all applications together in total will have on the state, rather than on an individual basis. It is vital to ensure Tasmania has the resources to support them, without leading to a degradation of resources for existing users, from households to commercial users.

4. Ensure transparent public disclosure of resource consumption;

It will be important to have monitoring and reporting in place to ensure that Data centres are following regulations and operating within expectations.
Will there be a portal for everyday Tasmanians and Australians to maintain awareness if these guidelines are being met? Importantly, what will the consequences be for not meeting regulations, and under what timeframe can we expect these breaches to be reported?
What will the impact be to the wider community if these guidelines are breached? Are locals likely to lose power under conditions that result in higher than expected power draw?

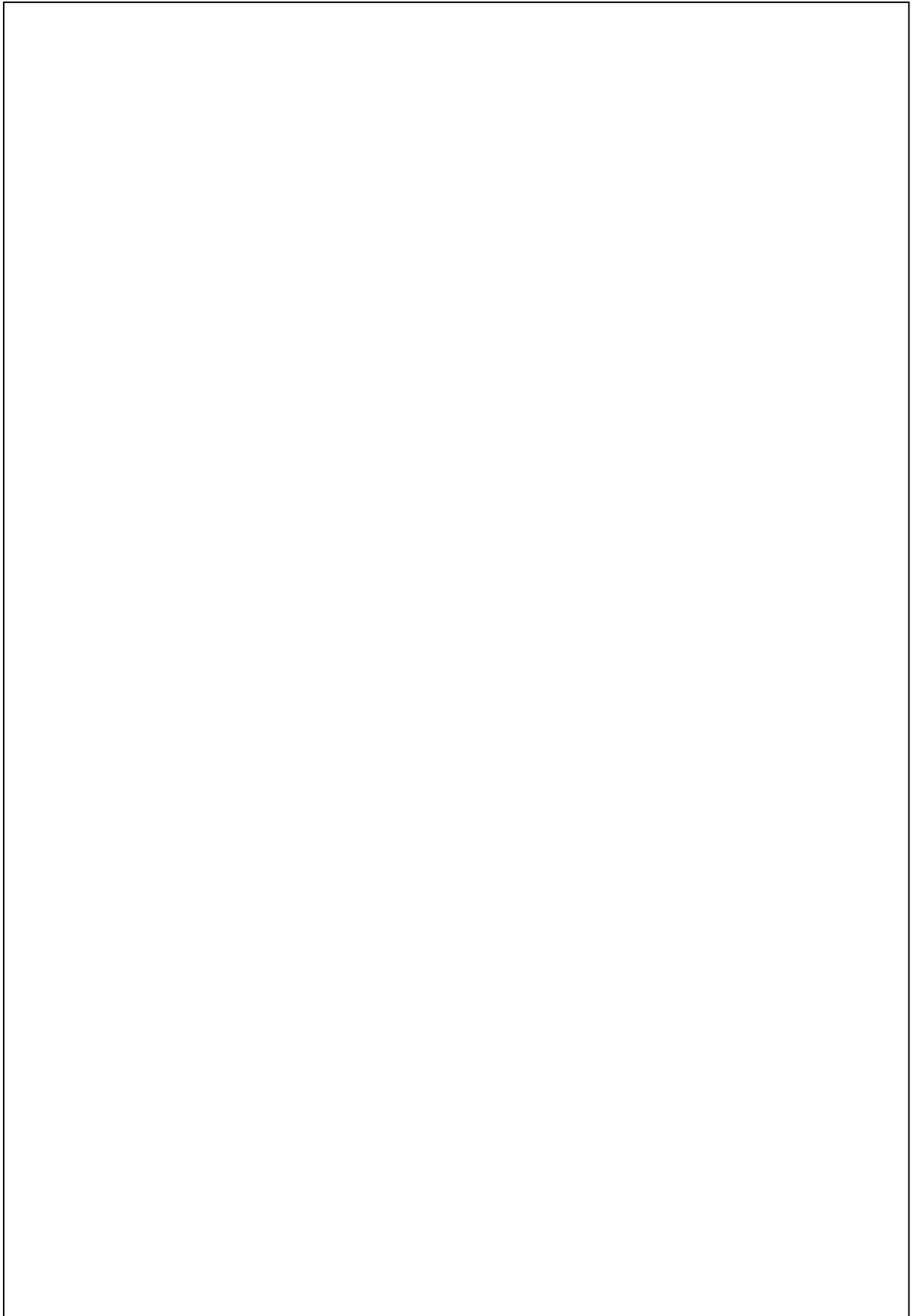
5. Provide the Tasmanian community with adequate opportunities for consultation;

I additionally hope the consultation has the resources to ensure all voice are heard, not just those who can easily navigate the online spaces, and understand and respond to technical and legal documentation. As a community, it is important for all Tasmanians to have a say in what is being approved by all levels of government, on their behalf.

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

Where are these AI Data Centre companies based? Where are their staff? What laws do they need to follow? Where do they pay taxes? Will there be local staff for engaging proactively with the local community, before disputes and tensions rise? Will locals be able to raise concerns and have the ability to seek additional information, on an ongoing beyond the initial setup of the projects? Will Tasmanians have access to the facilities as interested members of the public, to learn how they operate and engage with this technology as it develops?

7. Any other matter incidental.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the majority of the page below the question. It is intended for the respondent to provide details on any other matter incidental to the inquiry.