

Submitter: John Livingston

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3546

Communities often give large tax and rate breaks when commercial businesses come in and provide local jobs. These incentives may also include connection to the electrical grid and other utilities at reduced rates. The rest of the users both residential and commercial pay for these incentives. This is very wrong, and it must be stopped. Data centers especially use lots of power and in this day of electrification they should make arrangements to secure separate power for their facility that will not in any way affect the cost of power for existing users. Other industries that use power as the main source of productivity should also be included in this bill, not just data centers.

HB 3546, the POWER Act, will ensure that utility costs can be tracked and billed appropriately to data centers by creating a new customer category at each for-profit electric utility.

This will help make Data Centers accountable for their fair share of new transmission lines and substation costs and will allow regulators to assign costs that only benefit one type of customer. This bill will ensure that expensive data center-caused utility investments are continually paid for by data centers by requiring signed utility contracts for at least 10 years.

Please pass HB 3546