

From: Oliver Skimbo
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2025 1:21 PM
To: Jim.Grego@okhouse.gov; Warren Hamilton
Cc: Kim Rose
Subject: Awareness of Proposed Data Centers in Kiowa, OK – Project Overview & Contacts

Dear Representative Grego and Senator Hamilton,

I want to ensure you are aware of two proposed data center projects currently being developed in the Kiowa area of Pittsburg County, District 1. Both projects intend to capture the incremental growth in property tax revenues by creating new Tax Increment Districts (TID).

Given the potential implications for water resources, local infrastructure, community planning, and Ad Valorem revenues, I felt it important to share this information as these projects advance.

Recent Legislative Context

Representative Amanda Clinton (D–Tulsa) recently conducted an Interim Study on the impact of data center expansion on Oklahoma’s water resources and power grid. Her findings, released October 21, 2025, highlighted the rapid growth of large-scale “hyperscale” data centers across the state and the strain they can place on local water supplies and electrical infrastructure.

The study emphasized the need for transparency, municipal oversight, and responsible resource management as these facilities expand. Since municipalities are often the primary point of contact for such developments, her insights are directly relevant to the projects now proposed in Kiowa. The full study is available on the [Oklahoma House of Representatives Website](#).

Project Summaries

- 1. Project PCDC – Iris Energy (IREN) & Ernst & Young (EY)**
Iris, an Australian-based company, has purchased approximately 300 acres. Plans call for a multi-phase data center modeled after their premier facility in Sweetwater, Texas. They are working with Ernst & Young (EY) in Austin, Texas, based out of London England. According to Iris representatives, the facility will operate as a closed-loop system, requiring minimal water usage except during startup.

They are working on setting up an in-person meeting on November 12th, possible 13th or 14th, in hopes to start a Tax Increment Districts (TID) review committee.
- 2. Project Pittsburg DC – Black Mountain Energy Storage (ASX:BME) & Cloud HQ**
Led by Black Mountain Energy Storage in Austin, TX, based out of western Australia and Cloud HQ based out of Washington D.C.. Approximately 1,200 acres have been purchased, with the potential for an additional 300 acres. Developers are securing utility right-of-way (ROW) for a water line from McAlester’s secondary water

source at Coal Creek (Fairly Road). The original 36" line proposal has shifted to a 12–20" line. Attempts to secure ROW along the Union Pacific Railroad (UP RR) and Highway 69 have been unsuccessful. As well as attempts to secure water from the City of Atoka and the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant (MCAAP). Unlike Iris's design, this facility will use an open-loop system, resulting in substantial daily water loss through evaporative cooling.

Contact List of Known Stakeholders

Local Representatives and Stakeholders

- **Charlie Rogers** Charlie17county@yahoo.com 918.420.2951 Pittsburg County D-1
- **Mike Haynes** pittsburgcounty2.1.1@gmail.com 539.995.2471 Pittsburg County D-2
- **Ross Selman** boccc@pittsburg.okcounties.org 918.470.1753 Pittsburg County D-3
- **Danny Drake** dldrake74@yahoo.com 918.424.3218 Mayor of Kiowa
- **Daniel Dibble** water@kiowaoklahoma.com 918.429.8674 Kiowa Water Plant Operator
- **Jess Wilson** jess@kiowapolice.com 918.329.0502 Kiowa Chief of Police
- **Sam Rhyne** srhyne@kiowa.k12.ok.us 918.470.6331 Kiowa School Superintendent, Ad Valorem
- **Kim Rose** krose@keddo.org 918.465.2367 KEDDO Director
- **Hannah Royce** hroyce@keddo.org 405.437.6566 KEDDO Projects Director
- **Luke Underwood** lunderwood@keddo.org 918.448.5014 KEDDO Rural Fire Coordinator
- **Ken Wimer** Ken.Wimer@cityofmcalester.com 918.426.9300 Acting McAlester City Manager
- **Justin Few** Justin.Few@cityofmcalester.com 918.423.9300 Mayor McAlester
- **Jacob Poole** jpoole@ktc.edu 918.740.8940 KTC Director of Workforce Development, Ad Valorem
- **Larriann Livingston** llivingston@ktc.edu 918.564.2968 Kiamichi Technology Centers
- **Whitney Blaylock** wblaylock@ktc.edu 918.839.2592 Kiamichi Technology Centers
- **Jim Ray** jimray5674@gmail.com 918.470.5731 Town of Kiowa Vice Mayor, Ward 5
- **Jara James** jbjames@choctawnation.com 580.740.9971 Choctaw Economic Development
- **Stephanie S. Mervine** smervine@choctawnation.com 580.740.2218 Choctaw Economic Development
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- **Shane Schlueter** srschlueter@aep.com 918.613.0495 PSO Engineering Technologist
- **Jeremy Ambrose** jdambrose@aep.com PSO Director of Economic Development
- **Todd W. Monks** twmonks@aep.com PSO Field Representative
- **Jerret Sanders** jsanders@summitutilities.com 580.512.5873 Summit Utilities Supervisor of Operations
- **Anthony Echelle** aechele@odot.org 580.298.3371 ODOT District 2 Engineer

Company Representatives – Project Developers

Iris Energy (IREN)

- **Jason Date** jason.date@iren.com 236.997.8038 Senior Manager
- **Caleb Walsh** 940.589.8178 Landman
- **Michel Skura** michel.skura@iren.com 561.715.3503 Project Development Engineer
- **Marat Ahmad** marat.ahmad@iren.com Commercial Associate

- **Sarah Merriman** sarah.merriman@irisenergy.co Corporate/Community Engagement

Ernst & Young (EY)

- **Gerald Byrd** gerald.byrd@ey.com 936.827.2900 Senior Consultant
- **Evan Horn** evan.horn@ey.com 512.426.8958 Senior Manager, Property Tax
- **Matthew Gorman** matthew.g.gorman@ey.com Former Senior Manager, Property Tax; now with JLL Value & Risk Advisory as Senior Director
- **Ross Newstead** ross.newstead@ey.com Senior Property Tax
- **Troy T. Reed** troy.t.reed@ey.com Senior Manager, Property Tax

Black Mountain Energy Storage

- **Carolyn O'Brien** – carolyn.obrien@blackmtn.com 214.263.2583 Director of Permitting & Entitlements
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- **Jackson Hughes** jackson.hughes@blackmtn.com Director of Development
- **Dan Ditto** dan.ditto@blackmtn.com Director of Land Acquisitions

Cloud HQ

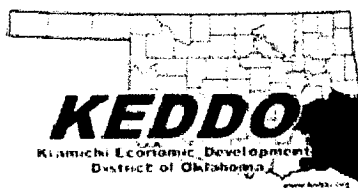
- **Andrew Tupper** atupper@cloudhq.com Senior Manager, Acquisitions
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Please let me know if additional project or contact information would be helpful as these developments progress or merge.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Oliver Skimbo



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