

Welcome



Thank you for joining the St. Joseph County community meeting about the proposed Microsoft datacenter project

We are early in the development process.

We intend to begin site preparation in early June. Once site preparation is complete, building construction may begin in late Fall or early 2027.

Tonight's meeting is an open house.

Please visit the stations, view the materials, and talk with our staff.

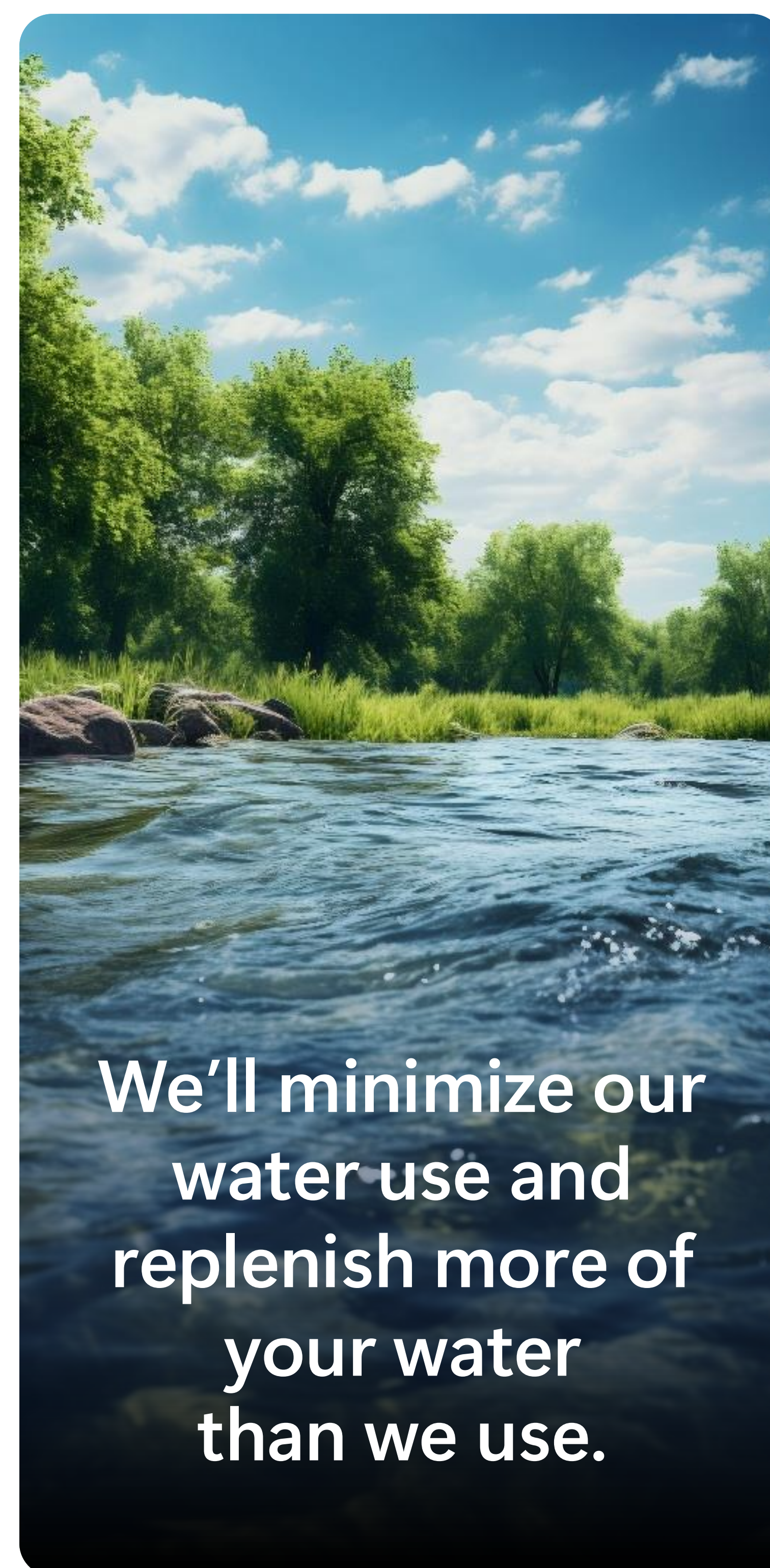
We would be delighted to answer questions you may have.

Building Community-First Infrastructure

The Microsoft Community-First Infrastructure initiative centers on being a good neighbor in the communities where we build, own, and operate our datacenters.



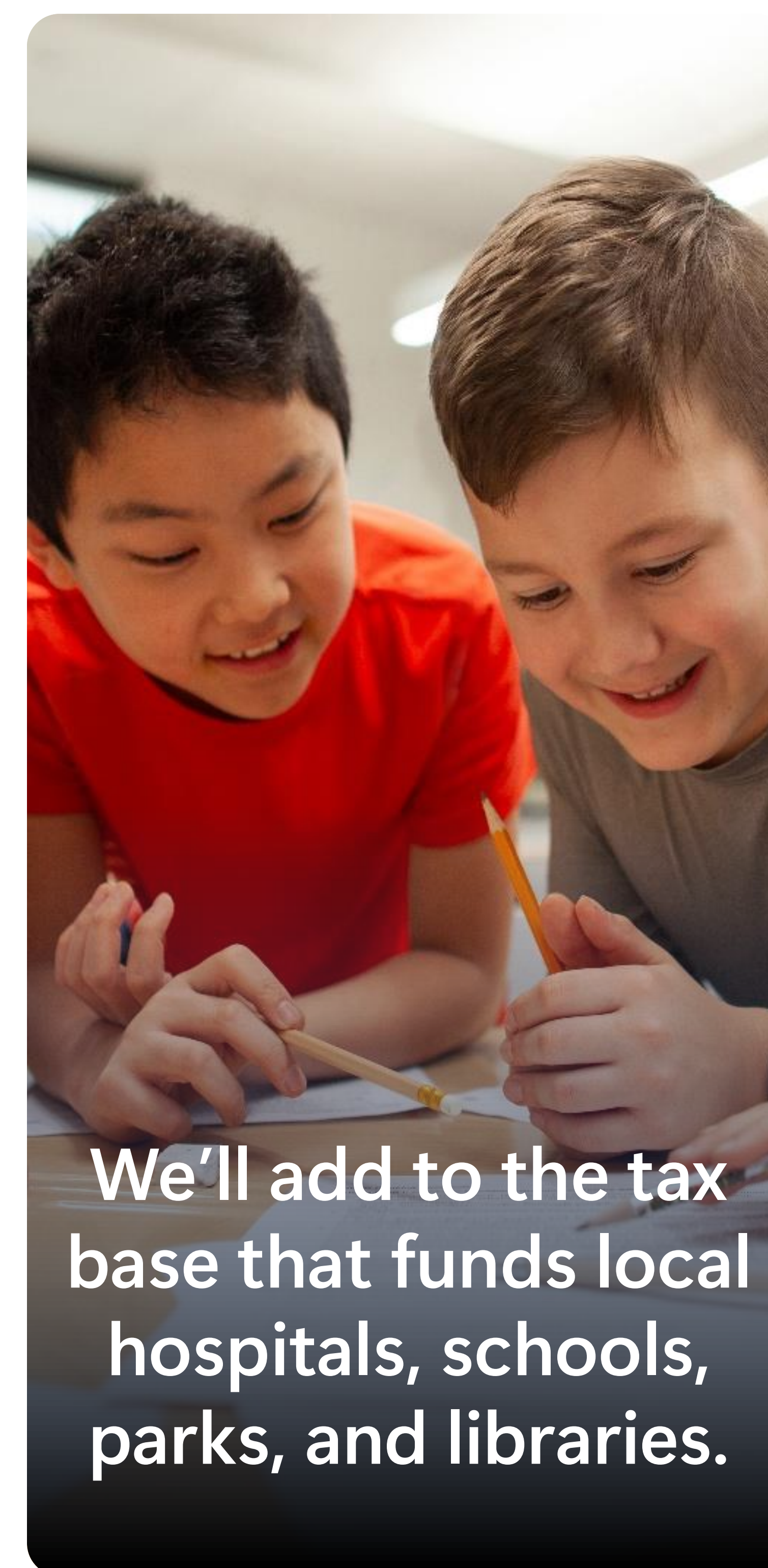
We'll pay our way to ensure our datacenters don't increase your electricity prices.



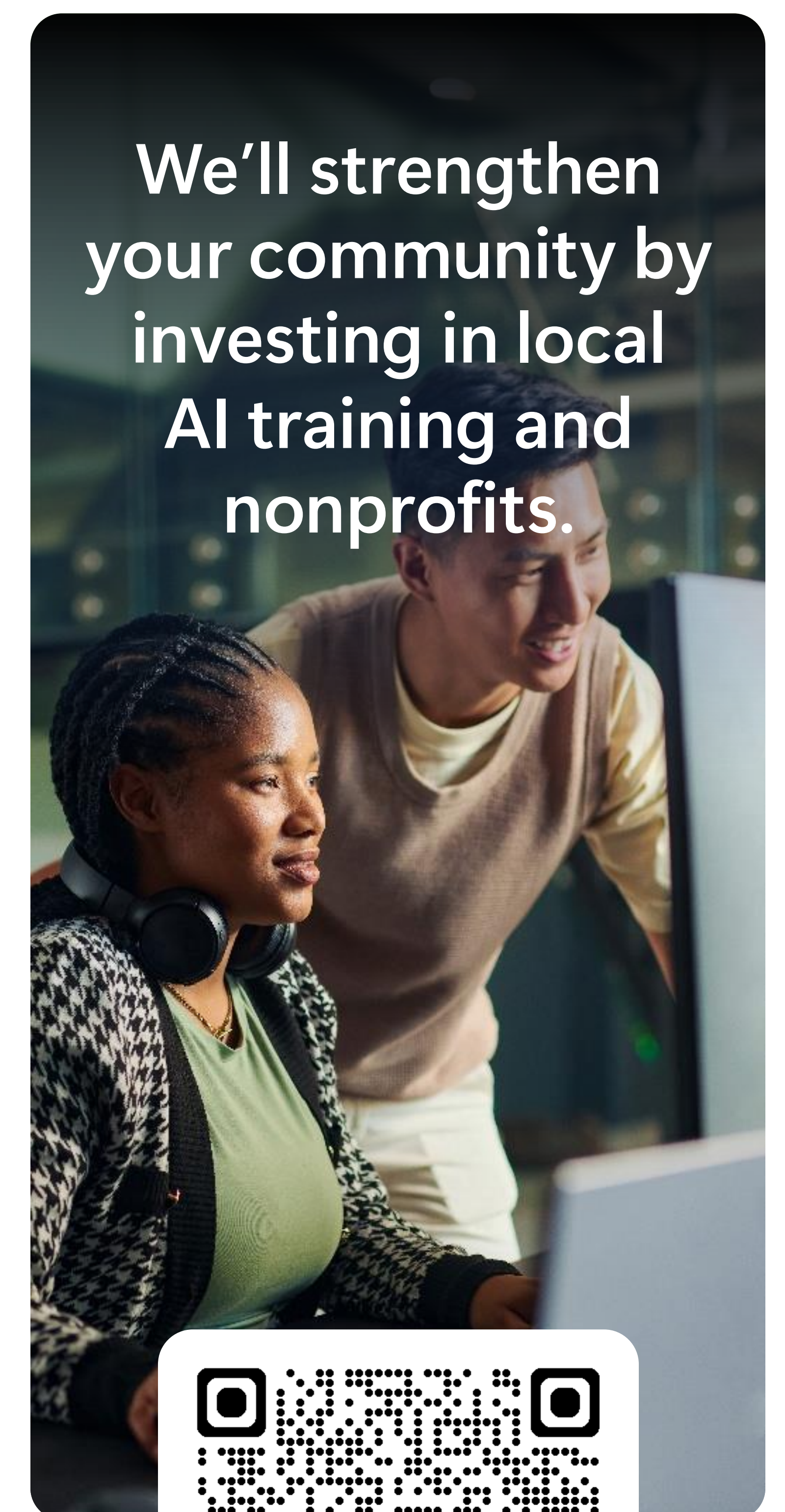
We'll minimize our water use and replenish more of your water than we use.



We'll create jobs for your residents.

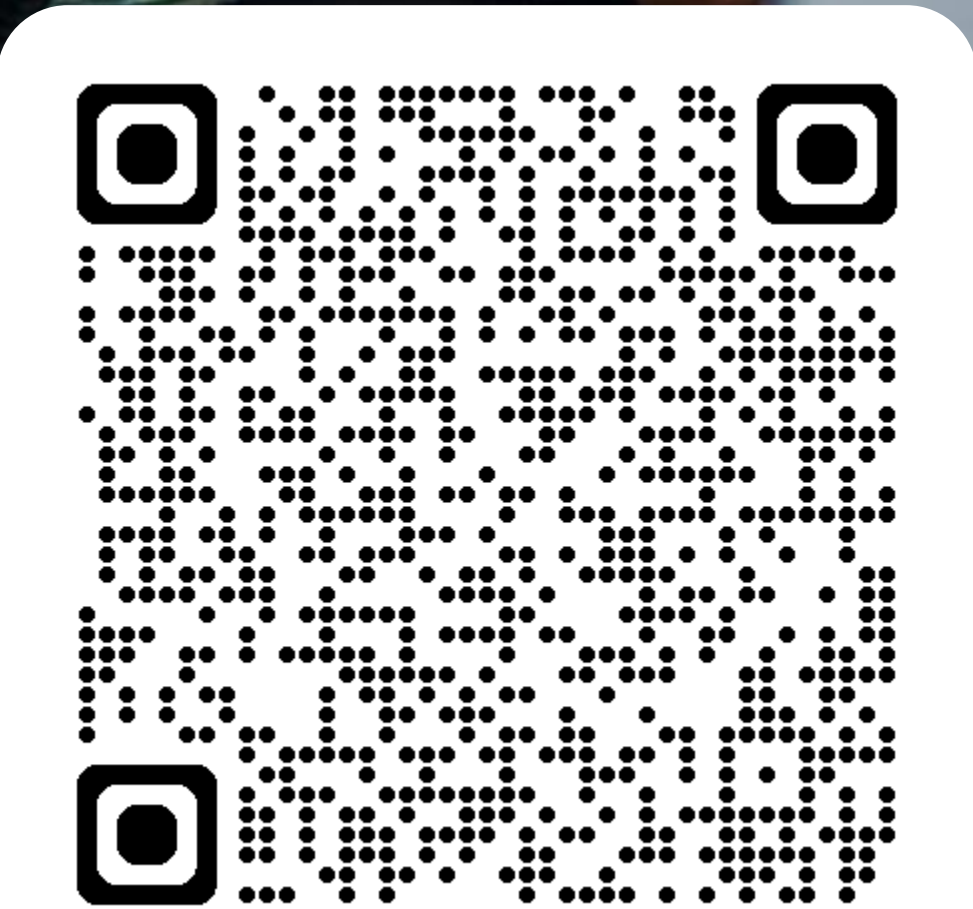


We'll add to the tax base that funds local hospitals, schools, parks, and libraries.



We'll strengthen your community by investing in local AI training and nonprofits.

Scan the QR code to learn more



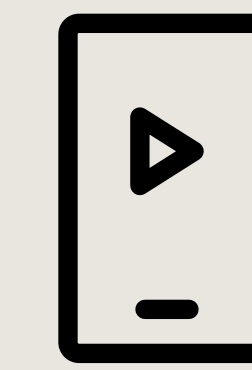
Datacenters are the infrastructure that delivers the cloud

The cloud plays a **significant role in our everyday lives**, enabling remote work and learning, global collaboration, supporting discovery and innovation, and importantly, powering critical life and safety services.

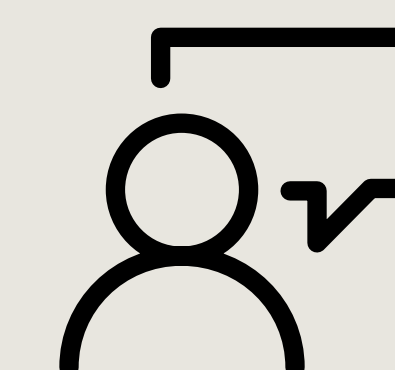
Datacenters have become integral to our lives, from connecting with family and friends, to facilitating contactless payments and remote working, our modern lives are reliant on the functionality datacenters provide and demand is growing.

Organizations in Indiana rely on the Microsoft Cloud, including companies large and small, startups, governments, hospitals, banks, schools, and more.

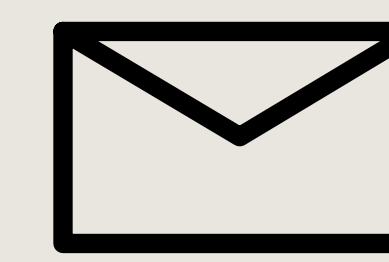
Datacenters power our digital world



Streaming videos



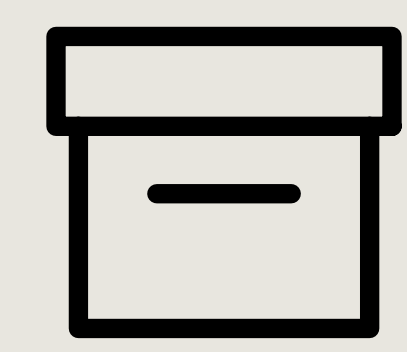
Collaboration



Email



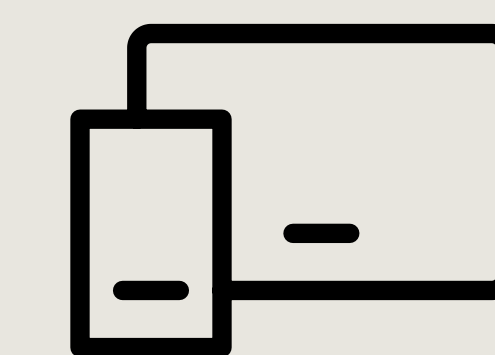
Online banking



File storage



Online shopping



Mobile apps

Who uses the Cloud

The Microsoft cloud serves over **1 billion** customers and over **20 million** companies worldwide.

Over **95% of Fortune 500** companies run Microsoft Azure.

Many companies and public sector agencies including ones with ties to Indiana, use the Microsoft Cloud to modernize and digitize their operations.

Non-profit and IGO



Defense and Intelligence



Retail and Consumer Goods



vera bradley

Telecommunications and Media



Professional Business Services



Education + Healthcare



Community-First Commitments

Microsoft's 5-point plan to partner with local communities across the United States

1

We'll pay our way to ensure our datacenters don't increase your electricity prices.

- Pay utility rates that are high enough to cover our electricity costs
- Collaborate with utilities on plans to add the electricity we will need
- Innovate to make our datacenters more efficient
- Advocate for public policies needed for affordable, reliable, and sustainable power

2

We'll minimize our water use and replenish more of your water than we use.

- Reduce the amount of water our datacenters use
- Replenish more water than we use
- Provide greater local transparency
- Advocate for public policy that helps minimize water use

3

We'll create jobs for your residents.

- Invest in partnerships to train local construction workers
- Expand our Datacenter Academy program to train more individuals for ongoing operations roles
- Encourage local policymakers to support new job opportunities

4

We'll add to the tax base that funds first responders, schools, parks, and libraries.

- We won't ask municipalities to reduce their local property tax rates for datacenters
- We'll support policies to invest the added taxes we pay in the vital services the community cares about

5

We'll strengthen your community by investing in local workforce training and non-profits.

- Partner with schools, community colleges, and universities to provide workforce training
- Support adults with modern tools and skills through learning hubs in local libraries
- Support technology skills training for businesses
- Invest in local non-profits

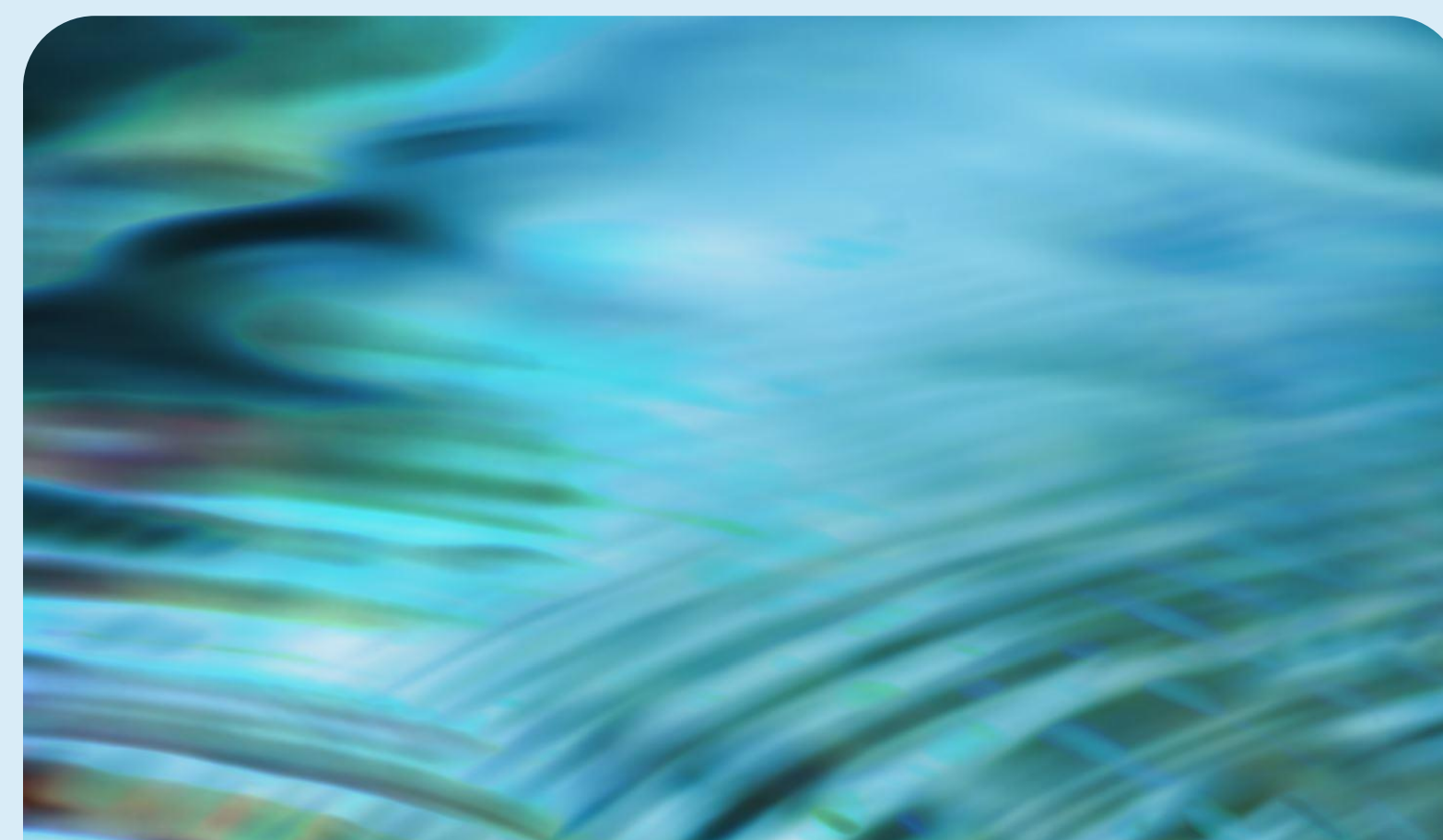
Our Community-First work is already underway across America



Paying our own way

In Iowa, we partnered with West Des Moines Water Works to **fund a municipal water tower and aquifer storage well**, adding system reliability and flexibility for future needs.

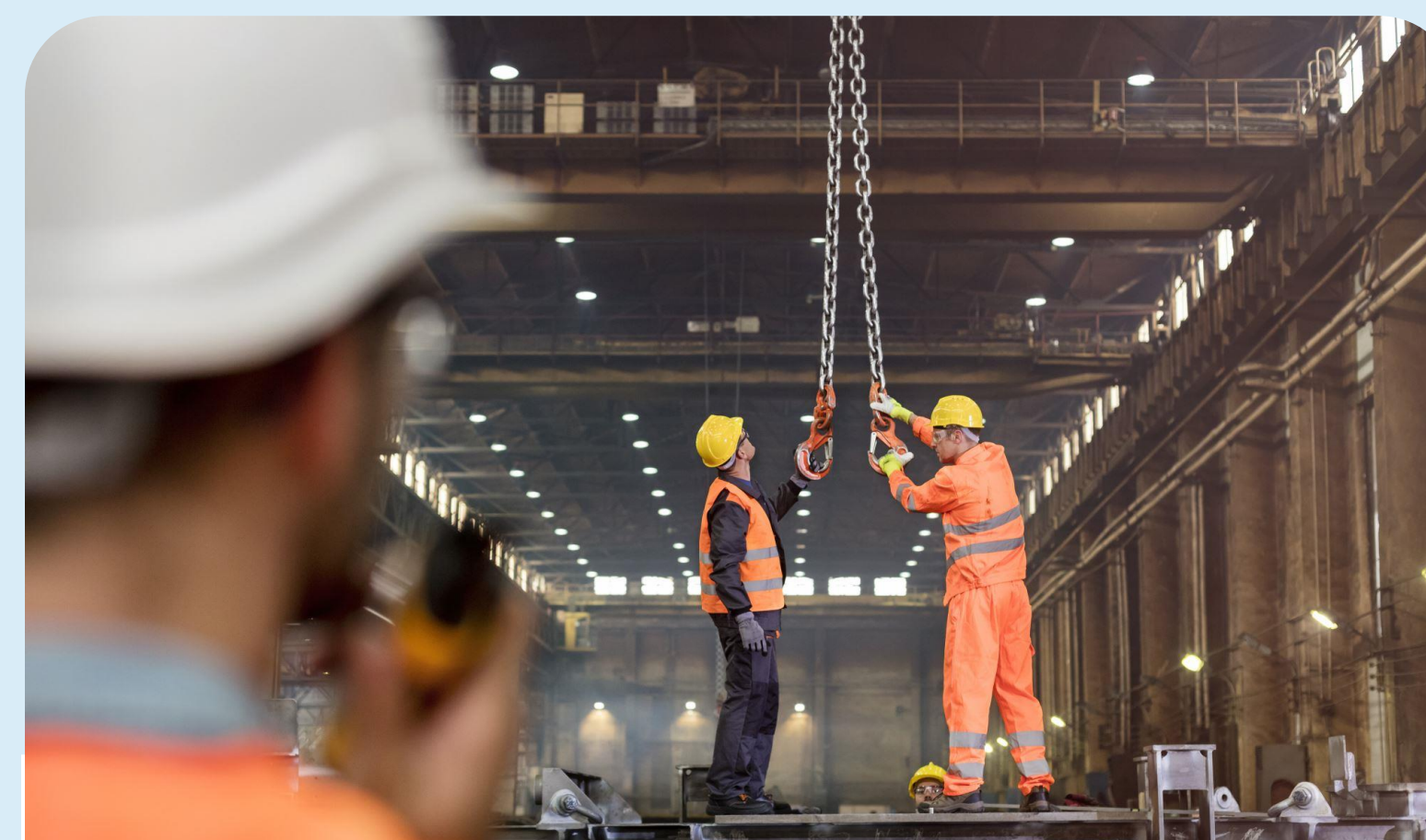
We fully funded major water and wastewater infrastructure in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, **doubling capacity at two water treatment plants and one wastewater treatment plant.**



Replenishing more water than we use

We're **restoring wetlands and improving agricultural drainage practices** along the Des Moines River upstream of Des Moines, Iowa, to reduce nutrient runoff, lower flood risk, and improve water quality.

We're partnering with Tribal nations and local water managers in Arizona on projects that **recharge groundwater and reduce water losses** in the Lower Colorado River Basin, one of the most water-stressed regions in the US.



Creating local jobs

Datacenters in Loudoun, Mecklenburg, and Prince William counties in **Virginia employ ~1,180 people as of 2025** and new builds will support **5,190 construction jobs and 21.2 million workhours.**

Central Washington datacenter construction and operations generate approximately **\$134 million in annual labor income.**

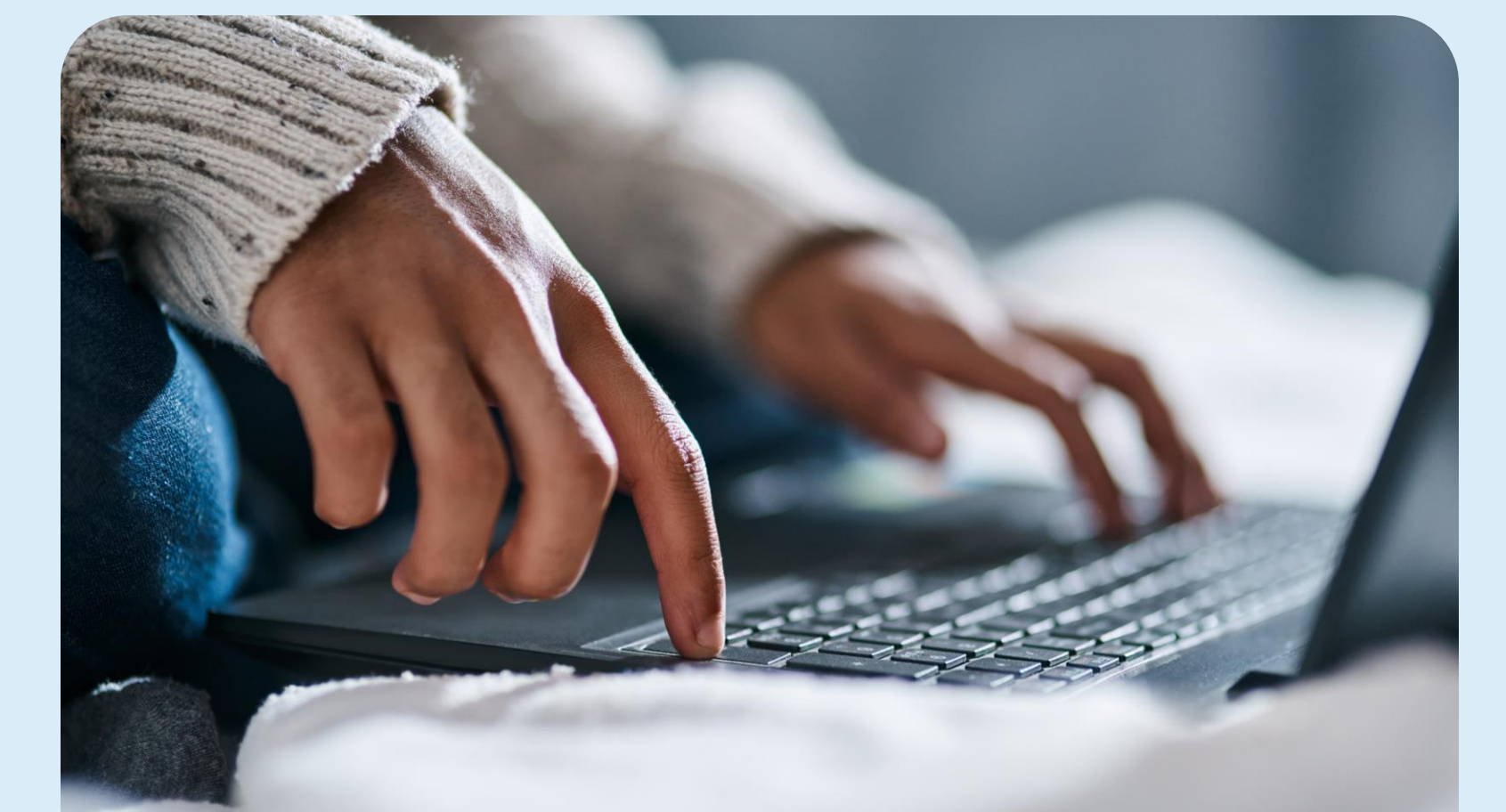


Adding to the tax base

West Des Moines datacenters have supported approximately **\$182 million in city street and utility improvements**, according to city officials.

In 2024, Microsoft paid \$26.4 million in **Central Washington** property taxes, representing **14.8% of all property taxes in Douglas and Grant counties.**

In 2025, Microsoft was the **#1 highest taxpayer** for the City of **Cheyenne, Wyoming.**



Investing in training

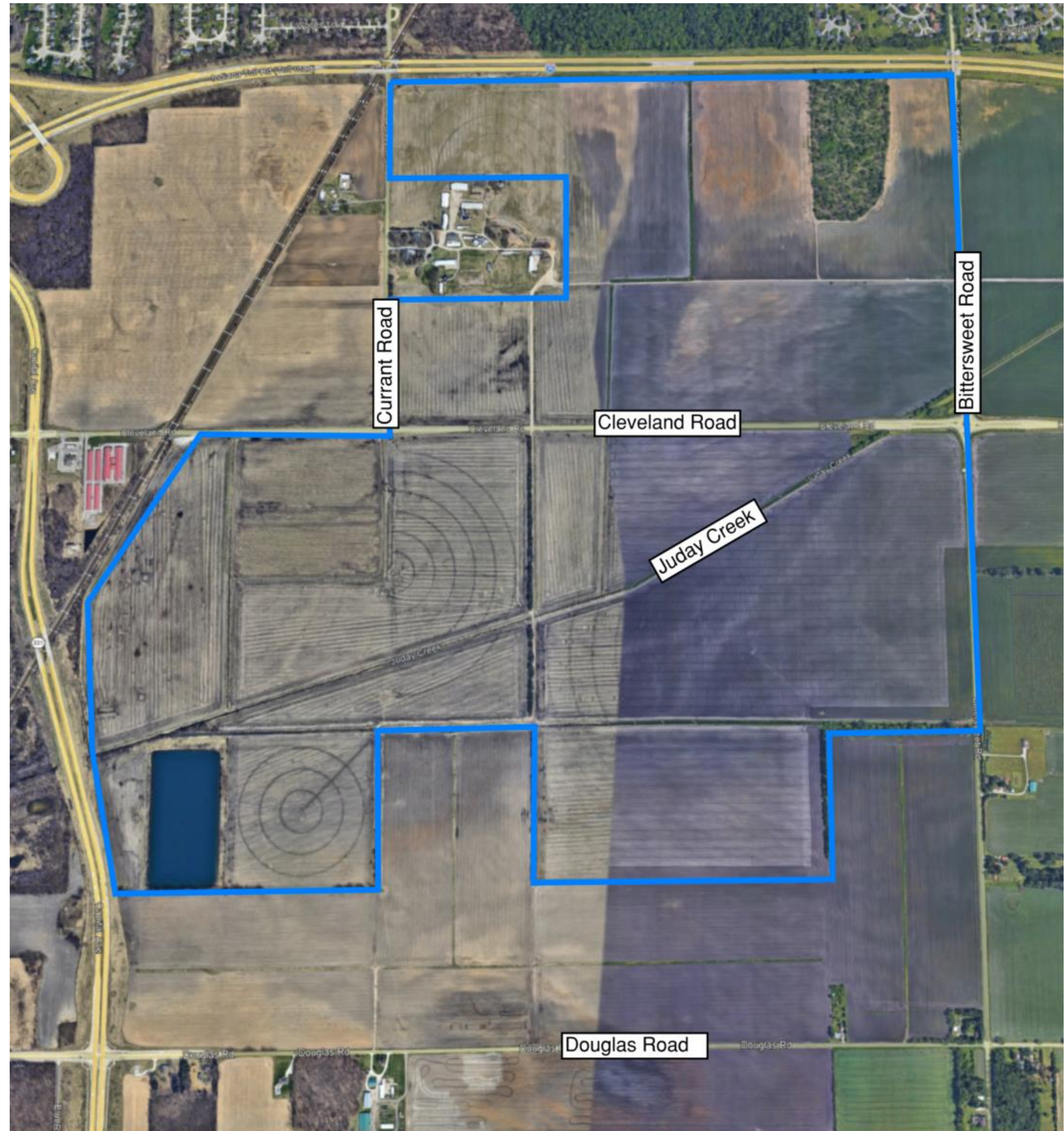
To support local workforce training and career pathways into datacenter and IT roles, we established the Microsoft Datacenter Academy and **funded datacenter academy scholarships and programs** across 36 education partners in 26 locations.

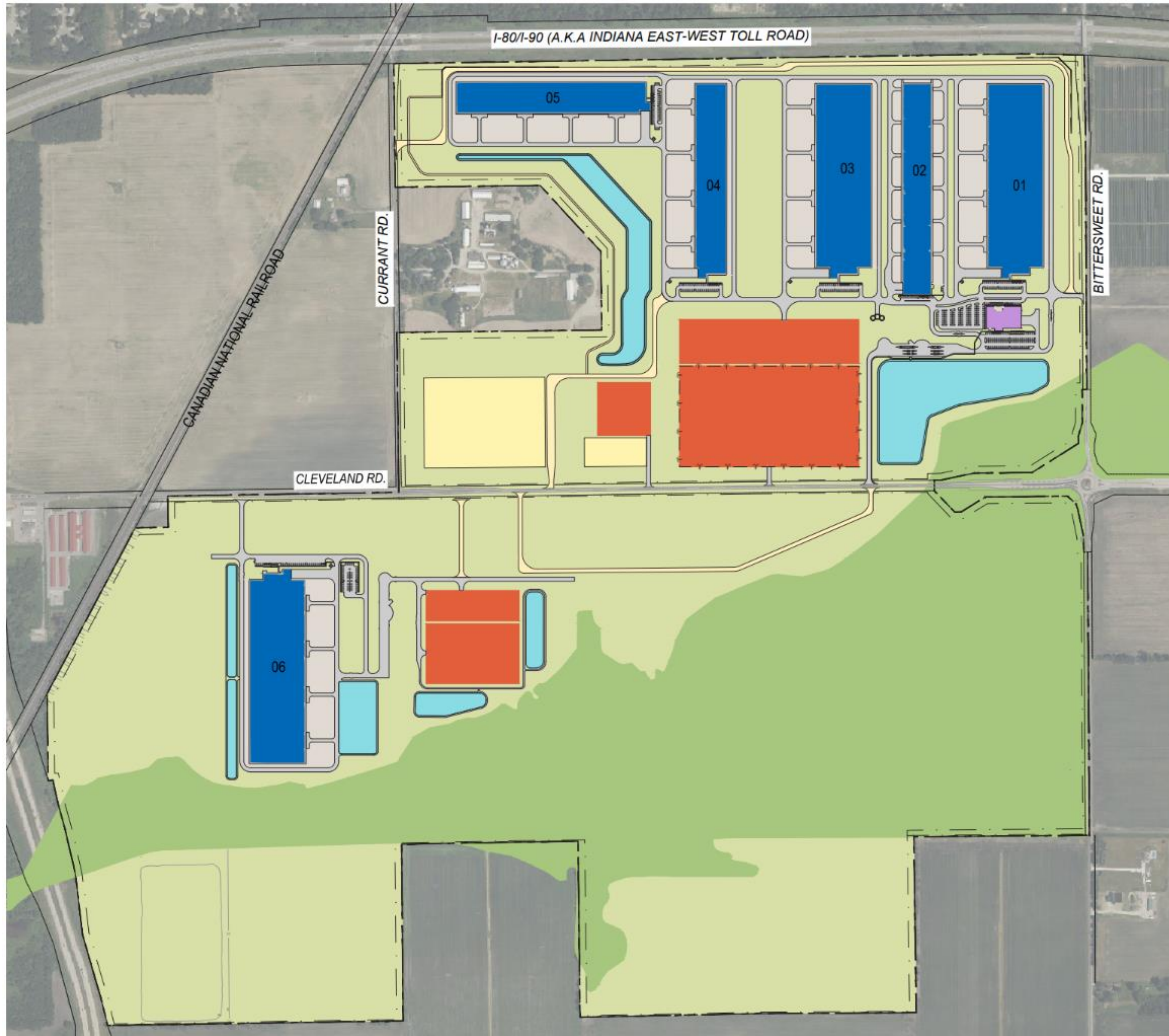
We look forward to investing in projects like these in Northwest Indiana

About the site

In 2024, Microsoft announced the acquisition of approximately 900 acres of property between Bittersweet Road and Currant Road with I-90 serving as the northern border of the project. Microsoft is committed to the development of a datacenter campus while dedicating a portion of the land to a Juday Creek conservation project.

The site is zoned for datacenter development, and we are currently in the building design phase. We anticipate beginning site preparation mobilization in May-June and continuing through the summer. Following completion of Site Land Development, the site GC will begin building construction in the fall, pending all necessary local jurisdiction approvals.





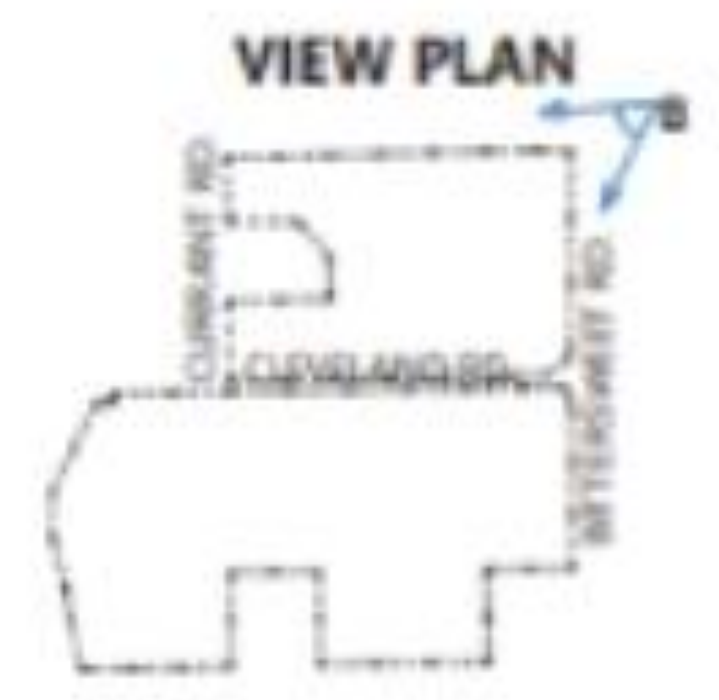
Draft Conceptual Rendering of Site Plan



B AERIAL VIEW LOOKING SOUTH



B NIGHTTIME VIEW

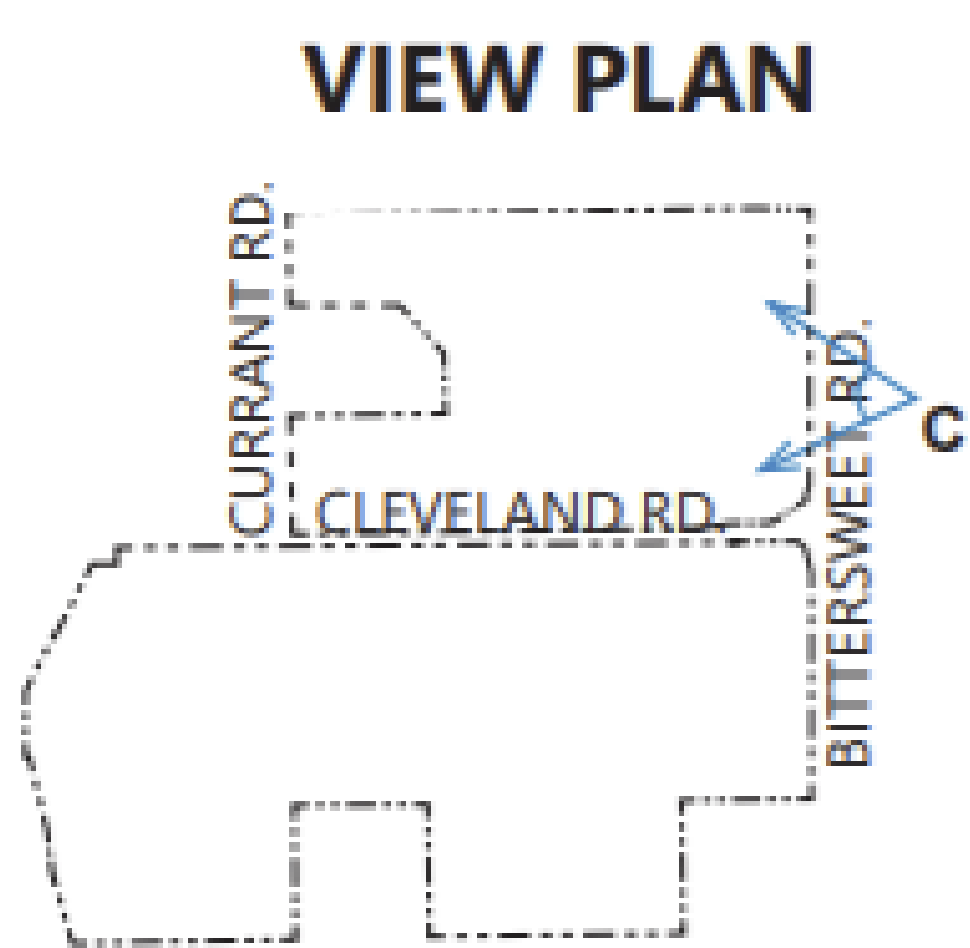


Conceptual Rendering

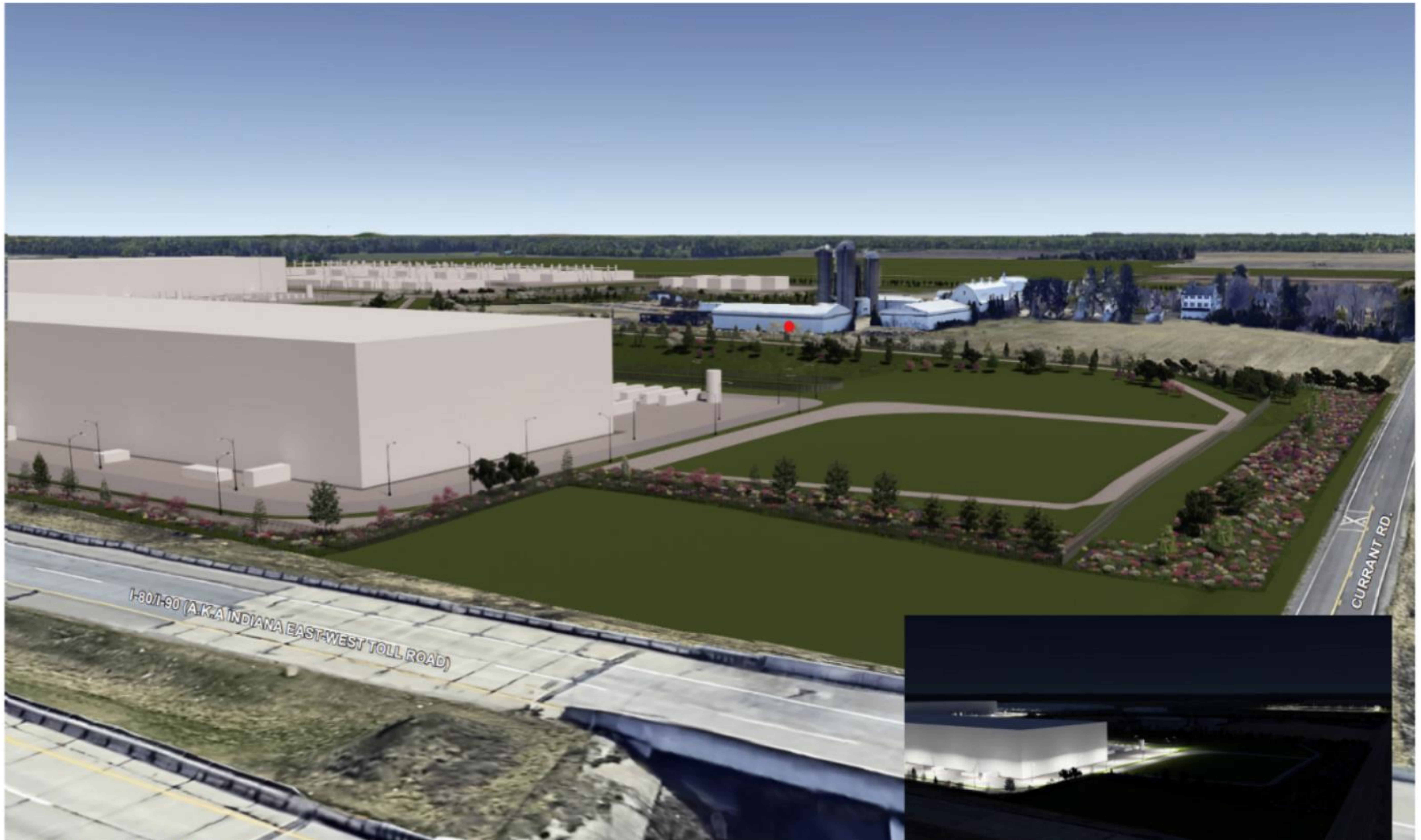




VIEW LOOKING WEST FROM BITTERSWEET



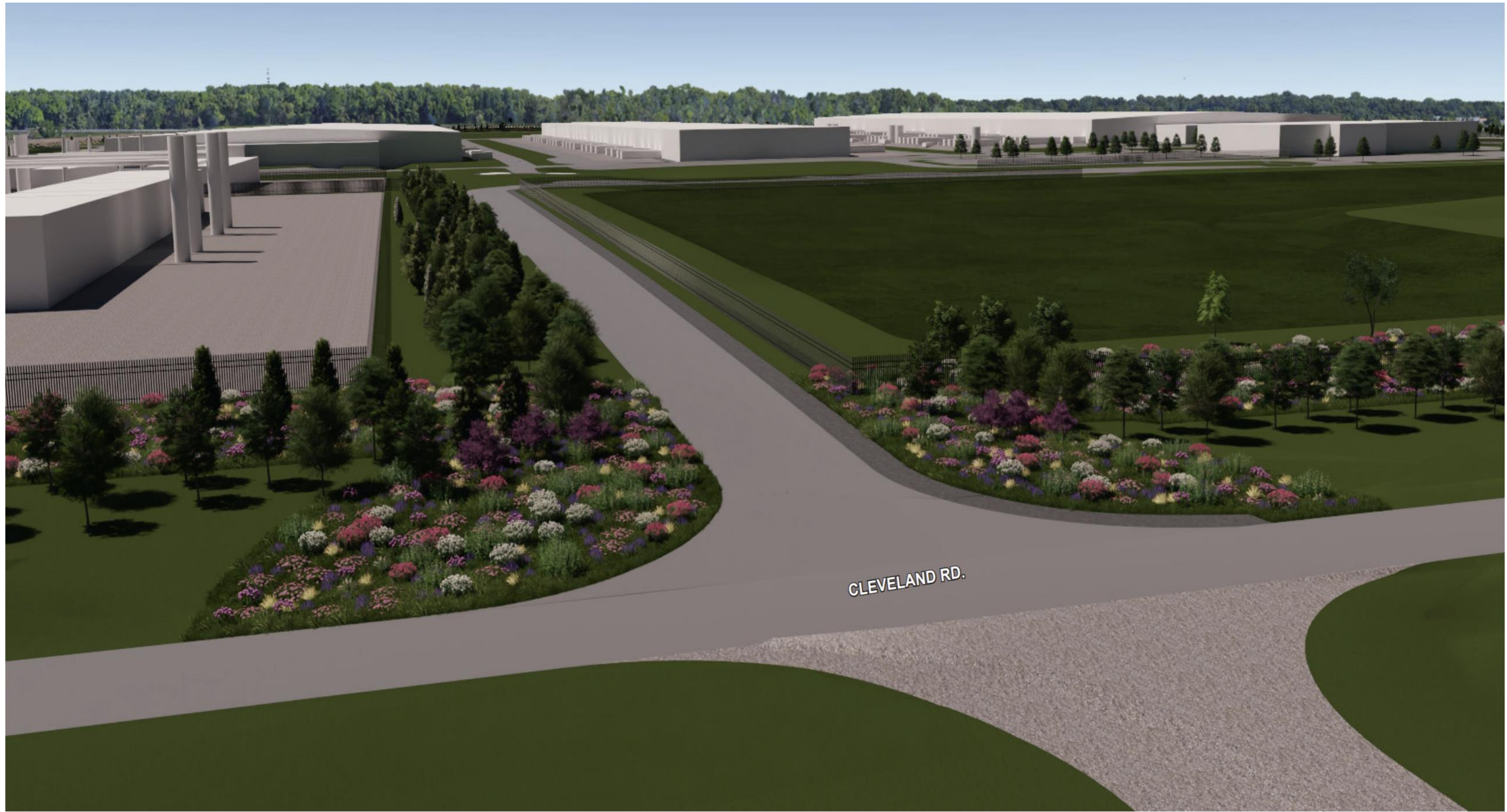
Conceptual Rendering



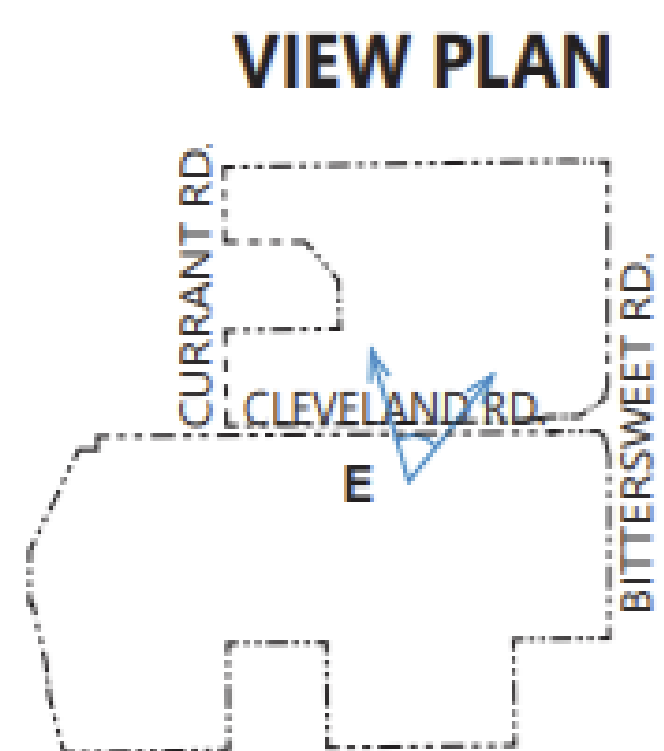
D VIEW LOOKING SOUTH FROM CARRANT RD.



Conceptual Rendering



VIEW LOOKING AT THE ENTRY FROM
CLEVELAND RD.



Conceptual Rendering



F AERIAL VIEW LOOKING NORTH EAST

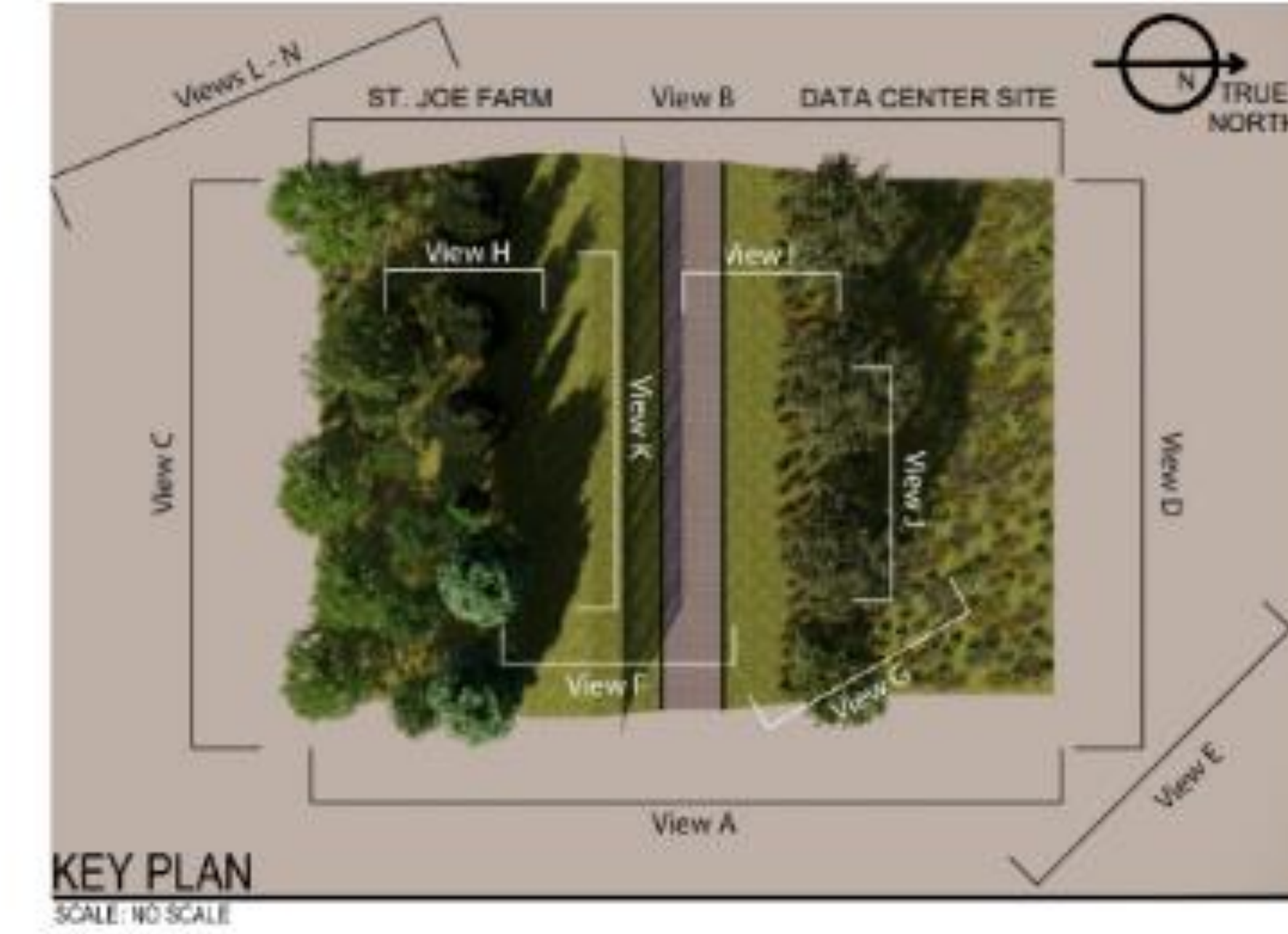


F NIGHTTIME VIEW



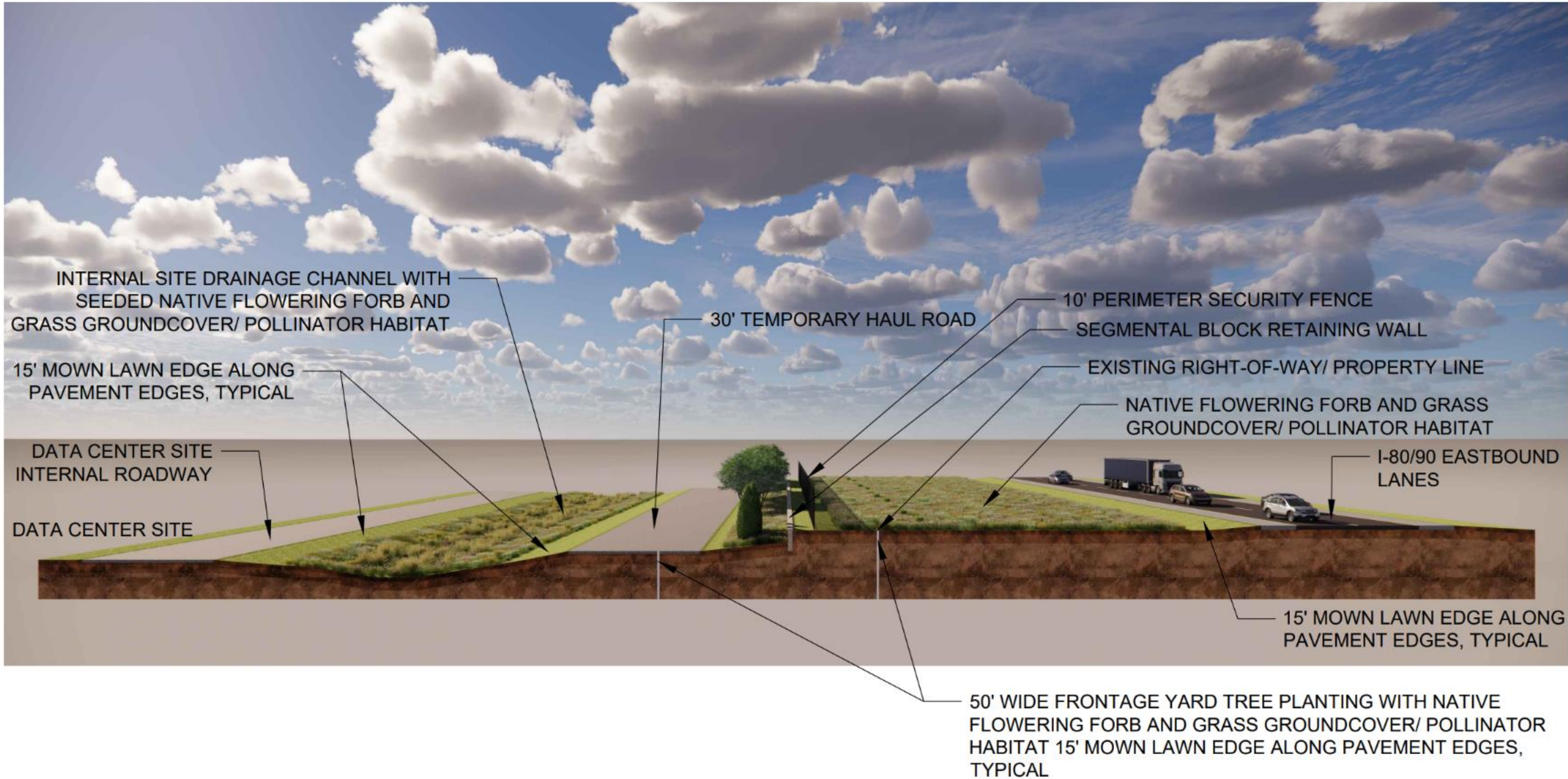
Conceptual Rendering



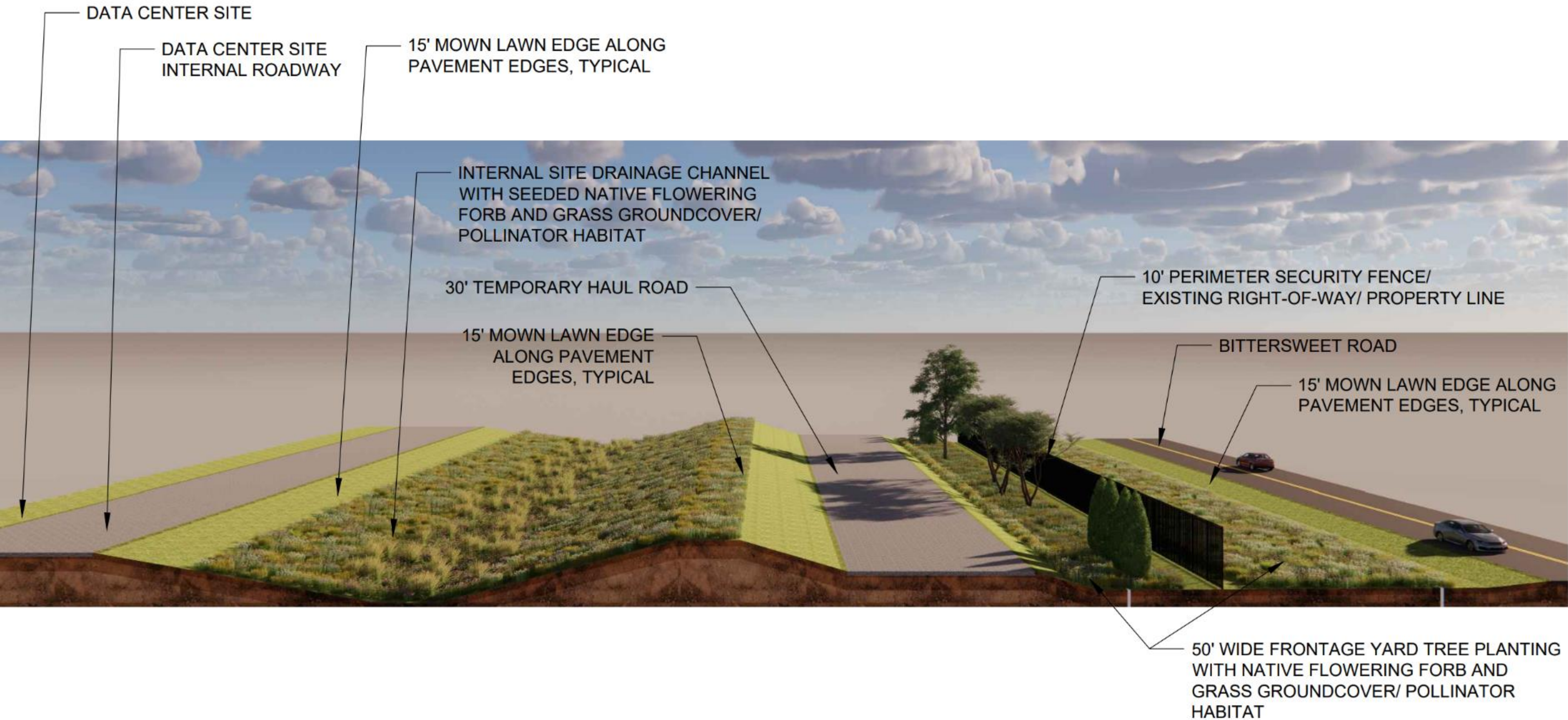


2 ST. JOE FARM BERM AND LANDSCAPE BUFFER - AERIAL (VIEW N)

SCALE: NO SCALE



1 FUTURE I-80/90 FRONT VIEW
SCALE: NO SCALE



1

FUTURE BITTERSWEET ROAD FRONT VIEW

SCALE: NO SCALE

Next steps

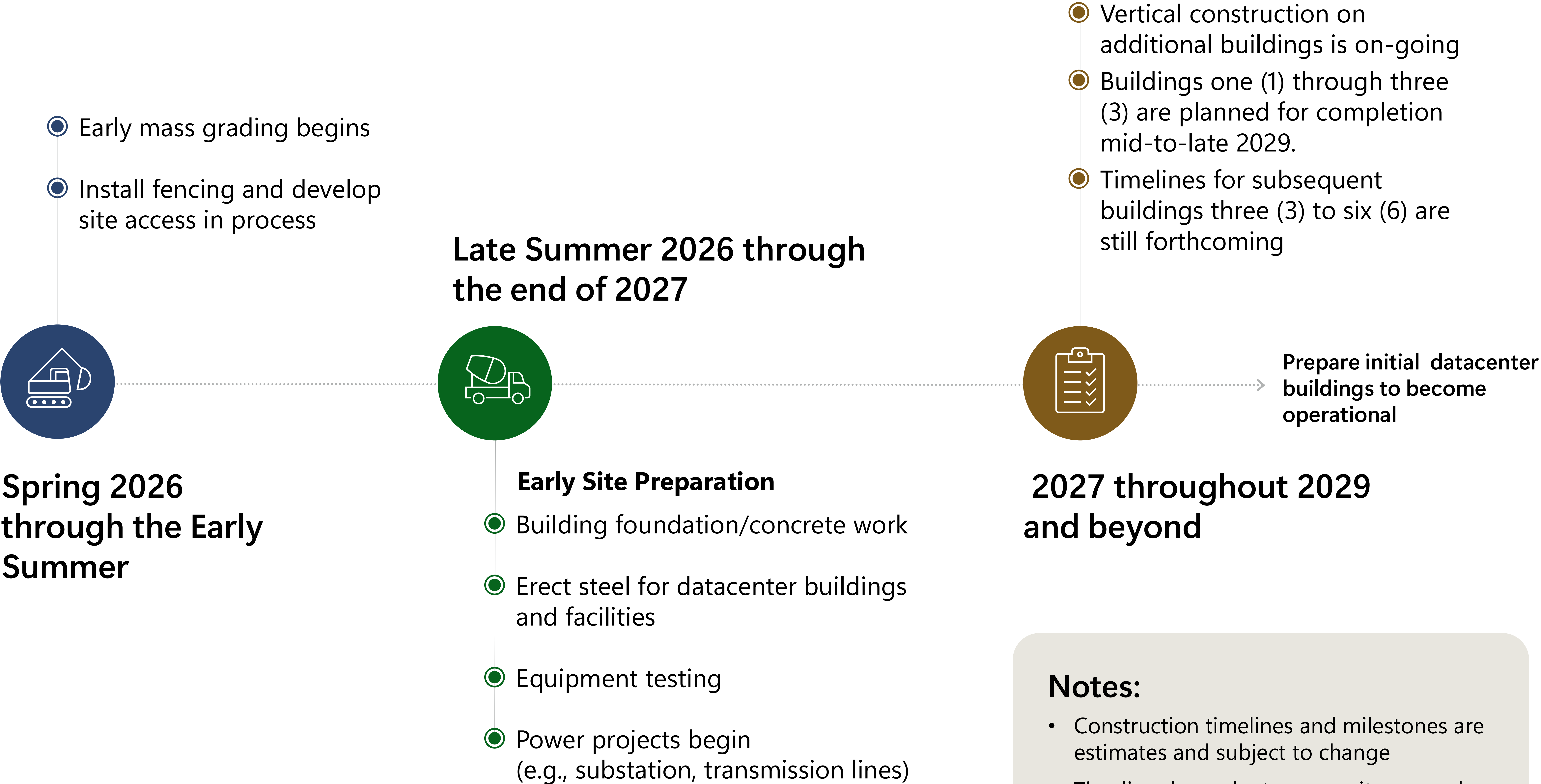
There are six steps to establishing a new datacenter location



- We are in the planning and initial land development process. We expect site preparation to begin in early June.
- Building design is underway and expected to be completed later in the summer.
- Once initial site preparation is complete, we expect to begin building construction in late Fall 2026 or early 2027.
- Following this meeting, we will review feedback received to help inform our efforts and plans.

It's a marathon, not a sprint

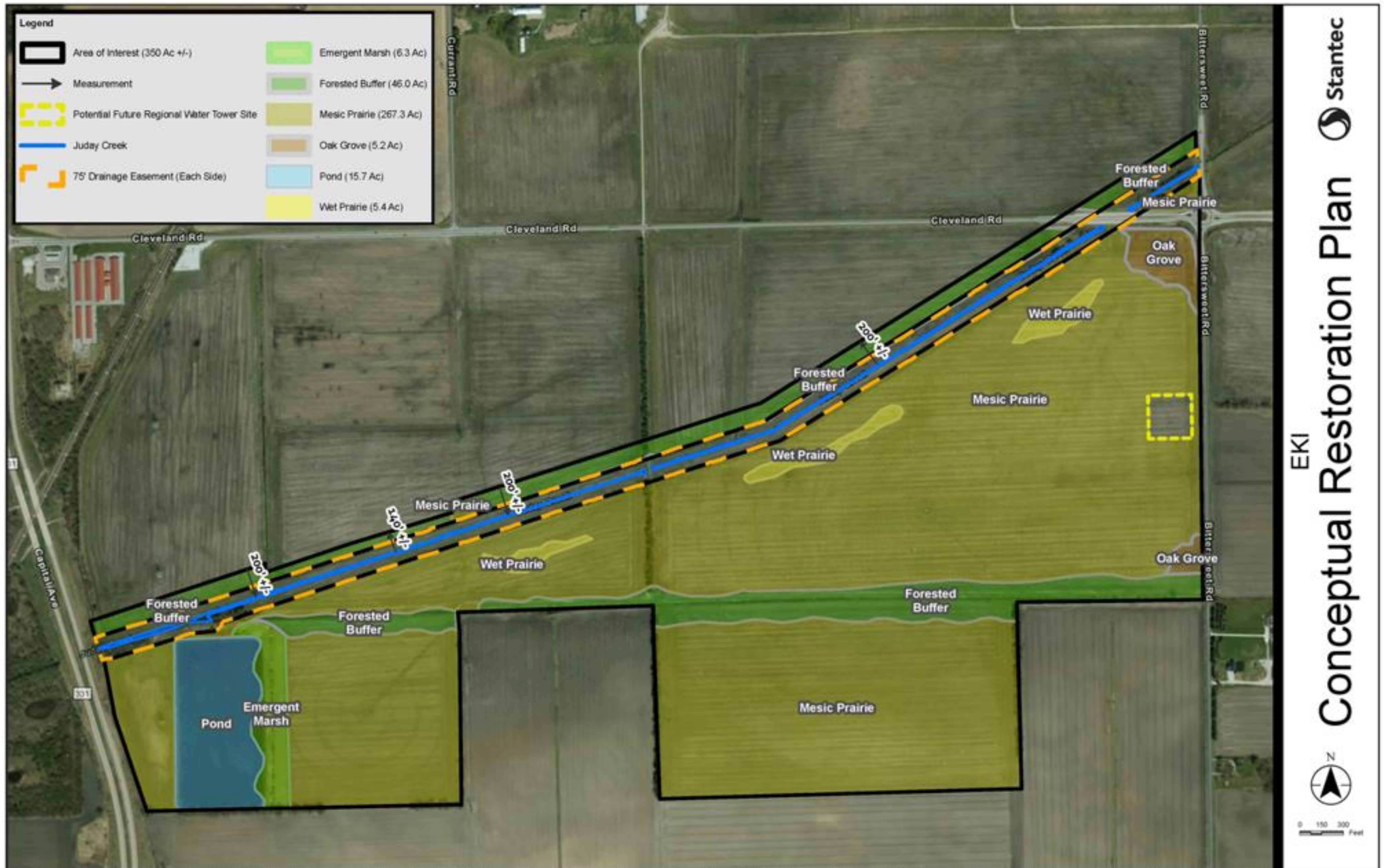
Estimated timeline for Phase One of Construction



Notes:

- Construction timelines and milestones are estimates and subject to change
- Timeline dependent on permit approval
- Construction completion date does not indicate datacenter operation/availability
- Subsequent build timing is unconfirmed

Juday Creek Ecosystem Enhancement



Disclaimer: This document has been prepared based on information provided by others as used in the notes section. Stantec has not verified the accuracy and/or completeness of this information and shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions which may be incorporated herein as a result. Stantec assumes no responsibility for data supplied in electronic format, and the recipient accepts full responsibility for verifying the accuracy and completeness of the data.

Ecosystem Enhancement Project Benefits



Water Quality

- Stabilization of soils with deep rooted prairie plants reduces sediment and nutrient runoff to Juday Creek
- Vegetation takes up water and nutrients, reducing erosion and sediment and nutrient runoff
- Forested buffer reduces thermal impacts



Flood Protection

- The proposed wet prairie areas store floodwaters in low areas, reducing peak floods by distributing the water over a large, vegetated area and releasing it gradually
- Deeply rooted prairie plants promote water infiltration



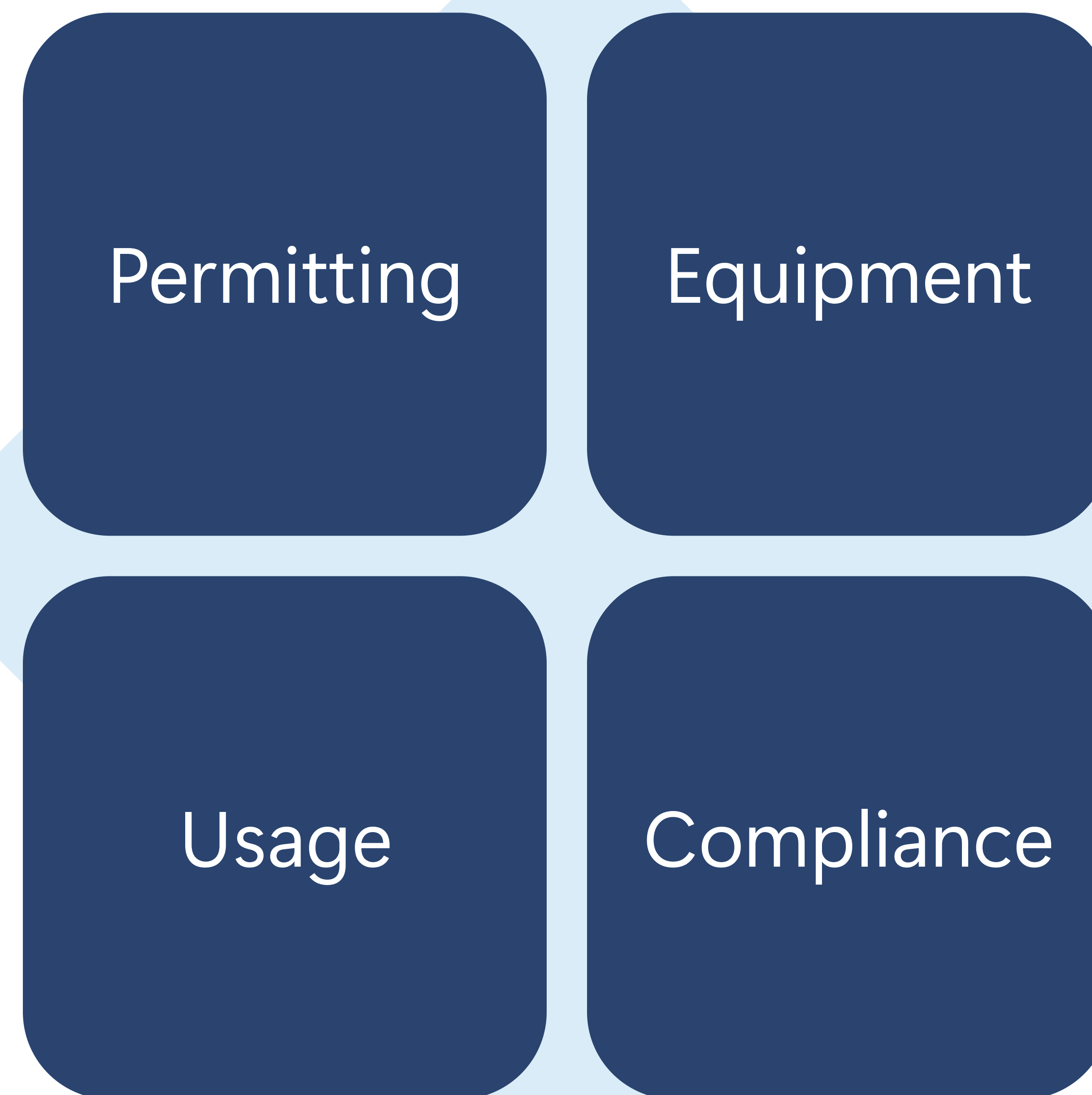
Habitat

- Prairies and riparian buffers provide food, cover and nesting for a variety of bird species
- Native prairie host plants support critical pollinator species
- Establishment of emergent marsh area along the existing pond provides habitat for shoreline birds and waterfowl

Environmental – Air Quality

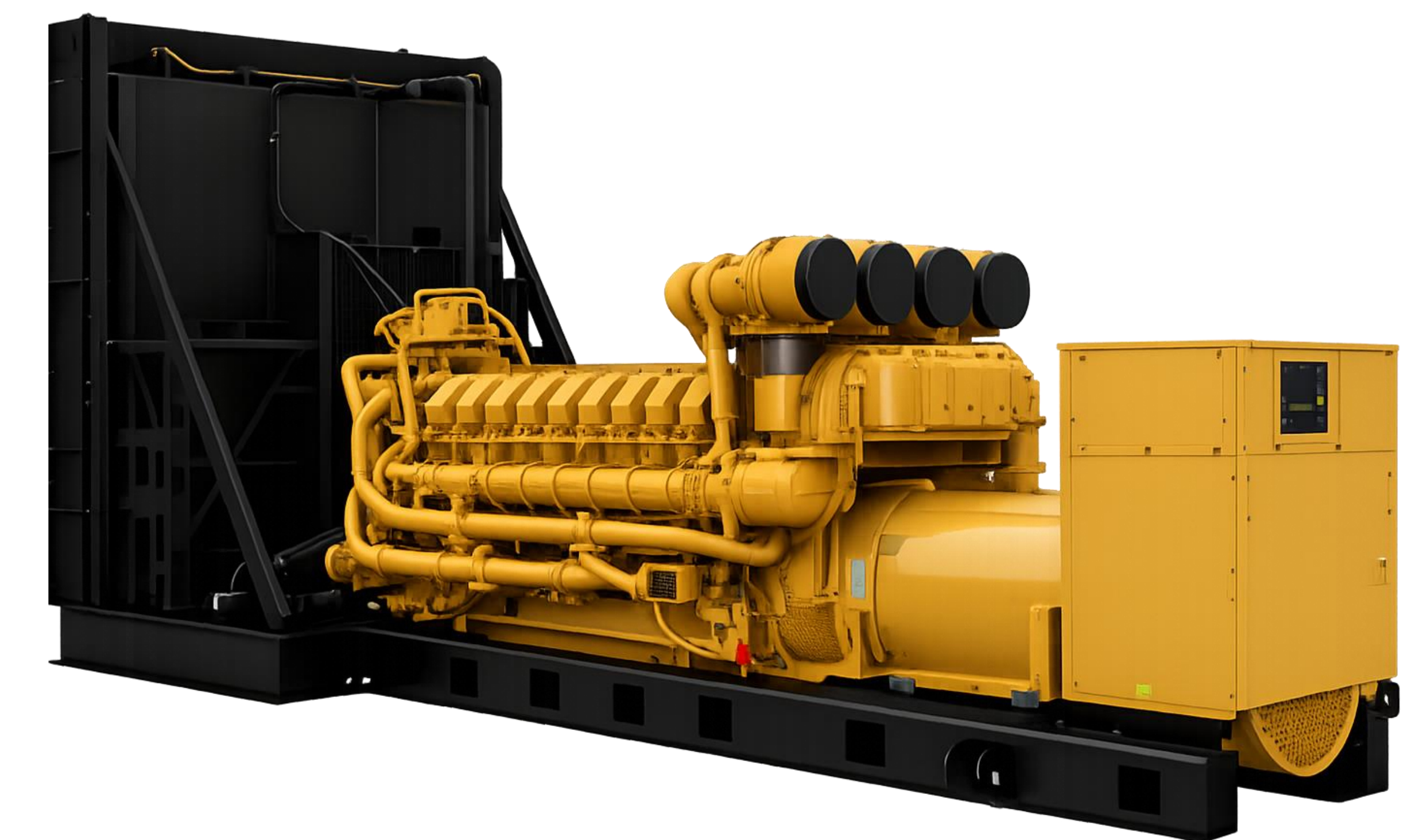
- **This region is in 'attainment' and meets federal air quality standards.**

- Microsoft will acquire applicable permits for generator pad construction and generator operation
- These permits are governed by the Clean Air Act and Indiana's implementing regulations and set clear limits on type of equipment, operating hours, and emissions to protect local air quality.



- **Federal standards require modern, cleaner-burning engines.**

- Microsoft utilizes emergency back-up generators that will be EPA Tier 2 certified engines or better and ultra-low sulfur diesel.
- The back-up generators are comparable to heavy-duty vehicles and require periodic maintenance (like oil changes) to ensure proper operation.



- **Backup power use is very infrequent. These engines are intended for emergencies, not for primary power.**

- Engines are run periodically for testing and maintenance purposes, typically for much less than 24 hours per year.
- Engines are also run in the event of a grid emergency or utility outage, but these are rare.
- Power reliability at data centers is generally better than the normal utility customer due to each data center having its own substation and upgraded infrastructure.

- **Microsoft will comply with all applicable permit and regulatory limitations including Federal NSPS and NESHAP.**

- Microsoft facilities are designed to operate within limitations established by the local noise ordinance.
- Emissions are limited by the permit.

Prioritizing sustainability in our datacenters

Energy

- We met our **2025 renewable energy goal** by purchasing enough renewable energy to match 100% of the electricity used across our datacenters, buildings, and campuses
- Growing **new** renewable energy generation capacity through Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)
- Eliminating the use of diesel for backup power by 2030



Water

- Designing datacenters to cool with outside air when possible **minimizing water use**
- Collecting rainwater for use where feasible

Waste

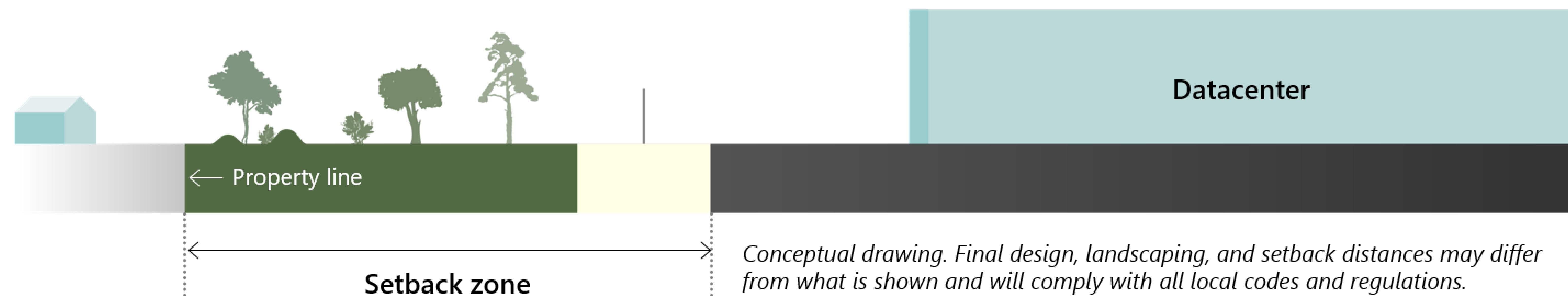
- Diverting **90 percent** of datacenter operational waste by 2030
- Building Circular Centers to **reuse servers and hardware**



LEED Gold Certifications

- Microsoft pursues LEED Gold certification for all newly built datacenters.
- Over 60 datacenters globally today are LEED Gold Certified, **which means our datacenters use less energy and water, reduce waste, and create healthier spaces.**
- This high sustainability benchmark shows Microsoft's commitment to eco-friendly operations.

Good neighbor datacenter design



Good Neighbor Guidelines are a set of recommendations developed by Microsoft to guide the design, construction, and operation of datacenters in ways that respect and support neighboring communities.

Community Access and Mobility: Prioritize pedestrian movement and child-friendly access near schools and neighborhood spaces.

Natural Screening: Consider existing vegetation and incorporate landscaping that fits the surrounding area.

Setbacks and Buffers: Maintain appropriate distance between datacenters and fenceline neighbors; use berms and other physical buffers to reduce visual impacts.

Noise and Lighting: Limit noise and light pollution through equipment location, sound attenuation, and shielded lighting.

Construction process: Work with the General Contractor to minimize local construction impacts.

How Microsoft designs datacenters to meet local noise standards

We design every project to ensure compliance with all applicable national, state, and local laws, while minimizing sound levels at the project property lines.



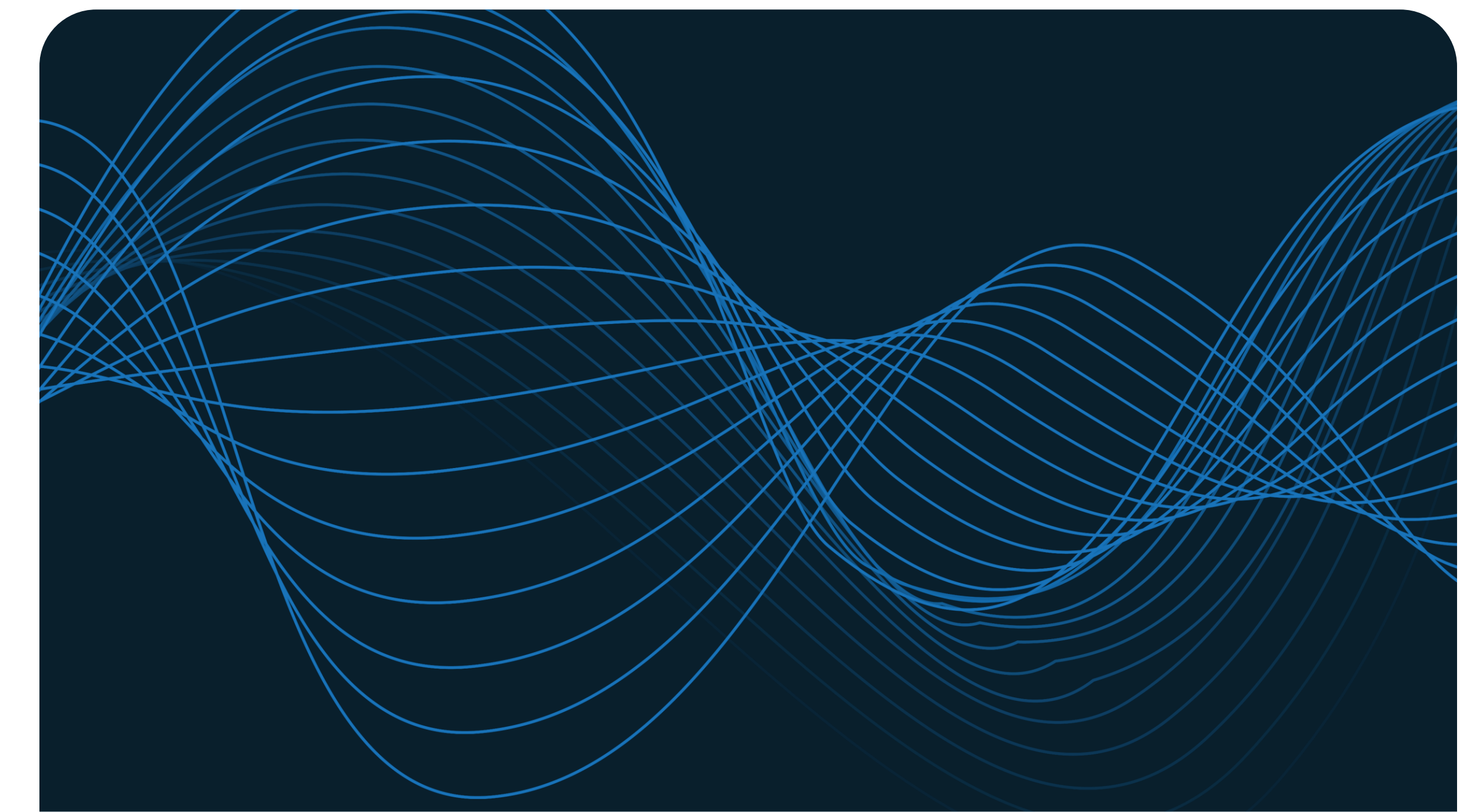
Our commitment

- **Meeting local regulations:** We design our datacenters for this site to be compliant with the newly adopted noise ordinance in St. Joseph County
- Many projects are designed to perform below requirements through sound modeling, setbacks, equipment placement, and engineered noise-reduction measures



How we reduce sound

- **Attenuation enclosures** reduce sound from equipment
- **Sound walls, berms and landscaping** help block and absorb noise
- **Distance** lowers sound as it travels from the source
- **Site layout** is planned to minimize off-site sound



How we evaluate performance

- Sound is evaluated during design using modeling tools
- Modeling helps predict how sound travels across the site
- We test sound levels at the property line
- Testing confirms the design is performing to meet local regulations

Each site is evaluated based on local requirements, site conditions, and nearby land uses.

Datacenter cooling

Datacenters are filled with thousands of powerful computers called servers, and when they run, they produce heat. To keep them working properly, the servers must stay at the right temperature, which requires cooling. At Microsoft, we cool our datacenters using as little water as possible. We use a mix of cooling approaches depending on where the datacenter is located. The most common types are described below as well as what is planned for our Indiana projects.

Outside air cooling



In cooler climates like Sweden, we use outdoor air to cool servers year-round. This kind of cooling is like rolling down your car windows.

Evaporative cooling



When temperatures stay below 85°F (29°C), we can cool our datacenters using outside air alone—no water needed.

In Wyoming, we only cool with water in our datacenter 37 days a year.

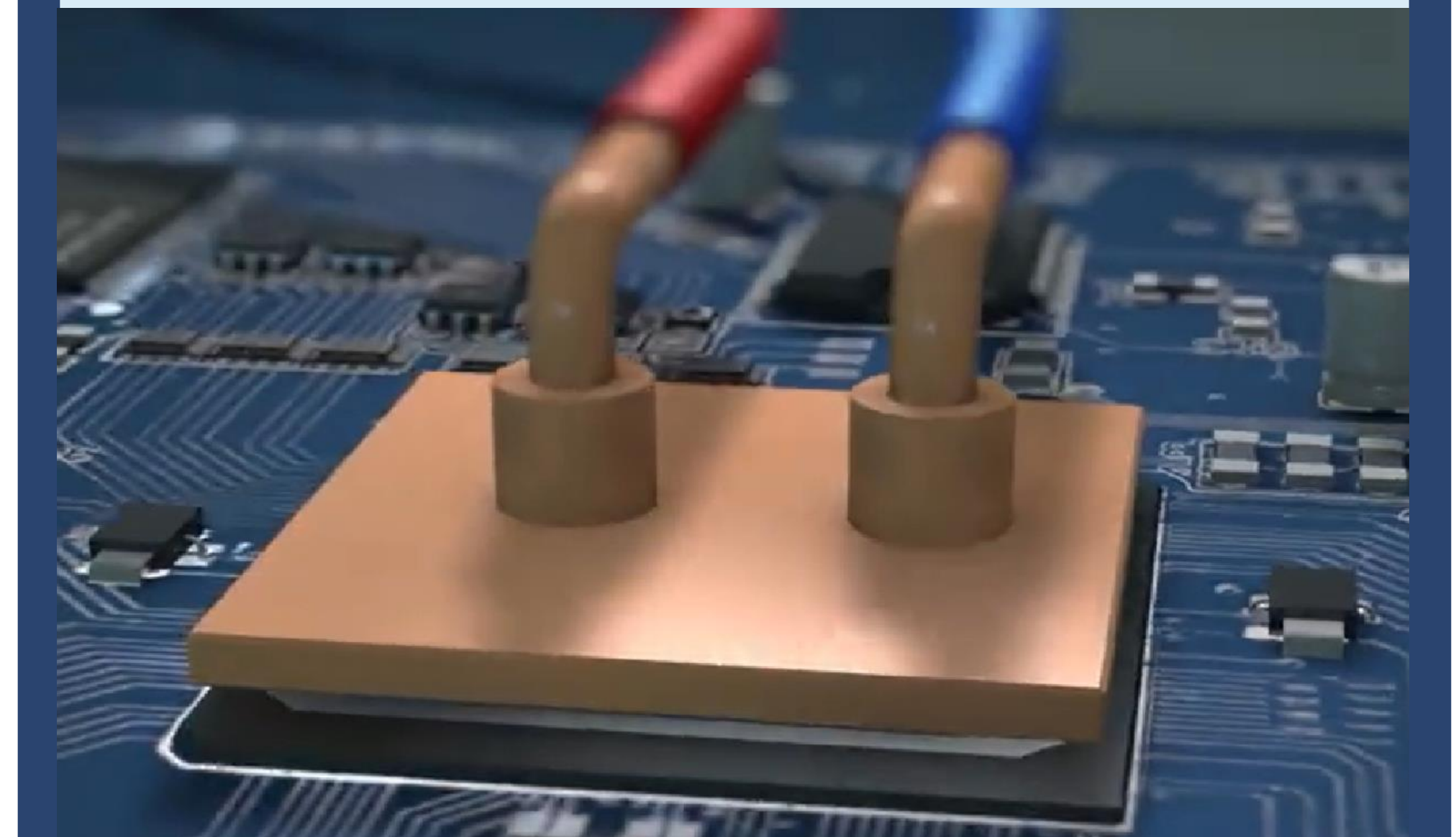
On these days, some of the water evaporates—much like how sweat helps cool your body—while the rest is returned to the local utility to be treated just like household wastewater

Air-cooled chillers



Air cooled chillers rely only on air, similar to air conditioning in your home or car, with zero water use.

Chip-level cooling



Our latest innovation circulates liquid directly to each chip in a closed loop—eliminating evaporation, supporting all three of the cooling methods, and meeting AI demands while saving water.

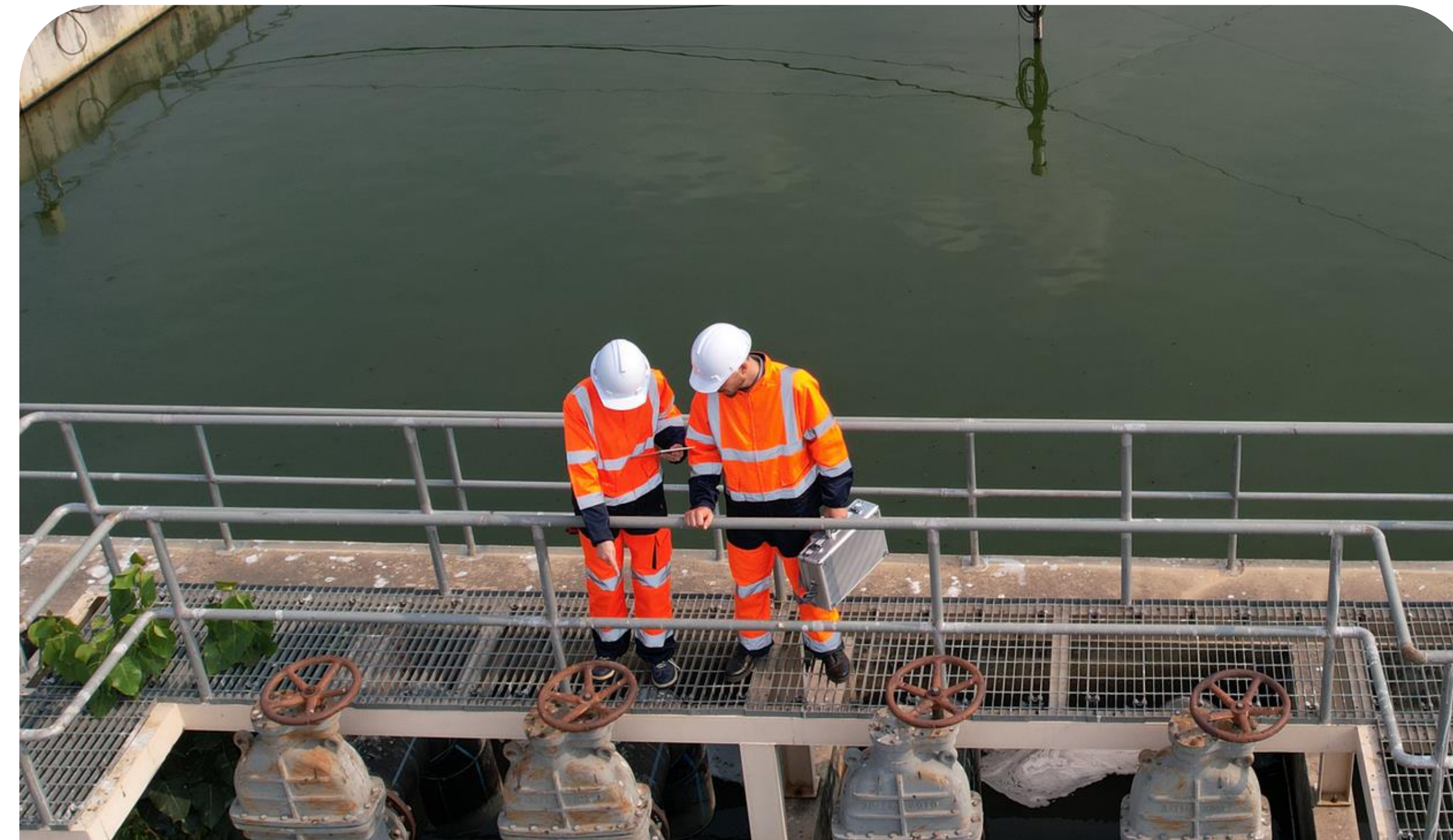
These are the cooling types anticipated for this project in Indiana

Responsible local water use and planning



Infrastructure upgrades

Microsoft pays for upgrades. We take responsibility for sourcing any water we use so our datacenters don't strain the community's water supply or raise utility bills.



Planning for demand

We work with local utilities to make sure there is capacity available for our demands.

That might mean investing in necessary infrastructure such as water pipes or pumps to supply water to the datacenter.

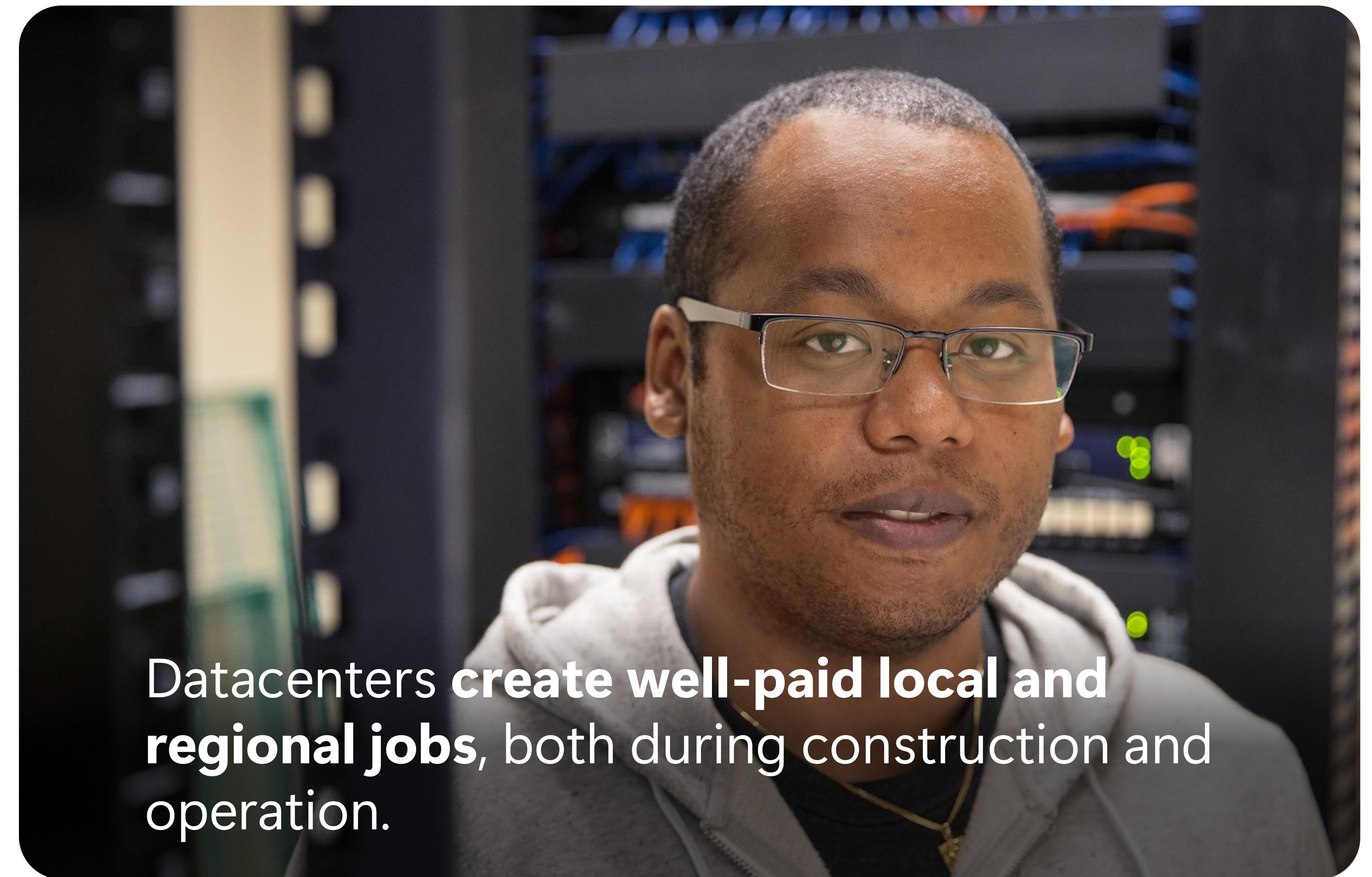


Water use

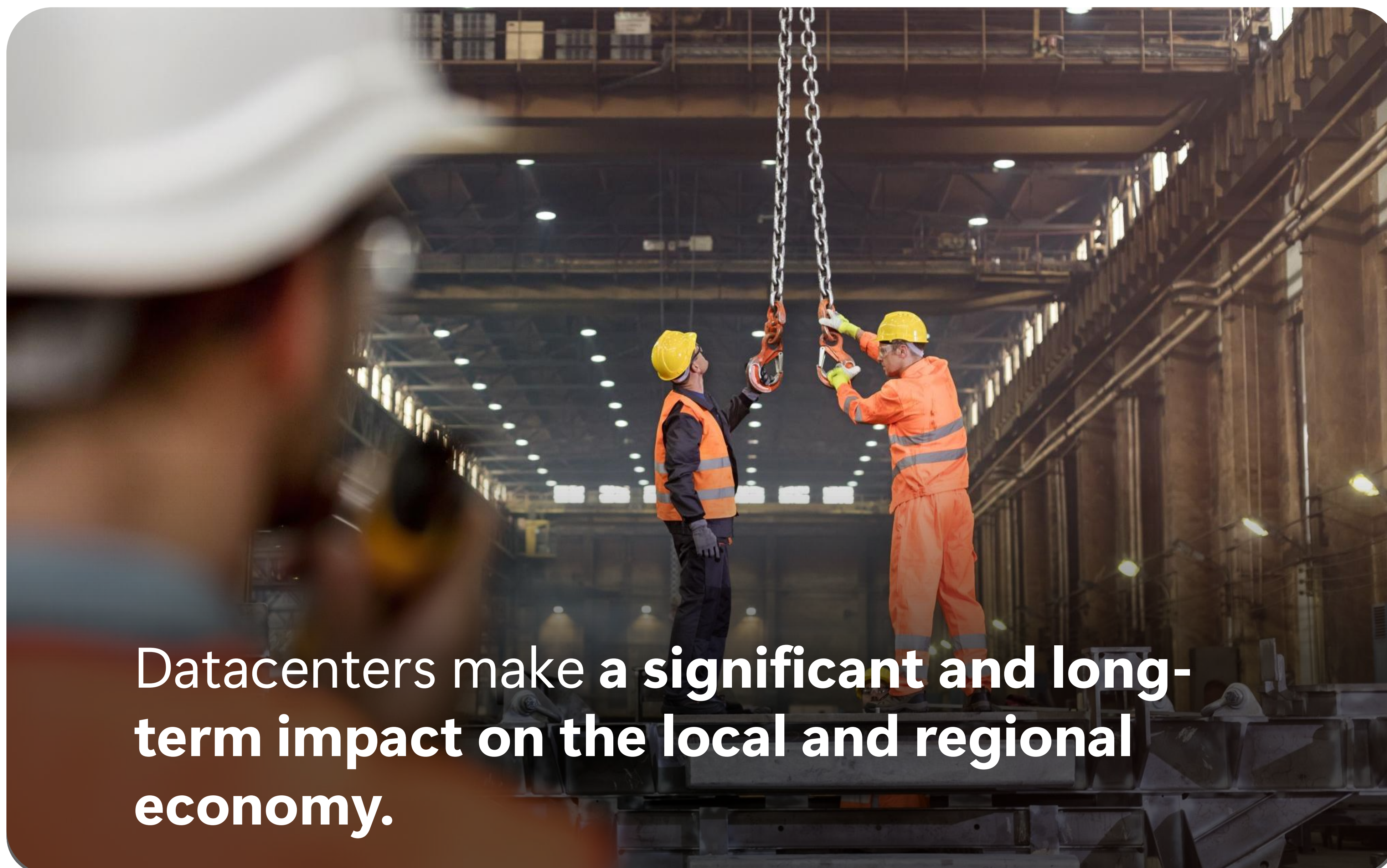
At Microsoft's newest datacenters water is used primarily for supporting people – things like drinking water, handwashing and restrooms.

Some water use occurs during the construction and testing of the datacenter, after which routine operations use very little water.

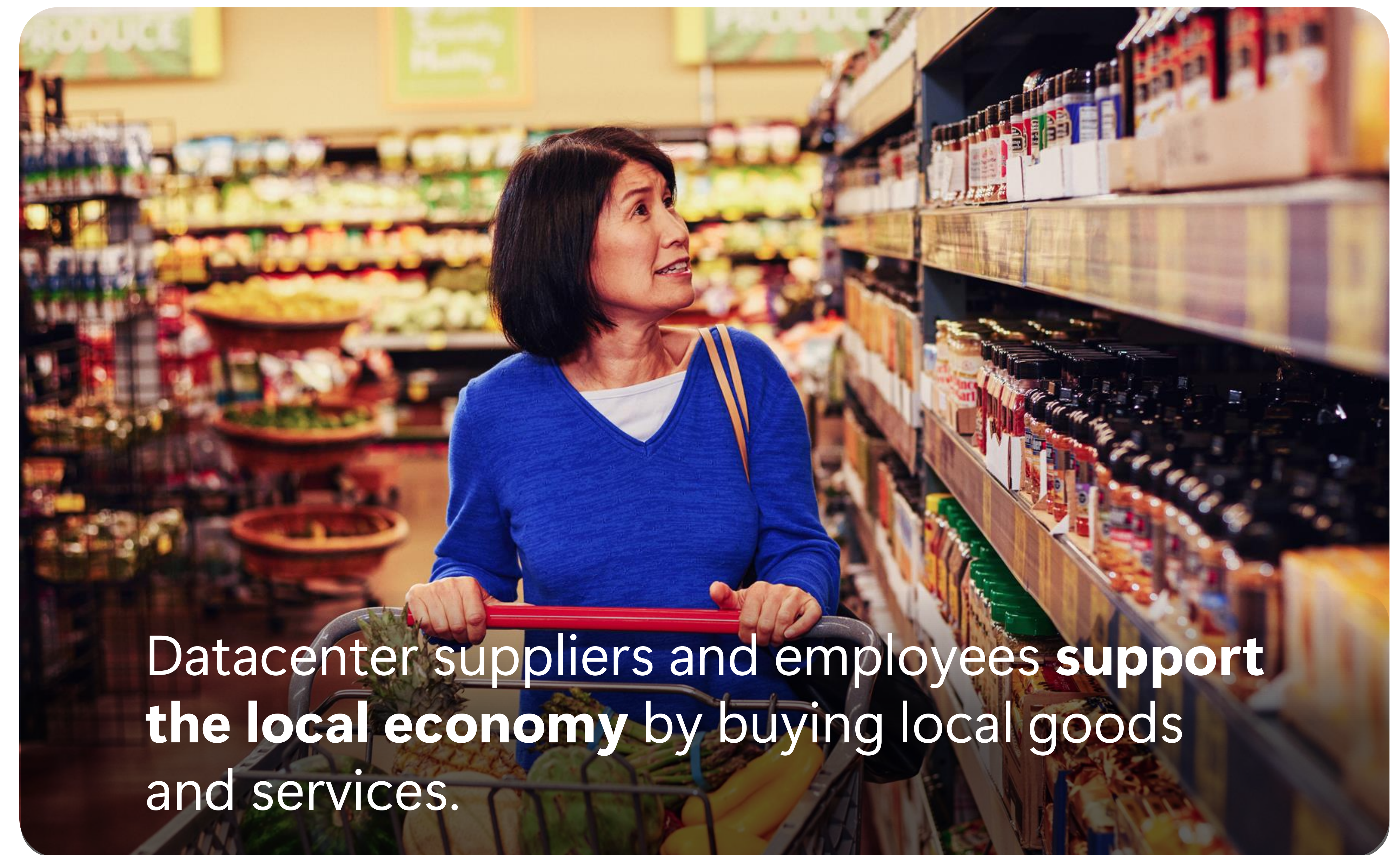
Creating jobs and supporting local businesses



Datacenters **create well-paid local and regional jobs**, both during construction and operation.



Datacenters make a **significant and long-term impact on the local and regional economy**.



Datacenter suppliers and employees **support the local economy** by buying local goods and services.

Datacenter jobs span two employment areas including construction and operations jobs

Datacenter construction and hiring is led by our partners

- Electricians
- Plumbers and pipefitters
- Carpenters
- Structural iron and steel workers
- Concrete
- Earth movers

Datacenter Operations

- Campus management
- People management
- Critical environment operations
- Learning and development
- IT Operations
- Mechanical engineers
- Electrical engineers
- Security contractors
- Building maintenance



Microsoft datacenters create family-wage operations jobs and long-term construction jobs

Cloud services help us stay connected, informed, productive, and power critical needs like hospitals, banking, and emergency services. As customer demand grows for cloud services, Microsoft is expanding our datacenter footprint, driving the need for skilled workers.

Microsoft datacenters represent a capital-intensive investment and long-term commitment to the community, bringing hundreds of highly skilled full-time and contractor jobs to build and operate our datacenters.

We want to hire local community members to help us build and operate our datacenters.

In several locations, Microsoft offers digital skills training and support in collaboration with local education partners to prepare community members for work in the IT sector, including datacenter jobs.

Historically, datacenter construction has continued for multiple years as Microsoft grows to meet customer demand.

Review the full list of job types on the next page and learn more about Microsoft roles at careers.microsoft.com.

Visit local.microsoft.com to see profiles of datacenter employees.

Datacenter jobs span two employment areas including construction and operations

40+ types of jobs are required to build a datacenter

27+ types of jobs are required to operate a datacenter on an ongoing basis

On average, Microsoft datacenters provide **300-400** jobs annually depending on the size of campus and type of construction activity.

Build a Microsoft datacenter

Direct vendor field specialist jobs:

- Roofers
- Asphalt crews
- Fencing erectors, gates, and barriers
- Carpenters
- Structural steel workers
- Concrete laborers
- Reinforcement steel fixers
- Surveyors and setting crews
- General labor
- Lift and shift crews
- Ground logistics crews
- Soft landscape and gardeners
- Office administration
- Security Guards
- Catering staff
- Cleaning staff
- Security system installers
- Electricians
- Plumbers and pipefitters
- Fiber crews
- Fit out specialist – ceilings, internal walls, and doors
- Audio visual installers
- Fire stopping specialist
- Painters and finishing crews
- Specialist jobs

Self-employed or directly contracted field specialist jobs:

- (Equipment Suppliers) Equipment installers
- Engineers
- Electricians

Operate a Microsoft datacenter

Security

- Security Responder
- Security Operations Center Supervisor
- Administrative Officer
- Site Security Manager

Critical Environment team

- CE Program Managers
- CE Field Service Engineers
- Mechanical Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Shift Technician
- Shift Lead
- Technical Supervisor Electrical/Mechanical

IT team

- DC Project Manager
- Senior Support Technician
- DC Technician
- Senior DC Technician
- Shift IT Technician
- Senior Shift IT Technician

Inventory & Asset Management

- DC Inventory & Asset Technician
- DC Inventory & Asset Senior Technician
- DC Inventory & Asset Lead

- Campus Operations Manager
- Site Operations Manager
- IT Operations Manager
- Critical Environment Operations Manager
- Learning and development
 - L&D Trainer
 - L&D Team lead



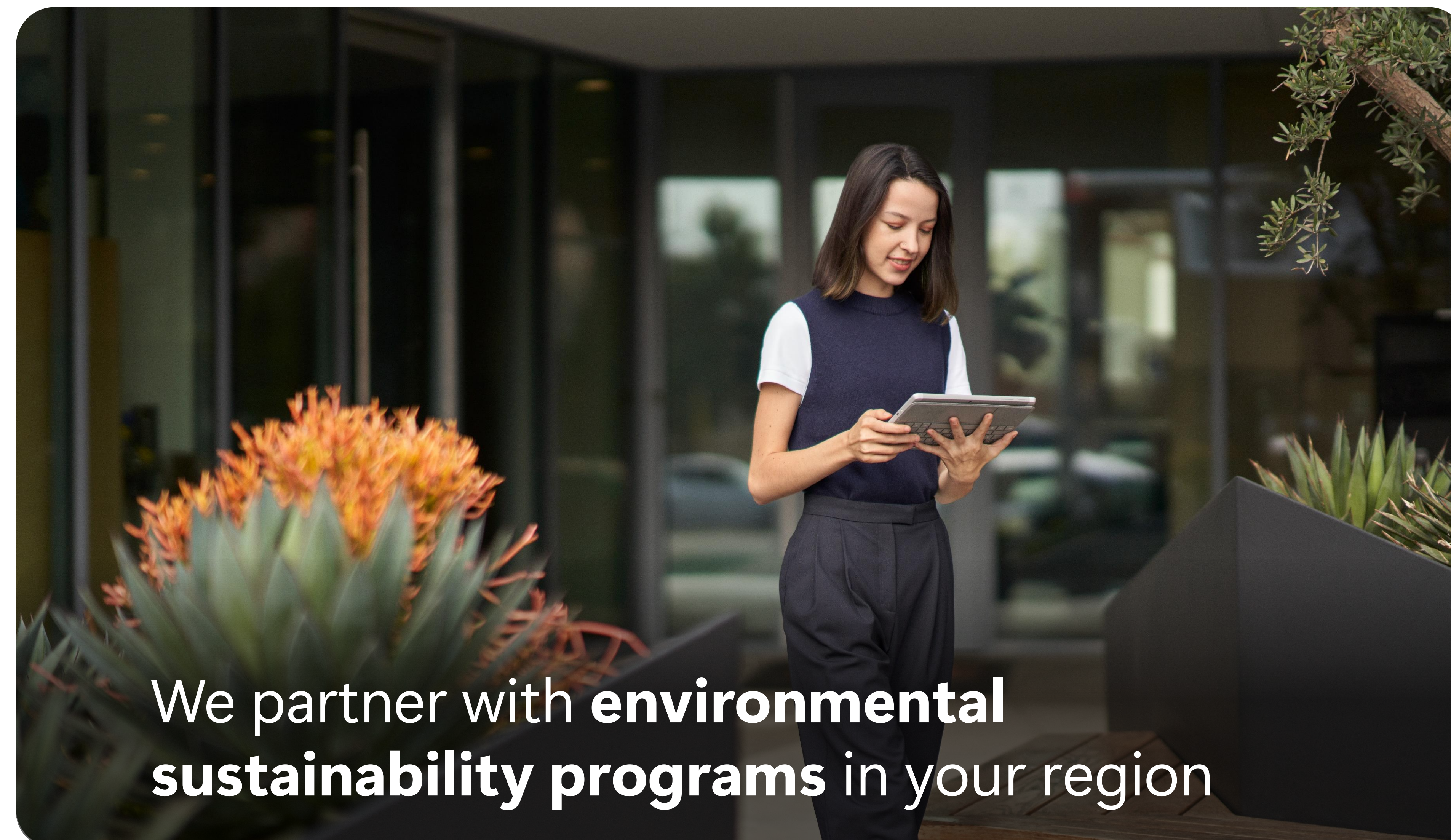
Scan to learn more

Or visit careers.microsoft.com

[Datacenter-jobs-fact-sheet.pdf](#) →

Investing in community programs and collaborations

Microsoft strives to be a good neighbor and to create a positive impact in the communities that are home to our datacenters.

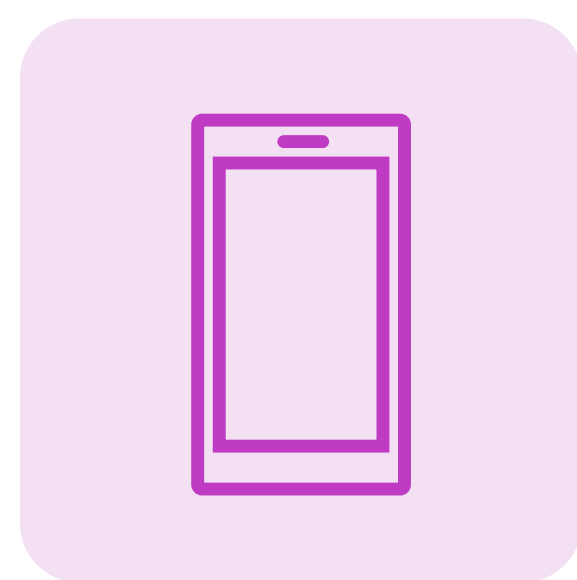


Thank you

Thank you for participating in our community meeting, we hope you found it useful and informative.

Feedback

If you have any further questions or comments, please contact the Microsoft Community Affairs team at:



317-762-3105



IndianaDC@microsoft.com

For more information about Microsoft datacenters scan the QR code or, visit:

aka.ms/Indiana

