



UNAUTOMATED
THE HUMAN INTELLIGENCE PROJECT

PRACTICAL GUIDE 006C

DATA CENTER COMMUNITY IMPACT SCORECARD

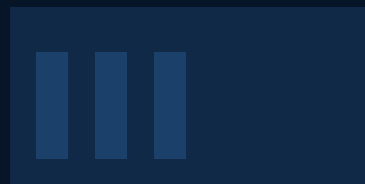
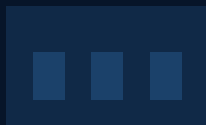
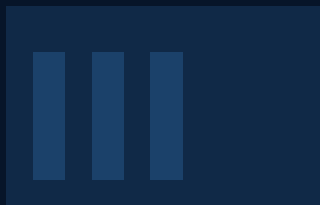
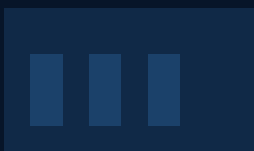
Fifty Questions for Evidence, Conditions, and Public Judgment

THE HUMAN QUESTION

Does this project serve the people and place that will live with its consequences?

FIRST EDITION | AUGUST 2026

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Data Center Community Impact Scorecard

This scorecard is not a vote, a certification, or an automatic score. It is a structured record of what has been demonstrated, what remains incomplete, and which conditions deserve attention before a decision.

How to mark each question

DEMONSTRATED	The record contains specific, credible, reviewable evidence and an appropriate enforceable commitment when one is needed.
PARTLY	Some evidence exists, but an important boundary, condition, phase, authority, or enforcement detail remains incomplete.
NOT DEMONSTRATED	The available record does not support the claim or does not contain the needed protection.
UNKNOWN	The information has not been provided, cannot be confirmed, or belongs to a review that has not occurred.
N/A	The question does not apply, and the reason is written in the record.

READ THE PATTERN, NOT THE SCORE

A project may have strong technology and weak accountability. It may have a good site and an unresolved water source. It may create public value while shifting utility risk. Clusters of Partly, Not Demonstrated, and Unknown answers matter more than an artificial total.

Core conditions

Questions marked Core Condition address information or protection that usually deserves resolution before final approval. A community may identify additional core conditions based on local law and circumstance.

1. Project identity and complete buildout

1

CORE CONDITION

Has the applicant disclosed the full anticipated campus rather than only the first phase?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

2

Are maximum building area, electric load, water demand, generators, batteries, substations, and related infrastructure identified?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

3

Are all ownership, operating, utility, financing, and development entities clearly identified?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

4

CORE CONDITION

Are expansion assumptions, future phases, and material change triggers written into the approval?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

5

Can the public distinguish confirmed facts, estimates, design options, and future intentions?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

2. Siting and compatibility

6

Is the site compatible with nearby homes, schools, health facilities, farms, natural resources, and established community plans?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

7

Were alternative sites or campus configurations meaningfully evaluated?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

8

Do setbacks, height, screening, lighting, security, and building design reduce effects beyond the property line?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

9

Does the review include cumulative impacts from other existing, approved, or reasonably foreseeable projects?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

10

Can the site support safe access, emergency operations, utilities, and future decommissioning?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

3. Water, wastewater, and drought

11

Are annual, monthly, and peak day water withdrawal and consumption stated separately for each source?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

12

Does the analysis distinguish potable, groundwater, surface, reclaimed, recycled, and process water?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

13

Has a qualified study evaluated effects on existing users, aquifers, surface water, wastewater, brine, and water quality?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

14

Are mandatory drought and shortage triggers, reductions, reporting, and alternative operating modes established?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

15

Does the selected cooling system reflect a documented comparison of site appropriate alternatives?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

4. Electricity, grid reliability, and cost responsibility

16

CORE CONDITION

Are maximum demand, annual use, ramp schedule, load factor, and phase timing disclosed?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

17

Are required substations, transmission, generation, storage, and fuel systems identified?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

18

CORE CONDITION

Has the utility or regulator addressed reliability, resource adequacy, and effects on other customers?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

19

CORE CONDITION

Does the applicable rate or agreement reasonably assign specialized infrastructure and stranded asset risk to the project?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

20

Are flexibility, curtailment, phased energization, efficiency, and heat recovery opportunities evaluated?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

5. Cooling design and technology

21

Does the application describe the complete cooling process in plain language, including where heat and water go?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

22

Are energy and water tradeoffs compared across air, evaporative, liquid, hybrid, reuse, and recovery options?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

23

Are claims such as closed loop, water free, efficient, or sustainable defined with measurable boundaries?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

24

Are maximum performance, maintenance, redundancy, failure modes, and seasonal operating changes explained?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

25

Is there a schedule for reviewing better technology during major expansion or equipment replacement?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

6. Noise, vibration, and neighboring property

26

Was existing ambient sound measured at representative times and sensitive locations?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

27

Does modeling evaluate continuous, tonal, impulsive, low frequency, generator, construction, and cumulative sound?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

28

Are equipment enclosure, orientation, barriers, setbacks, and operating controls integrated into the design?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

29

Are preconstruction and postconstruction testing methods, locations, weather conditions, and reporting established?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

30

Is there an enforceable complaint, investigation, correction, and retesting process?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

7. Air quality, backup power, batteries, and emergencies

31

CORE CONDITION

Are all engines, turbines, generators, fuel tanks, and expected operating hours disclosed?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

32

Are required air permits, emissions limits, testing, records, and cumulative impacts addressed?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

33

If batteries are included, do design and operations follow current safety standards and site specific hazard analysis?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

34

CORE CONDITION

Was the emergency plan developed with local responders and supported by access, equipment, training, water, monitoring, and communications?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

35

Are evacuation, shelter, air monitoring, runoff, cleanup, and public notification responsibilities clear?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

8. Roads, construction, stormwater, land, and ecology

36

Does a construction plan identify hours, routes, truck volumes, heavy haul loads, dust, mud, noise, parking, and traffic control?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

37

Is the project financially responsible for attributable road, drainage, utility, and public infrastructure impacts?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

38

Are stormwater, erosion, wetlands, flood risk, groundwater recharge, habitat, trees, farmland, and heat effects addressed?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

39

Are light, security, visual screening, building mass, and long term property maintenance standards established?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

40

Does the site retain enough space and access for repair, emergency response, restoration, and future reuse?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

9. Community economics and public value

41

Are temporary construction jobs, permanent jobs, contract work, and induced activity stated separately?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

42

Are tax revenue estimates shown before and after abatements, incentives, exemptions, and public costs?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

43

Are workforce, education, local purchasing, infrastructure, environmental, or community commitments measurable and enforceable?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

44

Has the public body evaluated service costs, opportunity costs, land use effects, and possible property value concerns?

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

45

Does the project create lasting public value proportionate to the scale and duration of its impacts?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

10. Transparency, enforcement, ownership, and end of life

46

Will actual water, power, emissions, incidents, noise complaints, corrections, employment, and public commitments be reported?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

47

Can the public body obtain independent technical review, inspections, records, and postconstruction testing?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

48

Do conditions identify owners, deadlines, evidence, correction duties, remedies, and consequences for noncompliance?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

49

Do obligations survive sale, transfer, restructuring, lease, change of operator, and material expansion?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

50

Is there an enforceable decommissioning, equipment removal, hazardous material, restoration, reuse, and financial security plan?

CORE CONDITION

☐ DEMONSTRATED ☐ PARTLY ☐ NOT DEMONSTRATED ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ N/A

CATEGORY CONCLUSION

Most important evidence received: _____

Most important unresolved issue: _____

Condition or next action: _____

Scorecard Summary and Decision Record

Do not replace judgment with a total. Record the pattern, the core conditions, and the reasons for the decision.

CATEGORY	STRONGEST EVIDENCE	UNRESOLVED ISSUE OR CONDITION
1. Project identity and complete buildout		
2. Siting and compatibility		
3. Water, wastewater, and drought		
4. Electricity, grid reliability, and cost responsibility		
5. Cooling design and technology		
6. Noise, vibration, and neighboring property		
7. Air quality, backup power, batteries, and emergencies		
8. Roads, construction, stormwater, land, and ecology		
9. Community economics and public value		
10. Transparency, enforcement, ownership, and end of life		

Decision Path

1

INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE

The record is not complete enough for a responsible decision.

2

EVIDENCE COMPLETE, CONDITIONS STILL NEEDED

The major facts are available, but protections must be drafted, reviewed, and made enforceable.

3

SUPPORT WITH CONDITIONS

The project is suitable only with the identified conditions, agreements, monitoring, and correction duties.

4

DO NOT SUPPORT AS PROPOSED

The site, scale, design, cost allocation, public value, or unresolved risk does not support approval in its current form.

5

DEFER FOR CUMULATIVE OR REGIONAL STUDY

The decision depends on infrastructure, resource, or growth effects that cannot be responsibly evaluated as an isolated application.

RECOMMENDED PATH	_____
CORE CONDITIONS	_____ _____
REASONING	_____ _____ _____
NEXT REVIEW DATE	_____
RESPONSIBLE PUBLIC BODY OR OFFICIAL	_____

Human First Data Center Principles

1

HUMAN WELFARE IS THE MEASURE

A project should be judged by its effects on people and place, not only by computing capacity, capital investment, or speed to construction.

2

PLACE MATTERS

A design that is responsible in one climate, watershed, grid, or land use pattern may be irresponsible in another.

3

ESSENTIAL RESOURCES MUST BE PROTECTED

Water, electricity, air, public safety, roads, land, and emergency capacity are shared systems, not blank inputs.

4

THE PROJECT SHOULD CARRY THE COSTS IT CREATES

Residents and ordinary utility customers should not bear unreasonable financial, operational, environmental, or infrastructure risk.

5

TECHNOLOGY CLAIMS REQUIRE EVIDENCE

Terms such as closed loop, efficient, clean, renewable, quiet, and sustainable should be defined, measured, and independently reviewable.

6

THE BEST DESIGN IS SITE APPROPRIATE

Communities should expect a documented comparison of available designs and a clear explanation of why the selected approach fits the location.

7

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MUST BE MEANINGFUL

People should receive understandable information early enough to influence the project, not after the important choices are fixed.

8

PERFORMANCE MUST REMAIN VISIBLE

Actual water, power, noise, emissions, incidents, and public commitments should be reported in a form the community can understand.

9

PROBLEMS MUST TRIGGER CORRECTION

Approval should include monitoring, response deadlines, remedies, and authority to require changes when actual performance differs from what was promised.

10

THE FUTURE REMAINS A HUMAN CHOICE

No project is inevitable merely because demand is growing. Communities retain the standing to choose better technology, better terms, a better site, a different scale, or no project as proposed.