

Press Coverage | August 12, 2026

Data Center Backlash Widens as Texas Freezes 474 GW Grid Queue

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Troutman Pepper Locke's [John Arnold](#), [Brandon Lobb](#), and [Rachael Beavers](#)'s article, "[Texas Hits Pause on Data Center Grid Connections Amid Growing Oversight Push](#)," was quoted in the August 12, 2026, *Natural Gas Intelligence* article, "[Data Center Backlash Widens as Texas Freezes 474 GW Grid Queue](#)."

ERCOT interconnection queue participants "face a delay of indeterminate duration," attorneys at Troutman Pepper Locke wrote. Texas had been expected to overtake Virginia as the largest US data center market, but "the path to that outcome is now materially less certain."

Abbott said he would work with the state legislature to address concerns about data centers. The Texas Legislature convenes in January 2027. Troutman attorneys said PUCT was expected to seek expanded statutory authority over the data center industry.

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