



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Proposed Spanish Fork to Mercer 345 kV transmission line.

1 message

Layne Adamson <lkadamson@gmail.com>
To: psc@utah.gov

Thu, Aug 20, 2026 at 1:30 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing regarding the proposed Spanish Fork to Mercer 345 kV transmission line.

I want to be clear that I am not opposed to data centers or improved grid stability. However, I have serious concerns about how this specific project is being pursued.

Last year, the Utah Legislature passed Senate Bill 132 (Electric Utility Amendments), which was specifically designed to protect residential ratepayers from bearing the cost of massive infrastructure needed to serve large data centers. The full text of the bill is available here: <https://le.utah.gov/~2025/bills/static/SB0132.html>

This law applies to any customer expected to use 100 megawatts or more. The Mercer Substation was built specifically to serve a data center in Eagle Mountain. Grade Tech Services, the contractor that built the substation in 2019, publicly stated on their website: "Our client was building a 345 kV substation for a new data center located in Eagle Mountain, Utah." This statement can be found at: <https://gradetechservices.com/project-items/eagle-mountain-utah/>

Meta's Eagle Mountain data center is already well above this threshold. According to Meta's official 2025 Environmental Data Index, the facility consumed 1,115,619 MWh in 2024, which equates to an average load of approximately 127 MW (with peak demand likely between 170–200 MW). The report is available here: https://sustainability.atmeta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Meta_2025-Environmental-Data-Index.pdf

Meta has publicly stated plans to significantly expand its Eagle Mountain data center in the coming years. In addition, Google, Tract, and QTS have all acquired large parcels of land in the Eagle Mountain area. A February 2026 Grist article reports that "Google has delayed building a campus there as a result of these energy constraints." The article is available here: <https://grist.org/business/ai-utah-data-center-boom-fossil-fuels-gas/>

Eagle Mountain City has also publicly explored building new local power generation, including small modular nuclear reactors, specifically to support the massive energy demands of these data centers. See: <https://ksltv.com/local-news/eagle-mountain-takes-first-steps-toward-possible-nuclear-energy-future/852783/>

Additionally, Berkshire Hathaway Energy, the parent company of Rocky Mountain Power, has a significant investment in Alphabet Inc. (Google). As of Q1 2026, Berkshire owned nearly 58 million shares of Alphabet worth almost \$17 billion.

I respectfully request that the Commission review whether this project complies with the intent of Senate Bill 132 and whether residential ratepayers will be required to subsidize infrastructure primarily benefiting these large industrial customers.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Layne Adamson
801-400-6619