

RESOLUTION NO. R-04-2026

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANDERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE TRANSMITTAL OF A LETTER AND
ATTACHED CITIZEN PETITION TO STATE OFFICIALS REGARDING DATA
CENTER DEVELOPMENT IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF THE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Article 5, Section 18(b) of the Texas Constitution provides that the Commissioners Court of each county shall exercise such powers and jurisdiction over all county business as is conferred by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code, including Chapter 81, grants the Commissioners Court authority to conduct county business, which courts have interpreted to include addressing matters affecting the county's infrastructure, resources, public health and safety, and the welfare of its citizens in unincorporated areas; and

WHEREAS, Texas is experiencing rapid growth in data center development driven by advancements in artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and related technologies, with Texas positioning itself as a national leader in this sector; and

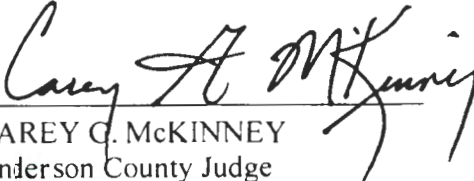
WHEREAS, Anderson County has seen interest in large-scale data center projects in its unincorporated areas, including recent announcements of significant developments that could impact local resources and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court recognizes the economic benefits that responsible technology infrastructure can bring to the county and the state, while also acknowledging legitimate concerns raised by citizens regarding potential strains on water supplies, electric power demand and grid reliability, roads and drainage systems, agricultural and ranch lands, emergency services (including volunteer fire departments), noise levels, environmental quality, and long-term fiscal impacts such as property tax valuation and revenue stability in the event of facility closures; and

WHEREAS, under current Texas law, counties have limited statutory authority over the siting, permitting, and operational standards for large-scale industrial developments such as data centers in unincorporated areas (primarily limited to subdivision platting, road access, and certain drainage and infrastructure requirements under Local Government Code Chapter 232 and related provisions); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court believes that comprehensive, uniform statewide standards would best ensure that data center development proceeds in a manner consistent with Texas values-balancing economic growth, resource conservation, community protection, and environmental safety.

APPROVED IN COURT, this 04th day of May, 2026.


CAREY G. MCKINNEY
Anderson County Judge


Mark Staples, County Clerk



PETITION

To: Governor Greg Abbott, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick, Senator Angela Paxton, Representative Brent Money, Public Utility Commission of Texas, Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Water Development Board, Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Economic Development & Tourism Office, Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas State Fire Marshal's Office, Leadership of the Texas House Committee on State Affairs, and Leadership of the Texas Senate Committee on Business & Commerce

From: Anderson County, Texas

Subject: Anderson County Petition for Data Center Considerations

Once again, the United States is faced with a Global challenge. Artificial Intelligence is the next technology race that will empower a new generation of influence, security and advancement. Texas has stepped up to lead this race, with a goal to be the forefront of data center and technology infrastructure.

While it is the Texas culture to lead, *it is also our culture to lead in the interest of Texans*. Our current regulatory environment in the unincorporated areas of our counties has no authority or regulations to ensure this new growth is done in a responsible way, the Texas way.

Therefore, Anderson County requests the State of Texas and all its agencies to "pause" all in-process development for new data centers while the state appointed committees define the regulations for this rapid expansion. The communities being impacted today cannot afford to wait until the next legislative session. The unchecked development will be well underway without any accountability to a standard for the industry. Anderson County cannot rely solely on the integrity of development companies for our citizens.

Considerations for the following areas are desperately needed, but not limited to:

- Resource utilization (key areas of water and power consumption plans/limits)
- Type of systems and processes required by Texas (open v. closed loop cooling)
- Power management and prioritization regulations
- Location and size (let's protect our farm and ranch land)
- Road planning and cost
- Environment mitigations
- Noise Limitations
- Discharge/contaminant management and requirements
- Required permitting for industrial businesses in unincorporated areas
- Drainage engineering for non-subdivision/ unplatted developments
- Fire code regulations and developer funding for volunteer fire departments for equipment and training

Below are signatures from Concerned Citizens in Anderson County, Texas, signed in support of the Anderson County Subject letter:

Anderson County Petition for Data Center Considerations.

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____
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25.	_____	_____	_____

FILED FOR RECORD
at 10:11 o'clock A.M.

MAY 04 2026

MARK STAPLES
County Clerk, Anderson County, Texas
By LR Deputy