

## **Data Center 101**

Data Center Attraction & Site Selection

# **Objectives**



- Develop understanding of Data Center Industry
- What is required to attract Data Centers?
- What comes with a Data Center?

#### **Market Overview & Trends**



- VA is home to the # 1 Data Center Market in the World
- 2022 Peak Load: 2,767 MW (equivalent to 685,700 homes)
- 21% of Dominion Energy's electricity sales as of 2022
- Fastest growing customer segment in VA
  - Annual growth: 450+ MW
  - Continued growth opportunities for the foreseeable future
  - DE has connected 75 data centers in the last 3 years
- Increased interest in sites outside Loudoun and Prince William
- Typical data center customer is 30 MW, typical large industrial customer is 30 MW





## 1: Cloud

- Cloud providers offer cloud based operating systems and applications
- Typically, large buildings and clusters on a campus or in a tight geographic area.
- Purpose built for the specifics of the cloud company
- Examples: Amazon, Microsoft, Google
- This is the largest data center segment of customers in VA
- Heavy concentration in Northern VA

## **5 Types of Data Centers**



#### 2: Colocation

- Datacenter operator builds the building and leases data halls to end users who install the servers
- Similar to a hotel for other companies' servers
- Operator provides the facility power, cooling and physical security
- Examples: Digital Realty, Equinix, QTS
- This is the second largest segment of data center customers in VA
- This segment currently targets Northern VA

## **5 Types of Data Centers**



## 3: Enterprise

- The user of the datacenter owns and operates the building for its purposes
- Examples: Facebook, banks, US Government
- This segment tends to locate throughout VA, not just in Northern VA

## 4: Fiber Interconnection Facility

- Point where fiber cables and networks meet and connect
- These tend to be very small facilities
- This segment tends to locate throughout VA, not just in Northern VA

## **5 Types of Data Centers**



## 5: Crypto Miners

- These customers operate dedicated facilities to mine cryptocurrencies
- This segment tends to locate outside of Northern VA
- This is a very volatile industry and does not tend to remain in business for long periods of time

#### What does a data center look like?



- 2 story buildings, approximately 125,000 sq. ft.
- 25 to 30 acres per building
- Onsite substation & transmission infrastructure
- Approximately 10 employees per building
- Complete onsite diesel generation & fuel storage
- Security fencing & guarded access points



## **Must-Haves to be Competitive**



- Support for new transmission infrastructure
- Support from local government:
  - Advanced planning & zoning
  - Fast track program Site planning & permitting
  - Favorable tax rates
- Access to transmission / fiber infrastructure
- Low cost of electricity
- Renewables generation

#### **Transmission Infrastructure**



- Data Centers require transmission & substation infrastructure
  - Evaluate local appetite for new infrastructure
  - Proximity to site is important
  - Standard 230,000 kV right of way is 100' to 150'





#### **Site Selection**



- Look for sites adjacent or close to existing transmission
  - Look for sites where fiber and electricity intersect
  - Less infrastructure equals faster time-to-market
  - Approximately 75 to 150 acres per site, but larger sites are becoming the norm
- Engage Dominion Energy to assess transmission adjacent to sites
- New transmission construction timeframe is 3 to 4 years in rural areas

# **Cost of Electricity**



- Electricity is the most expensive operational cost for a data center facility
- Data Center customers want a variety of rate options
  - Market-based rate
  - Renewable rate options



#### Other Infrastructure



- Need fiber infrastructure
- Need access to water/ sewer capacity
  - Requirements vary significantly based on user
- Engage infrastructure owners to understand capacity and routes

#### **Tax Rates**



#### Tax rates on computing equipment MUST be competitive, especially in NEW areas

• Customer prefer published rates, not special tax deals or abatements

#### **Existing Examples**

<ul> <li>Chesterfield County</li> </ul>	\$0.24/ \$100 of equipment
Henrico County	\$0.40/ \$100 of equipment
<ul> <li>Fredericksburg Regional Alliance</li> </ul>	\$1.25/ \$100 of equipment
<ul> <li>Prince William County</li> </ul>	\$1.35/ \$100 of equipment
Loudoun County	\$4.20/ \$100 of equipment

#### What does success look like?



#### <u>Sites</u>

- Multiple approved sites with plenty of power, fiber & water solutions
- Qualifying sites can support any industry

#### Jobs/ Investment/ Taxes

- Limited full-time, but high paying jobs
- Large number of temporary construction contract support jobs
- Large capital investment
- Incremental tax revenue

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# Questions?