



January 7, 2025

To the Honorable Middleton Township Trustees,

On April 9, 2025, Meta was excited to announce we were joining the Wood County community. We recognize that this area is home to engaged and thoughtful residents with a genuine interest in understanding the local impacts of our data center project. We appreciate the questions and feedback that have been raised both before and after our arrival. In response, we are committed to providing clear information about the Bowling Green Data Center. As we move forward together, we look forward to continuing this dialogue and addressing additional questions or concerns.

Data centers are the infrastructure that power the 21st century economy—everything online requires a data center. Meta is proud of our work to build and operate some of the most efficient and innovative data centers in the world. Our industry-leading data centers and network are the backbone of our apps, services, and AI ambitions, bringing transformative technologies to life. We currently have 26 US data centers that are operational or under construction across 22 states. Amazing talent, constant innovation in our design and operations, minimizing water use, and energy efficiency and environmental stewardship are important elements of our success. You can learn more on our Meta Data Center Website (<https://datacenters.atmeta.com/>) and our Meta Sustainability Website ([sustainability.atmeta.com](https://sustainability.atmeta.com)).

### **Water Use**

In Ohio, we are proud of the work we put into designing the Bowling Green Data Center to minimize the need for water resources—its operational water use is anticipated to be less than what approximately two full-service restaurants use annually—and to ensure there will be no negative impact to the ratepayer due to our project. Meta pays the full cost associated with water and sewer usage, including necessary infrastructure to reach and loop the site.

Our water stewardship program is centered around protecting this resource and meeting our goal to become water positive in 2030, where we will restore more water to local watersheds than our data centers consume. We focus on (i) minimizing data center water use, (ii) supporting water restoration and conservation projects in watersheds where we have data centers and (iii) being transparent with our water data by sharing our water withdrawals and water restoration projects in our annual Sustainability Report and Volumetric Water Benefits Report. The data in these reports are independently verified.<sup>1</sup>

We are able to achieve minimal water consumption because the data center will use a closed-loop, liquid-cooled system with dry coolers. This cooling system requires no operational water. In fact, the data center water use will be limited to domestic needs, equipment cleaning, and fire protection that will be sourced from the Northwestern Water and Sewer District. No ground water will be used. Native vegetation will be utilized across the campus, which substantially reduces water usage tied to irrigation.

We worked closely with the Northwestern Water and Sewer District to fund several offsite infrastructure projects, including the design and construction of a 2-million gallon elevated storage tank which will provide enhanced

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<sup>1</sup> [https://sustainability.atmeta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Meta\\_2025-Environmental-Data-Index.pdf](https://sustainability.atmeta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Meta_2025-Environmental-Data-Index.pdf)  
[https://sustainability.atmeta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/REVISED\\_FINAL\\_Meta\\_2024\\_Volumetric\\_Water\\_Benefit\\_Report\\_08.21.2025.pdf](https://sustainability.atmeta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/REVISED_FINAL_Meta_2024_Volumetric_Water_Benefit_Report_08.21.2025.pdf)

resiliency throughout the community through additional water storage. Furthermore, additional water distribution and sewer conveyance upgrade projects were completed along Middleton Pike. These upgrades, funded by Meta, will also provide additional economic development benefits to the Township.

## **Energy**

We worked closely with First Energy to plan for and meet our energy needs and to make sure that consumers are not paying our energy costs. Data centers are large electricity users, as are many other industries that are important to America's economy. We support the long-standing utility regulatory principle that all customers should pay their full share of costs of electric service.

Through our partnership with First Energy, Meta will pay for millions of dollars in new energy infrastructure investments—network upgrades, utility substations, and transmission lines—that will directly benefit our data center and add resiliency to the electrical grid surrounding Township. We also share details regarding our energy usage, greenhouse gas emissions, and other environmental metrics in our annual sustainability report. The data in the sustainability report is independently verified.<sup>2</sup>

In addition to our work with First Energy, we are partnering with Williams—an experienced pipeline and power plant developer that we have worked with at other locations—to build and operate behind-the-meter onsite natural gas generation to support the Bowling Green Data Center's growing energy needs that will be completely funded by Meta. Williams will have a separate air permit and is required to comply with all applicable federal, state and local air quality and permitting requirements for its equipment during construction and operations. Because the energy provided by Williams is behind-the-meter, it will not impact rates paid by utility customers.

We also have a goal to match 100% of our electricity use with clean and renewable energy through supporting the addition of new clean and renewable energy being added to the grid. In Ohio, we have supported more than 847 megawatts of new renewable energy to the state and will be working with First Energy as well as other energy developers to add new clean energy resources to Ohio and the broader PJM grid.

Finally, like all the buildings in our fleet, our Bowling Green Data Center buildings will achieve certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification or higher, which requires meeting very high standards for energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, supply chain responsibility, and recycling.

## **Air Quality**

Meta complies with federal, state, and local air quality and permitting requirements including those that are designed to protect public health from criteria and hazardous air pollutants. These policies ensure that emissions of all facilities, including data centers, stay below levels protective of human health within an acceptable margin. Meta runs its backup generators as minimally as possible—for maintenance and testing, and in rare emergency events when power is lost from the utility—and in compliance within our air permits. Meta is working to fuel all on site generators with renewable diesel fuel in support of our operational carbon reduction goals.

## **Construction Activities**

We understand the site itself is large and there has been significant activity on site. We are committed to being a good neighbor and take community concerns seriously. Our General Contractor, JE Dunn, and other primarily local subcontractors are taking measures to mitigate construction related impacts common for a project of this scale. We are committed to minimizing excessive light during construction by following recommended best

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<sup>2</sup> [https://sustainability.atmeta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Meta\\_2025-Environmental-Data-Index.pdf](https://sustainability.atmeta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Meta_2025-Environmental-Data-Index.pdf)

practices. Whenever possible, we turn off lights at night, use motion-sensing fixtures for necessary nighttime illumination, and angle construction lights away from nearby homes and sensitive areas.

In collaboration with our partners at JE Dunn, we have implemented inward-facing lights and are piloting motion sensor technology to further reduce unnecessary illumination. Nighttime lighting is maintained only as needed to ensure the safety and security of the site and workers.

### **Jobs and Economic Development**

The construction and operation of our data centers and network infrastructure drives economic and job growth at regional and national levels. The construction of our Bowling Green Data Center will support more than one thousand jobs for skilled trades people, including steel workers, pipefitters, electricians, and carpenters from Ohio companies including Rudolph Libbe, Vernon Nagel, Lake Erie Electric, Shook Construction, Valley Interiors, and Xtreme Elements. For more information, you can visit our Bowling Green Data Center Facebook page.<sup>3</sup>

The Bowling Green Data Center will support at least 100 operational jobs—including for electricians, HVAC specialists, server and network techs, safety and security experts, and engineers who will work together to run one of the most advanced data centers in the world. Operational data center careers are posted at [www.metacareers.com](http://www.metacareers.com) as they become available.

Our data center operations also support billions of dollars in business for American companies, from large employers who domestically manufacture fiber optic cables or fabricate custom steel products for our data centers, to subcontractors, who live and work in the states where we are building our centers.

### **Community Development**

We provide grants to support projects led by local schools and non-profits in communities where we have data centers—more than \$58 million across 2,400 grants to date in the United States. We launched our Meta Data Center Community Action Grants program in Bowling Green late last year. Grants are available to local schools and eligible nonprofit organizations that address critical community needs in Wood County by supporting STEAM education, using technology for community benefit, and enabling strong, sustainable communities. Grant awards will be announced in early Spring, and grantees will be publicly recognized with a celebration hosted by Meta.

As an example of our support for impactful programs, in September, Meta partnered with OhioX to launch Ohio Tech Day with Bowling Green State University. We brought together over 100 students from Otsego, Eastwood, and Bowling Green City schools, along with local trade partners to experience [Be Pro Be Proud](http://Be Pro Be Proud)'s mobile workshop, which provides hands-on, immersive experience for students in skilled trade professions.

In closing, we sincerely thank you for your dedication and service to the residents of Middleton Township. We are grateful for our partnership with the Township, its staff, and residents, and we look forward to contributing as an active business member of your community.

Sincerely,

The Meta Global Infrastructure Team

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<sup>3</sup> [www.facebook.com/BowlingGreenDataCenter](http://www.facebook.com/BowlingGreenDataCenter).