



Navigating Partnerships with Data Centers: Strategies Every Utility Leader Needs

September 23 | 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM ET | Virtual Event

Current as of August 11, 2026

Wednesday, September 23

1:00 – 1:05 **Welcoming Remarks**

1:05 – 2:15 **Stakeholder Perspectives**

The opening session will feature four speakers who will set the stage for the Virtual Event with remarks to frame the “navigating partnerships” theme from their unique vantage points. The speakers will outline how public utilities can work closely with key stakeholders and the data centers themselves to ensure maximum efficiency, safety, legal and regulatory security and ultimately benefit to the community and customer. Each perspective will cover a different angle of the data center expansion phenomenon – the public utility that must service the data centers’ water and wastewater needs and growing power demand; the engineering perspective which has to directly navigate the crossroads between data center and public utility clients; the data center community; and the legal perspective seeking to keep both the utility and the data center out of potential legal trouble while also ensuring service agreements are sustainable and viable.

2:15 – 3:15 **Finding the Sweet Spot: Balancing the Necessity of Data Centers and Ensuring Public Utility and Community Benefits**

This panel will provide a candid discussion on how the variety of interests involved in data center expansion perceive their role and responsibility to the community in which data centers operate. What efforts are being made to ensure the community is considered and that the sustainability of the utilities on which data centers rely is protected both in the short and long-term?

3:15 – 4:15 **Data Centers Driving Water Reuse and Technological Innovation**

This panel will feature speakers looking at how serving data centers and other industrial water users is driving the clean water sector toward more reliance on water reuse, recycling, monitoring technology and pretreatment innovations, among others. As data centers expand and additional industries relocate to the US, how can we harness this shift to bring about a new generation of reuse and other water technologies?

4:15 – 4:30 **Closing Thoughts, Summary of Discussion, and Next Steps**