

## RESOLUTION NO. 2026.07

### **A RESOLUTION PETITIONING THE EAU CLAIRE COUNTY BOARD TO ENACT A MORATORIUM ON THE PERMITTING AND CONSTRUCTION OF LARGE-SCALE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) DATA CENTERS**

**WHEREAS**, a "Data Center" is defined as a facility or group of facilities housing networked server computers and related electrical equipment used to centralize data processing, storage, and management; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Bridge Creek (the "Town") is under the jurisdiction of the Eau Claire County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has significant concerns regarding the potential impacts of high-intensity AI Data Centers on the health, safety, and welfare of residents, including but not limited to:

- **Water Resources:** The massive consumption of groundwater for cooling systems, which may deplete local aquifers and impact private residential and agricultural wells.
- **Infrastructure Strain:** The extreme demand on the local electrical grid, potentially leading to increased costs for residential ratepayers and the need for new, intrusive high-voltage transmission lines.
- **Public Services:** Overburdening of Town roads during construction and increased demands on local fire and emergency services for specialized industrial facilities.
- **Community Character:** The incompatibility of massive, industrial-scale buildings and noise-generating cooling fans with the rural, agricultural nature of Bridge Creek; and

**WHEREAS**, the current Eau Claire County Zoning Code may not sufficiently define or provide adequate regulatory standards specifically tailored to the unique, high-impact nature of AI Data Centers; and

**WHEREAS**, a temporary moratorium would allow Eau Claire County time to conduct essential research on the environmental, economic, and infrastructure impacts of these facilities and to establish robust zoning standards;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Bridge Creek, by this resolution, formally petitions the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors to:

1. **Enact a Moratorium:** Immediately adopt an interim control ordinance placing a moratorium (minimum 12 months) on the acceptance of applications and the granting of permits for new Data Centers.
2. **Conduct Impact Studies:** Commission comprehensive studies on the cumulative impact of data centers on the county's water supply, electrical grid capacity, and taxpayer-funded infrastructure.

3. **Update Zoning Standards:** Develop specific zoning and regulatory standards that require transparency (banning non-disclosure agreements), mandate closed-loop cooling to protect water, and ensure developers—not residents—pay for all utility upgrades.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Eau Claire County Clerk and the County Board Chair within [Number] days of adoption.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

**Vote:** Ayes: \_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_

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Ricky Strauch Town Board Chair

**Attest:**

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Elizabeth Pettis, Town Clerk

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