

technology-friendly business climate

Iowa's commitment to data centers is demonstrated by its friendly tax policies, business climate and aggressive legislative action. Iowa is a right-to-work state that offers flexible assistance for qualifying business expansions or relocations. A world-class workforce and education system make Iowa a great place to do business.

data center legislation

To further bolster Iowa's friendly business climate, legislation was passed in 2009 to assist a range of companies from large to small with multi-level incentives based on qualified investment in Iowa. Depending on the size of investment, data centers may be eligible for 50 or 100 percent refund on sales and use tax for:

- Electricity purchased for use in data centers
- Power infrastructure equipment
- Computer purchases
- Temperature control equipment
- Cool tower equipment
- Racking systems, including cabling

This unique legislation can mean millions of dollars in savings — including no corporate income tax on profits from sales made outside of Iowa and no property tax on equipment or computers — making Iowa even more competitive.

“In Council Bluffs, Iowa, we found one of the best locations around the world with the right combination of infrastructure capacity and other resources to support an Internet data center of this size.”

- Paul Froutan, Director of Hardware Operations



powerful and reliable

Iowa has one of the lowest costs for power in the nation. Selecting an Iowa site can translate directly into savings, considering utility costs are the largest, single operating cost of a high-density data center. In fact, utility costs in Iowa are typically 15 to 20 percent less than the national average. Reliability is also something you can count on in Iowa. In fact, the Midwest region had the least number of Demand Response Events — events that rely on consumers to shift energy usage to avoid blackouts — in the country (North American Electric Reliability Corporation, 2012).

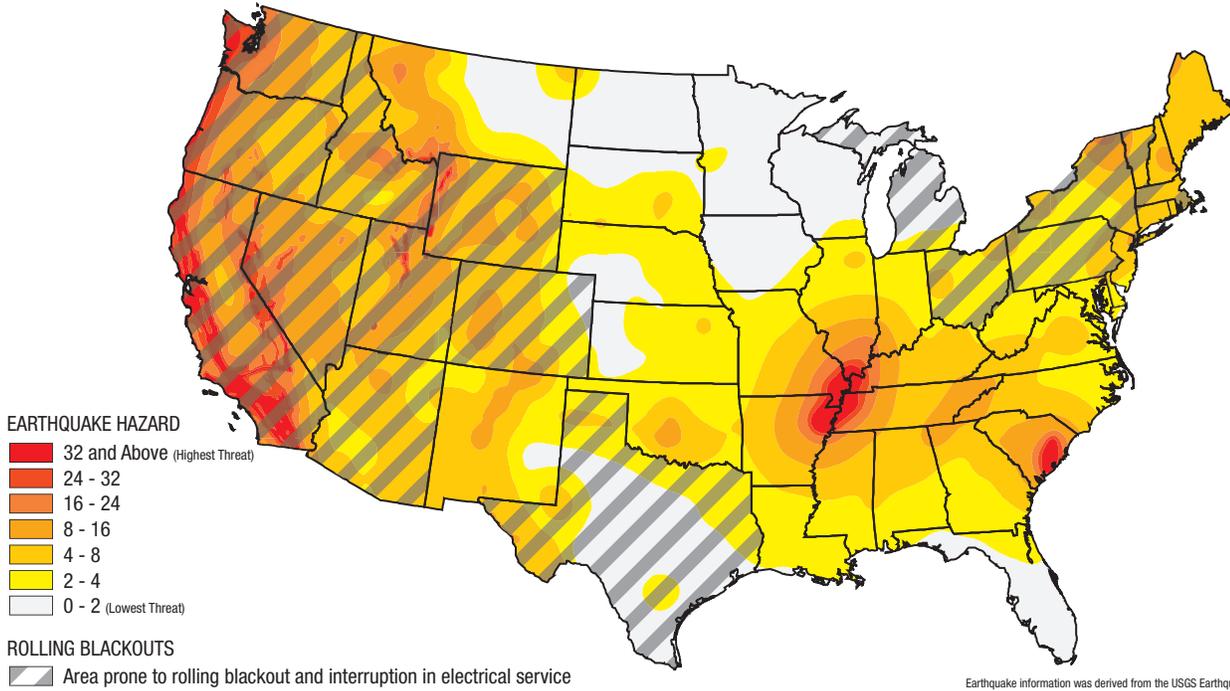
green energy leadership in Iowa

Iowa is a national leader in the percentage of electricity generated by wind with a current output of 6,212 megawatts (AWEA, 2015). Currently, 12 percent of energy from Alliant Energy is derived from wind energy. MidAmerican Energy generates nearly 30 percent of its power using renewable energy such as wind, more than any investor-owned utility in the country. That's key to companies like Google who are investing in renewable energy sources of power.



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in the safe zone

Iowa is statistically one of the safest areas in the United States. The map above demonstrates how Iowa's location helps protect from hurricanes, earthquakes, rolling utility blackouts and terrorist activities that threaten the integrity of data centers.

"Facebook's mission is to connect the world. Thanks to Iowa, we're building the global infrastructure to bring the next billion people online."

- Jay Parikh, VP of Infrastructure Engineering

facebook

Iowa has the right platform

Iowa has the fifth lowest average cost of doing business in the nation (CNBC, 2009-15) and is perfectly positioned with its central location — offering business the most cost-effective and secure location.

To learn more about why Iowa is the right choice, visit iowaeconomicdevelopment.com.

"When choosing future data center sites, we take into account over 35 weighted criteria. Iowa's close proximity to an ample, affordable power source and a high density telecommunications infrastructure is in line with our long-term business approach."

- Kevin Williams, Director of Data Center Services



For site location assistance, contact the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA)

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JG 02182016

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