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# Weekly Market Brief

Actionable commercial intelligence & deal origination for data center and energy infrastructure professionals.

**Week of August 31 – September 6, 2026**

Signal categories

- Immediate Opportunities
- Deals & Developments
- Market Intelligence

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# Executive Summary

Week of August 31 – September 6, 2026

Energy storage procurement, data center power transactions and large-load grid policy drove the period’s most commercially relevant developments.

- Appalachian Power has launched tenders for 800 MW of energy storage, creating an active procurement opportunity that may influence regional energy supply dynamics.

- Vertiv agrees to acquire UtilityInnovation for approximately $1.45 billion, aiming to enhance capabilities in microgrid controls and energy storage for data center operators.

- ERCOT issued provisional classifications for Batch Zero interconnecting utilities, impacting large-load projects' advancement through the new interconnection process.

## This week's insight

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# Immediate Opportunities

Open RFPs, powered sites, procurement windows, and actionable commercial opportunities

## 3 Opportunities

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Immediate Opportunities

# Actionable Opportunity

## Appalachian Power launches tenders for 800 MW of energy storage

### What happened

Appalachian Power has launched tenders for 800 MW of energy storage, signaling an initiative to enhance energy storage capacity in the region.

### Why it matters

The 800 MW solicitation creates an active origination and development opportunity for storage developers and project sponsors serving Appalachian Power’s system.

### Opportunity details

**Companies**: Appalachian Power
**Project**: 800 MW of energy storage
**Capacity**: 800 MW

### Source

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Immediate Opportunities

# Actionable Opportunity

## Dominion Energy Virginia seeks solar, wind and storage acquisition proposals

### What happened

Dominion Energy Virginia is accepting proposals to acquire new solar, onshore wind and energy storage development projects in Virginia, including co-located renewable-plus-storage projects. Proposals are accepted continuously throughout the year.

### Why it matters

The open solicitation creates an active origination and asset-sale opportunity for renewable and storage developers with qualifying Virginia projects.

### Opportunity details

**Companies**: Dominion Energy Virginia

**Project**: 2026 Solar, Onshore Wind & Energy Storage Development Asset Acquisition RFP

**Location**: Virginia

**Opportunity Status**: Open

**Deadline**: Ongoing — proposals accepted continuously throughout 2026

**Eligible Projects**: Solar; solar + storage; onshore wind; wind + storage; standalone energy storage

### Source

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Immediate Opportunities

# Actionable Opportunity

## Texas GLO seeks proposals for nuclear energy initiatives

#### What happened

Texas General Land Office is seeking responses to an RFI focused on nuclear energy initiatives in Texas, with submissions due December 10, 2026. The process could help shape future nuclear development, partnerships and energy-infrastructure opportunities on or involving state-managed resources.

#### Why it matters

The RFI creates an active opportunity for nuclear developers, energy companies and infrastructure partners to engage with Texas on potential large-scale, reliable generation initiatives that could ultimately support growing industrial and data center power demand.

#### Opportunity details

**Organizations**: Texas General Land Office

**Project**: Texas GLO Nuclear Energy RFI

**Location**:Texas

**Opportunity Status**: Open

**Deadline**: December 10, 2026

#### Source

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# Deals & Developments

Transactions, financings, projects, contracts, and commercial milestones

## 5 Deals & Developments

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# Commercial Development

Deals & Developments

## Vertiv agrees to acquire microgrid company UtilityInnovation

### What happened

Vertiv agreed to acquire UtilityInnovation for approximately $1.45 billion in cash, plus potential additional consideration tied to financial targets. The transaction would expand Vertiv's microgrid controls and energy storage capabilities for data center power applications.

### Why it matters

The deal would deepen Vertiv's position in behind-the-meter power and energy management as data centers seek faster time-to-power.

### Commercial details

**Companies**: Vertiv Corporation, Utility Innovation Holdings, Inc.

**Project**: UtilityInnovation acquisition

**Deal Value**: $1.45 billion

**Location**: Raleigh, North Carolina

**Key People**: Gio Albertazzi — CEO, Vertiv; Sidney Hinton — CEO, Utility Innovation Holdings, Inc.

### Source

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# Commercial Development

Deals & Developments

## Z Squared agrees to acquire full ownership of Paradox Data

### What happened

Z Squared Inc. has signed a definitive agreement to acquire 100% of Paradox Data for $5 million in a deal involving performance-based milestones, which would expand Z Squared’s operational capabilities in Arkansas.

### Why it matters

This acquisition signals expansion in Z Squared's operational scope, potentially affecting future market dynamics in AI and high-performance computing.

### Commercial details

**Companies**: Z Squared Inc., Paradox Data

**Project**: Paradox Data campus acquisition

**Deal Value**: $5 million

**Capacity**: 150 MW

**Acreage**: 170

**Location**: Union County, Arkansas

**Deadline**: 2026-09-30

**Key People**: David Halabu — CEO, Z Squared Inc.; Jeffery Harris — CTO, Z Squared Inc.

### Source

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## Commercial Development

Deals & Developments

# Project Dazzler seeks Ohio permit for 1.7 million-square-foot data center

### What happened

Tilted Gate LLC is seeking a Department of the Army permit for Project Dazzler, a proposed 1.7 million-square-foot data center and associated infrastructure in Scioto County, Ohio.

### Why it matters

The permit is a concrete development milestone for a large proposed campus and could signal significant future power and infrastructure demand in Scioto County.

### Commercial details

**Companies**: Tilted Gate, LLC
**Project**: Project Dazzler
**Location**: Scioto County, OH
**Deadline**: 2026-09-17
**Key People**: Randy Barrera

### Source

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# Commercial Development

Deals & Developments

## SB Energy files for IPO, targeting a raise of $5-7bn

### What happened

SB Energy has filed for a Nasdaq IPO targeting a $5 billion to $7 billion raise, with its growth plans including development of a 10 GW data center site in Ohio tied to OpenAI.

### Why it matters

A successful $5 billion to $7 billion raise could materially expand the capital available for large-scale data center and energy infrastructure development.

### Commercial details

**Companies**: SB Energy, SoftBank, OpenAI, J.P. Morgan, Goldman Sachs & Co., Morgan Stanley, Citigroup, Mizuho

**Project**: 10 GW data center site

**Deal Value**: $5 billion to $7 billion

**Capacity**: 10 GW

**Location**: Pike County, Ohio

### Source

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Deals & Developments

# Commercial Development

## Phoenix Tower signs $6.5bn financing agreement

### What happened

Phoenix Tower International has secured a $6.5 billion multi-jurisdiction financing agreement, which consolidates existing loans and provides growth capital for the company's global operations.

### Why it matters

This financing supports expansion in telecommunications infrastructure essential for managing increasing data consumption and AI traffic.

### Commercial details

**Companies**: Phoenix Tower International

**Deal Value**: $6.5 billion

**Location**: United States

**Deadline**: 2026-09-30

**Key People**: Dagan Kasavana — CEO, Phoenix Tower International; Michael Bremer — CFO, Phoenix Tower International

### Source

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# Market Intelligence

Market conditions, grid constraints, policy changes, and strategic signals

**5 insights**

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# Market Signal

Market Intelligence

## ERCOT outlines RELLIS transmission buildout targeted for 2029

### What happened

ERCOT’s July 2026 TPIT outlines a Tier 1 reliability buildout, including 345/138-kV switchyard establishment and related line constructions projected to complete by October 2029.

### Why it matters

The planned 345/138-kV upgrades provide forward visibility into transmission development around Bryan–College Station, useful for site-selection and power-availability assessments.

### Market details

**Organizations**: ERCOT; Bryan Texas Utilities; Texas-New Mexico Power; LCRA Transmission Services

**Project**: 25RPG001 / Texas A&M RELLIS Campus Reliability Transmission Upgrades

**Location**: Brazos, Robertson and Burleson Counties, Texas / Bryan-College Station Area

**Key People**: Clay Lindstrom — Bryan Texas Utilities

### Source

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# Market Signal

Market Intelligence

## ERCOT Issues Provisional Batch Zero Classifications to Interconnecting Utilities

### What happened

ERCOT has notified interconnecting utilities of provisional classifications for Batch Zero projects, determining which large-load projects may advance under the new interconnection process, subject to verification and other eligibility requirements.

### Why it matters

Batch Zero significantly raises the development threshold for large-load projects by introducing stricter project-readiness and financial-commitment requirements. These requirements can materially affect project timing, development capital and grid-access strategy, potentially creating a greater barrier for smaller or less-capitalized developers. ERCOT is the first U.S. ISO to implement a batch-study process specifically for large loads. As other grid operators confront similar data-center and large-load growth, comparable interconnection requirements could emerge in other markets.

### Market details

**Organizations**: ERCOT

**Project**: Batch Zero Large Load Interconnection Process

**Location**: Texas / ERCOT

### Source

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# Market Signal

Market Intelligence

## SpaceX building turbine-blade foundry in Texas for AI data center support

### What happened

SpaceX is establishing a foundry in Bastrop, Texas, to manufacture high-spec blades for gas turbines, aiming to reduce turbine production bottlenecks that affect AI data centers.

### Why it matters

This development could accelerate natural gas turbine availability, impacting time-to-power for data centers.

### Market details

**Companies**: SpaceX; Tesla

**Project**: SpaceX Blades and Vanes Foundry

**Location**: Bastrop, Texas

**Key People**: Elon Musk — CEO, SpaceX and Tesla; Adam Jonas — Analyst, Morgan Stanley

### Source

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# Market Signal

Market Intelligence

## NERC advances computational-load ride-through standards following Dominion data reduction

### What happened

NERC is proposing national disturbance performance standards for computational loads following a 3.8 GW computational-load reduction in Dominion's service territory on July 22, with the standards focused on voltage and frequency ride-through.

### Why it matters

These standards could influence design and compliance for hyperscale data centers, affecting operational protocols.

### Market details

**Organizations**: NERC; ERCOT; FERC

**Project**: Computational Load Disturbance Performance SAR

**Capacity**: 3.8 GW

**Location**: United States / ERCOT

### Source

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# Market Signal

Market Intelligence

## NERC proposes new Computational Load Owner and Operator requirements for large data centers

### What happened

NERC's proposed framework would create registration requirements for Computational Load Sites with at least 50 MW of load, including new standards for modeling and operational communications.

### Why it matters

This proposal could impose new regulatory requirements on large data centers, necessitating compliance assessments and potential operational changes.

### Market details

**Organizations:** NERC; ERCOT; Texas RE; FERC

**Project:** NERC Project 2026-02 Computational Loads

**Capacity:** 50 MW

**Location:** United States / ERCOT

**Deadline:** 2026-09-18

### Source

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# Speed to Intelligence

## Built for professionals that need the signal before the market does.

**Questions?**

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