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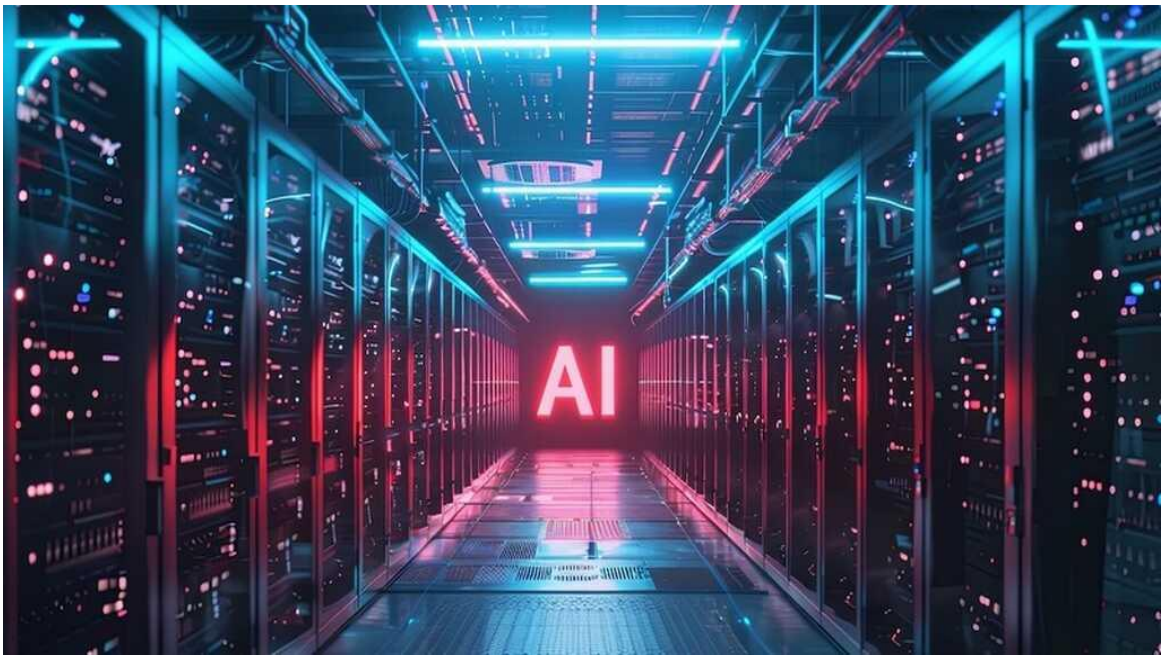

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The confirmed/proposed East TN sites I found are:

1. Oak Ridge Reservation: DOE is seeking proposals for AI data centers at two federal sites, one at East Tennessee Technology Park and one near Oak Ridge National Laboratory. (The Department of Energy's Energy.gov)

2. Blount County (Alcoa): lots of rumors and concern, but county leaders said they had no formal plans as of late May 2026. (WBIR)

3. Sweetwater, Rockwood, Knox County: not necessarily confirmed sites, but they are already writing zoning rules in anticipation of possible data centers. (WVLT)

4. Chattanooga.

⭐ Some Monroe County residents have been petitioning to adopt zoning restrictions before any large AI data centers are proposed. The issue recently came before the Vonore Planning Commission, where officials discussed zoning amendments related to future data centers.

Potential (not guaranteed) benefits:

- Tax revenue
- Short-term construction jobs
- Some technical jobs
- Infrastructure investment (if it's negotiated)

Main concerns:

• Huge electricity demand

• Water use for cooling

• Noise

• Few permanent jobs

• Higher utility costs for residents

• Pollution if they use gas turbines

⭐ TVA says data centers already make up about 18-20% of its industrial power load and could double by 2030. (WVLT)

Our group discussed how we could maximize the benefits and minimize the impact.

Potential ways to solve the issues:

• Require data centers to pay upfront for grid upgrades

• Use closed-loop or water-free cooling

• Ban or tightly regulate diesel/gas backup turbines

• Require noise buffers and industrial zoning

• Publish water/electricity usage

• Create binding community-benefit agreements

⭐ TVA is already considering a separate data-center rate class so ordinary customers don't subsidize them.

A few of the questions we had were:

⭐ Are we trading water, power, and land for enough local benefit?

☆ A large AI data center can require enormous amounts of electricity and, depending on the cooling technology, hundreds of thousands to millions of gallons of water per day. How much water and power should a project be allowed to consume relative to the jobs and tax revenue it creates?

☆ We already experience occasional power reliability concerns. How will additional demand affect rates and reliability if infrastructure upgrades are not negotiated in advance?

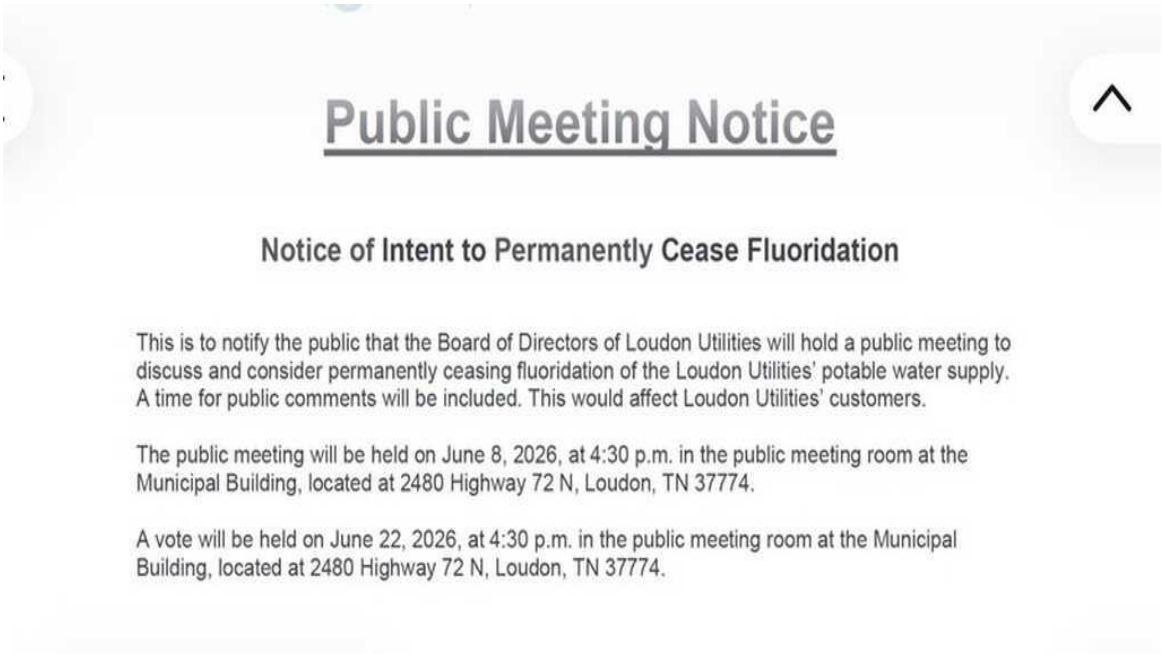
☆ If a data center is approved, who should pay for the necessary upgrades: the company, taxpayers, utility customers, or some combination?

☆ AI will likely replace some jobs while creating others. What workforce development and retraining investments should we be making now to prepare for that transition?

I'm still learning about this issue. If anyone works in utilities, energy, economic development, technology, engineering, or local government, I'd love to hear your perspective.·

one of the things we talked about in our civic salon today was the vote on Monday, 8 June to remove fluoride from our water in Loudon county. none of us were fluoride experts and we had some questions that I was hoping the larger community could answer: what are the benefits of fluoridating water? are there side effects? ***will our bills go down if they're no longer have to pay to put fluoride in our water? *** here's what I've found in my limited research: From what I can tell, fluoride in drinking water does help reduce cavities, particularly for children and families with less access to dental care. The main known side effect at recommended levels is dental fluorosis (usually mild discoloration of teeth). Researchers are also studying whether higher levels of fluoride exposure may affect things like cognitive development or thyroid function, though there is still debate about what happens at the lower levels used in most U.S. water systems. One thing I found interesting is that most European countries don't fluoridate their water. Instead, many rely on fluoridated toothpaste, salt, milk programs, and dental care initiatives. That leaves me with a few questions: ☆ If fluoride is beneficial, is adding it to water still the best way to provide it? ☆ If communities stop fluoridating water, how do we ensure children, especially those from lower-income families, still receive the dental benefits? ☆

What does the latest research suggest is the right balance between benefits and risks? I'm genuinely curious and still learning. If you have expertise in dentistry, public health, toxicology, endocrinology, or water systems, I'd love to hear your perspective.



Public Meeting Notice

Notice of Intent to Permanently Cease Fluoridation

This is to notify the public that the Board of Directors of Loudon Utilities will hold a public meeting to discuss and consider permanently ceasing fluoridation of the Loudon Utilities' potable water supply. A time for public comments will be included. This would affect Loudon Utilities' customers.

The public meeting will be held on June 8, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. in the public meeting room at the Municipal Building, located at 2480 Highway 72 N, Loudon, TN 37774.

A vote will be held on June 22, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. in the public meeting room at the Municipal Building, located at 2480 Highway 72 N, Loudon, TN 37774.

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- ☆ If communities stop fluoridating water, how do we ensure children, especially those from lower-income families, still receive the dental benefits?

- ☆ What does the latest research suggest is the right balance between benefits and risks?

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