



Responses to Community Questions

August 26, 2026

POWER & GRID

VOLITION'S POSITION

Volition's founding design choice is that a data center should never compete with the community that hosts it for power. This facility generates 100% of its own electricity on site and is never connected to the city grid for data center operations, not as a policy, but as a recorded covenant with physical reality behind it. There is no substation, no transmission line, no interconnection facilities at all. Its fuel arrives by a dedicated, Volition-funded gas lateral sized for this site alone, so nothing about it draws on the systems Spanish Fork homes and businesses depend on.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. "Will this raise my electric bill?"

No, it never touches your electric system. It generates 100% of its own power on site and may never request an operating grid connection, by contract. Only temporary construction power is drawn under normal and existing limits, disconnected within 90 days of start-up.

Ref: Title 15 amendment text §E (permanent electrical isolation) · development-agreement terms presented Aug 4 2026

2. "Will it strain the grid or cause blackouts?"

It adds zero load to the grid, no substation, no transmission line, so it can't cause a blackout: it isn't connected to anything that could.

Ref: Title 15 §E · Spanish Fork City Council, Aug 4 2026 (islanded-user discussion)

3. "Is 'never connects to the grid' actually enforceable, forever?"

Yes, three ways: the ordinance requires permanent isolation demonstrated in the electrical design; the development agreement records it as a covenant enforceable by injunction, binding successors; and physically no interconnection facilities exist to use. An annual certification confirms it, every year. In addition to the iron clad enforcement, it is a massive scale industrial effort to modify the grid and the onsite power system

Ref: Title 15 §E · development-agreement covenant (recorded; runs with the land; committed before final approvals)

4. “Is the city or state paying them anything?”

Nothing is requested from the city or the state: no fee waivers, utility concessions, or subsidies; full tax is paid. Standard federal energy incentives apply, and Utah law automatically exempts qualifying data-center equipment from sales tax; we name that so you hear it from us.

Ref: Utah Code §59-12-104 (statutory exemption) · council record Aug 4-18 2026

5. “Will it raise my gas bill or compete for our gas supply?”

Its gas arrives through a new dedicated line, about \$14M, paid entirely by Volition, capacity confirmed by Enbridge, separate from the supply serving homes and businesses, purchased through its own transportation arrangements, not the residential pool. Residential service holds curtailment priority under state rules in any extreme event.

Ref: Enbridge Gas Utah engineering approval (Aug 4 2026 record) · Utah PSC curtailment framework

6. “How much gas will it burn every year?”

Technically, zero. Since we do not burn any gas. However, about 14.9 million MMBtu a year is expected to be consumed at full build, roughly 40% of what Utah’s industry uses today and about 5% of all gas used in the state. The air permit caps it at 24.5 million; the cap is enforced through daily metered fuel records.

Ref: Utah DEQ Intent to Approve DAQE-IN163550001-26 (fuel cap 23,836 MMscf) · U.S. EIA, Utah natural gas consumption 2024

7. “What happens when fuel cells fail or the gas is interrupted? Diesel backups?”

No diesel generators, ever, by covenant. Redundancy is in the fuel-cell blocks themselves (393 MW nameplate against 250 MW of computing load, ~120 independent blocks); if power is short, the facility simply computes less. The difference between the nameplate and the computing load is the system's own backup system. Neighbors notice nothing: it was never on their grid.

Ref: Utah DEQ Intent to Approve (1,210 units / 393.25 MW) · development-agreement no-diesel covenant

8. “Is there any limit on how big the generation can get, here or citywide?”

This site is fixed by its air permit at 1,210 units / 393.25 MW nameplate, and the ordinance requires generation scaled to on-site load only, under the per-site cap being finalized with the Council. Citywide, every facility needs its own approval; the Council controls aggregation project by project.

Ref: Utah DEQ Intent to Approve · Title 15 amendment text (revised language in progress with Council)

9. “Has anyone ever run a data center this big on fuel cells alone?”

Not yet at this size with no grid, but fuel-cell campuses roughly ten times this size are contracted and under development (Oracle’s New Mexico campus, up to 2.45 GW; Cheyenne, Wyoming, 1.8 GW). Here it comes in ~25 MW blocks under the capped total, each block proving itself before the next.

Ref: Oracle / Bloom Energy announcement, Apr 2026 · POWER Magazine, Jan 2026 · Planning Commission Aug 5 2026

10. “Why should we be the first? Come back when it’s solar or nuclear.”

The honest trade: fuel cells today emit more than 40% less carbon than grid power and a small fraction of combustion pollution, and the covenants don’t expire if better technology arrives.

Ref: Utah DEQ Intent to Approve (emissions table) · EPA eGRID / EIA grid intensity