

AI | COVER

Americans Hate AI Data Centers. For Stocks, the Trouble Is Just Beginning.

More than six dozen data-center projects were blocked or delayed in the first quarter due to locals' opposition. Public pushback is becoming a risk factor for AI companies and their shares.

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Key Points

About This Summary ⓘ

- A grassroots backlash against AI data-center construction is growing across the U.S., threatening to slow the expansion of the technology sector.
- In the first quarter, 75 data-center projects worth \$130 billion were blocked and delayed, matching the total for all of 2025.
- Opponents of data centers raise concerns about intense power needs, rising local electricity costs, and constant humming noises.