

On May 20, 2026, Tom Steyer's campaign provided Greenpeace USA with the following additional information about his data center policies:

Tom has been crystal clear: any new data centers in the state must be powered by renewable energy, rely on sustainable water procurement, not raise rates for Californians, and be subject to stringent reporting and transparency guidelines. Unless those criteria can be satisfied, Tom opposes building new data centers.

As governor, he will do everything in his power to ensure that all new data centers meet those standards.

California has a wide range of policy mechanisms in place to enforce standards for energy use, water consumption, and ratepayer protections. As Governor, Tom will order state regulatory bodies, including the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC), the California Energy Commission (CEC), and the Department of Water Resources (DWR), to broadly interpret existing law and fully exercise their authority to ensure all new data centers meet protections for ratepayers, energy, and water use. Among other things, for example, Tom will direct the CPUC to fully enforce Rule 30 to ensure ratepayers are not responsible for data center load growth costs. If necessary, Tom will further direct state agencies to develop even more stringent additional regulations to ensure data centers meet his standards.

He will also convene a Blue Ribbon Commission of legislative leaders, local government officials, economic and environmental experts, and other key stakeholders including frontline community members to recommend additional policies to bolster the state's regulatory framework to ensure ratepayer protections, energy use, and water consumption standards are comprehensively addressed. Tom is emphatic that issues of climate and environmental justice must be included at the outset of policy-making considerations, not as an afterthought.

As Governor, Tom will also appoint commissioners to the CPUC and other regulatory bodies who will enforce those standards for energy use, water consumption, and ratepayer protections for new data centers.

Just as California has set the global standard for clean air laws, Tom is committed to ensuring the state leads the way on data center regulation. We are eager to continue our work with Greenpeace and other environmental organizations to ensure California remains at the forefront of climate and environmental leadership.