PUBLIC SERVICE

Set terms for a data-center project

Compare a broad growth promise with explicit power-cost and community-review terms.

Decision question
Which project terms should a utility and local authority take into public consultation?

Study objective
Identify which cost-allocation and accountability questions consultation must resolve.

Hypothesis to check
Explicit cost allocation and independent review may change reactions to a project framed around growth.

Decision owner
Public affairs lead, utility and local authority

BASELINE

Baseline

Modeled acceptance **47 / 100**

Modeled risk **38 / 100**

The local authority proposes a large data center and a new power connection. The project promises jobs and business investment. The utility may recover grid upgrade costs through household electricity prices. The authority will approve the agreement before publishing the detailed tariff and water-use estimates.

ALTERNATIVE

Developer-funded connection and public review

Modeled acceptance **41 / 100**

Modeled risk **49 / 100**

The local authority proposes a large data center subject to a public review before approval. The developer will fund its grid upgrade costs under a published utility tariff. Publish water-use estimates, jobs commitments, household price effects and independent monitoring reports. A community panel may review complaints and recommend changes during the first year.

Fictional worked study computed from an authored audience. Results describe generated cases and heuristic scenario scores. The two versions share their audience and seed. Human fieldwork is proposed and has not been performed for this example.

Survey response distributions

120 generated cases per version. Shares use substantive answers to each question. Human respondents: 0.

QUESTION 1

The data-center proposal described here is acceptable.

	Baseline 120 answered / 120 asked	Alternative 120 answered / 120 asked
1	0 (0%)	1 (0.83%)
2	28 (23.33%)	47 (39.17%)
3	82 (68.33%)	67 (55.83%)
4	10 (8.33%)	5 (4.17%)
5	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

32 changed across 120 answered pairs. 0 pairs excluded. Distribution distance 16.67 pp.

QUESTION 2

I trust the authority and utility to deliver the published project terms.

	Baseline 120 answered / 120 asked	Alternative 120 answered / 120 asked
1	0 (0%)	1 (0.83%)
2	36 (30%)	40 (33.33%)
3	65 (54.17%)	67 (55.83%)
4	19 (15.83%)	12 (10%)
5	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

15 changed across 120 answered pairs. 0 pairs excluded. Distribution distance 5.83 pp.

QUESTION 3

Which factor most shapes your reaction to this proposal?

	Baseline 120 answered / 120 asked	Alternative 120 answered / 120 asked
Cost	58 (48.33%)	60 (50%)
Fairness	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Trust	0 (0%)	60 (50%)
Implementation	62 (51.67%)	0 (0%)
No major concern	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

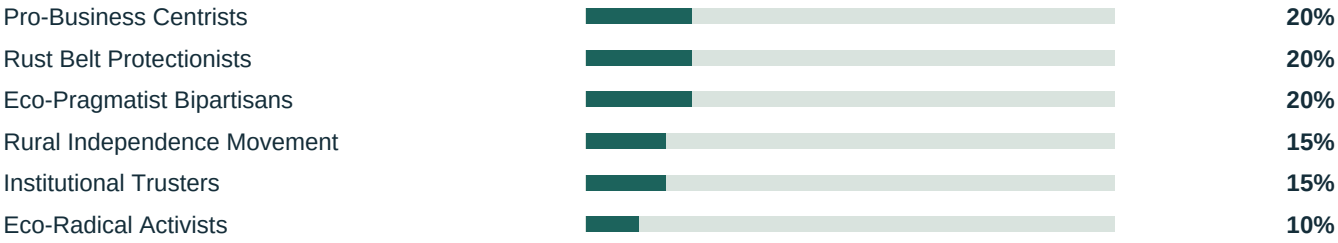
62 changed across 120 answered pairs. 0 pairs excluded. Distribution distance 51.67 pp.

Audience and context graph

Authored shares and scenario links define the exercise. Field evidence is addressed separately.

Host-region households and power customers

Illustrative US utility service territory



Who to recruit

Recruit households near the proposed site, ratepayers elsewhere in the territory, utility representatives and small commercial customers.

Evidence to collect

Use the public utility tariff and interconnection filings to check cost allocation. Recruit separately in host communities and the wider service territory.

Context graph excerpts

11 nodes and 11 relationships in the complete graph download.

Set terms for a data-center project / contains / Host-region households and power customers
Intended audience (authored): "Host-region households and power customers"

Set terms for a data-center project / contains / Evidence to gather
What to check with people (evidence needed): "Verify the tariff and connection agreement, household price effects, water-use assumptions and enforceability of comm..."

Set terms for a data-center project / contains / Economic security
Baseline wording (evidence needed): "cost"

Evidence to gather next

This example proposes human fieldwork before a real decision.

Decision rule

Use modeled reactions to prepare consultation. A project decision requires verified utility, water, environmental and contractual evidence and the public process applicable to the project.

FIELDWORK STEPS

01 Recruit host-community residents separately from wider utility customers.

02 Pretest technical terms such as tariff and grid upgrade.

03 Randomly present one wording with the same verified fact sheet and questionnaire.

04 Report response distributions and subgroup coverage alongside the checked project documents.

RECORDS TO CHECK

- Published interconnection agreement and tariff
- Water-use and electricity-demand estimates
- Jobs commitments, monitoring and complaints process

How this report was reproduced

Both versions use the same frozen authored audience, instrument and seed. Scenario indices use a 0-100 scale. Survey response shares and paired changes describe generated cases. Check wording, coverage and actual behavior with people before interpreting a modeled contrast.

Example release	1.0.0 / 2026-11-22
Signal engine / survey method	3.7.0 / 1.3.0
CiviSphere audience dataset	1.0.0
Fixed seed / cases per version	19427 / 120
Human respondents	0
Input SHA-256	d07a7b0e044b9073b3a09cb63674a8b15a7393e3dbceec6cddf7c0f803a79781
Result SHA-256	91072c431e69648fbc826cf331dc17c9ba558e6856c2a30f492e366e95fc439a