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Meta \$10 Billion AI Data Center in Louisiana

By Louisiana Economic Development

RICHLAND PARISH—Facebook and Instagram parent company Meta announced it will build a \$10 billion artificial intelligence data center in northeast Louisiana, a transformational investment that cements the state's status as a major innovation hub and puts this picturesque rural community on the leading edge of a global digital revolution.

Meta projects the data center will support 500 or more direct new jobs in Richland Parish. LED estimates the project will result in the creation of more than 1,000 indirect jobs, for a total of more than 1,500 potential new jobs in the Northeast Region. The company estimates 5,000 construction workers at peak of construction on the 2,250-acre former Franklin Farm megasite that sits between the municipalities of Rayville and Delhi, about 30 miles east of Monroe.

"Today, Louisiana begins a new chapter. Today, we are delivering new jobs and economic growth on a scale unimaginable before we took office," Governor Jeff Landry said. "Meta's investment establishes the region as an anchor in Louisiana's rapidly expanding tech sector, revitalizes one of our state's beautiful rural areas, and creates opportunities for Louisiana workers to fill high-paying jobs of the future. I thank Meta for their commitment to our state, and to the state legislature for positioning Louisiana to win this project by passing new tax reform legislation that attracts capital investment and improves Louisiana's business tax climate.'

Hyperscaler data centers such as the one planned for Richland Parish are housed in huge physical structures designed to process the vast amounts of data required to support digital technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI) workloads. The facility is the largest of more than 20 Meta data centers around the world.

"Meta is building the future of human connection and the technology that makes it possible. And this data center will be an important part of that mission," said Kevin Janda, Meta Director of Data Center Strategy. "Richland Parish in Louisiana is an outstanding location for Meta to



call home for a number of reasons. It provides great access to infrastructure, a reliable grid, a business-friendly climate, and wonderful community partners that have helped us move this project forward. We're thrilled to be a new





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For more info contact Valerie Voorhies at vvv@sbeinc.com

VENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS





Selling to the Federal Government Webinar Thursday, December 12, 2024, 12:00 pm-3:00 pm CDT Online

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov

Fee: Free; registration required

Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register online at https://www. eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federalgovernment-tickets-21790713611 SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning.

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar Tuesday, December 17, 2024, 1:00 pm-2:30 pm CDT

you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions include an overview of the self-certification process, and a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register at https://www.eventbrite. com/e/woman-owned-small-business-wosbcertification-program-tickets-853224426227

8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar Wednesday, December 18, 2024, 9:30 am-10:30 am CDT Online

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, illinois.do@sba.gov

Fee: Free; registration required

Join the Small Business Administration (SBA) Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer addional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further

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Online

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: Patrice Dozier, patrice.dozier@sba.gov Fee: Free; registration required Welcome to the WOSB webinar series! Are

assistance, and answer your other questions. To register for this free webinar, https://www. eventbrite.com/e/basics-of-sbas-8a-businessdevelopment-orientation-and-sam-registrationtickets-1030097909577

CERTIFICATION

Small Business Exchange, Inc.

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