

April 3rd, 2026

Alberta Utilities Commission
1400m 600 Third Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5

RE: Synapse Data Center

Synapse Real Estate Corp ("**Synapse**") is seeking approval to construct and operate the Synapse Data Center, a 1400 MW power plant, co-located with a 1,000 MW data center load (the "**Project**"). The Project is located on privately owned land in the northeast (NE) section of the Town of Olds, Alberta.

In developing this submission, Synapse has carefully considered the guidance provided by the Commission in Proceeding 30625, as well as feedback from the community. As a first step in facilitating ongoing dialogue, we launched synapsedatacenter.com/we-are-listening, reflecting our commitment to engagement and responsiveness to stakeholder input. Additional project information was mailed out to residents and landowners within 2000m of site boundary, community members indicated preference for an open house, supported by a panel of experts, which was hosted on April 1st. Ongoing 1:1 and small group consultation has occurred on an ongoing basis. Synapse values its relationship with the community and will continue engagement throughout the life of the Project. At the request of local community members, Synapse has committed in recent weeks to a community benefits program. We are actively working with community members to establish the appropriate structure of the program.

This Project represents a timely and strategically important opportunity for Alberta, directly advancing the demonstrated provincial objective to attract large-scale private investment in data infrastructure. The scale of the project, reflected in significant upfront capital investment and long-term employment opportunities, signals strong market demand and institutional confidence in Alberta as a competitive destination for computing infrastructure projects.

Multiple items were considered as part of site selection including alignment with the industrial zoning outlined in the Town of Olds 2024 NE Area Structure Plan, ensuring proximity to a skilled local workforce, proximity to Calgary International Airport and proactively avoiding the agricultural preservation and previous data center project siting challenges recently faced in neighboring jurisdictions. The Project has been advanced in alignment with municipal planning objectives and informed by extensive community engagement, reflecting a shared interest in ensuring that development of this scale proceeds in a transparent, orderly, and community-compatible manner.

Co-locating the power plant with the data center provides clear public benefits. The Project aligns with Alberta Government policies and objectives, supporting economic diversification and resilience without impacting the public electrical grid. Beginning in 2024, the Alberta Government identified the data center industry as central to its economic diversification strategy, a commitment further reinforced through the release of Alberta's AI Data Center Strategy ("**Strategy**"), which highlights the province's unique advantages and plans for supporting private investment in this sector.

The Strategy recognizes that private investment in projects such as ours generates substantial benefits for Albertans, including long-term economic growth, job creation, and community value. Alberta's abundant natural gas reserves, existing pipeline capacity, naturally cool climate, and access to carbon capture, utilization, and storage technologies create an investment-ready environment for these projects. Consistent with this approach, Alberta's "Bring Your Own Power" policy supports data center development by enabling proponents to supply their own electricity needs, while contributing to broader system reliability and economic benefits for the province.

The self-supply model of the Project also enables efficient project execution, consistent with the Government of Alberta's objective and emphasis on enabling timely approvals for data-centres.

We respectfully submit that the within Application has been advanced in a manner consistent with AUC requirements, provincial policy objectives and community interests. The proposed co-located power plant strengthens Alberta's energy and digital infrastructure, facilitates sustainable economic growth, and delivers lasting benefits for communities and the provincial economy. In view of these considerations and the Alberta Government's strategic priorities, we are confident the Commission will maintain an efficient review process that supports the continued advancement of projects of this nature and aligns with the objectives of the Bring Your Own Power policy.

We thank the Commission for its consideration and remain available to provide any additional information or clarification required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Van Gaal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jason" being more prominent than the last name "Van Gaal".

Jason Van Gaal
CEO
Synapse Real Estate Corp