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Everywhere, All At Once: How The Growth Of Data Centers Could Carry Risks For U.S. Local Governments - S&P

Key Takeaways

- Data centers provide economic and revenue opportunities for U.S. local governments, but they could also lead to economic and revenue concentration and volatility as well as strain local resources.
- Long-term financial planning and risk analysis are crucial for local governments that contemplate data center development and related revenues.
- Smaller, more remote communities have fewer advantages in negotiating with data center developers; they may also be less able to adequately identify and plan for risks.
- The rapid expansion of data centers could stress housing affordability as well as pressure utilities to recover infrastructure investment costs from residential ratepayers.

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