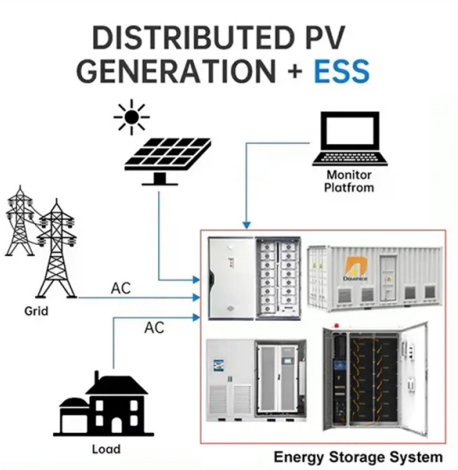
# ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd

# IDC Data Center Construction Project Approval




## Overview

Data Center Permits 2026: Every Major US Filing, TrackedRunning list of every major data center permit filed in 2026 — top 20 by megawatts, state-by-state.

## Key Takeaways

The IDC construction approval process involves site selection, design finalization, regulatory permitting, IDCA compliance verification, and pre-construction documentation before groundbreaking.Pre-Construction Planning

Before construction begins, a data center project undergoes site selection and feasibility studies, which assess power availability, fiber connectivity, environmental impact, zoning compliance, and disaster risk mitigation . Developers evaluate land suitability, grid access, and long-term expansion potential. This phase typically lasts 3–6 months and ensures the site can support the facility's operational and structural requirements .

Design and Documentation

Once a site is selected, the design phase produces detailed architectural, structural, and MEP (mechanical, electrical, plumbing) drawings. These construction documents (CDs) are essential for obtaining permits and approvals from local authorities . The design must account for power density, cooling systems, redundancy, security, and IT equipment loads. Both concrete and steel structural options are considered for resilience, thermal performance, and future scalability .

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Regulatory and Permitting Approvals

Data center construction requires multiple regulatory approvals, including:

• Zoning and land use permits to ensure compliance with local planning regulations .

• Environmental impact assessments to address water usage, emissions, and ecological concerns .

• Power and utility approvals to confirm sufficient grid capacity and future scalability .

• Building permits for structural, electrical, and mechanical systems . Approval timelines vary by location and project scale, often taking 6–12 months for large or hyperscale facilities .

IDCA Compliance and Certification

The International Data Center Authority (IDCA) provides standards and benchmarks for data center design, construction, and operational readiness . Projects seeking IDCA certification must demonstrate compliance with:

• Structural and operational standards for reliability and resilience.

• Energy efficiency and ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) integration.

• Service delivery capabilities aligned with global best practices. IDCA evaluates the project through independent audits and documentation review before granting certification, which can influence investor confidence and operational credibility .

Pre-Construction Approval Checklist

Key elements for IDC construction approval include:

• Finalized construction documents (architectural, structural, MEP).

• Permits and regulatory approvals from local authorities.

• Power and connectivity agreements with utilities and carriers.

• ESG and risk assessments integrated into project planning.

• IDCA compliance verification and readiness for certification.

• Capital planning and funding alignment to ensure financial readiness .

Summary

The IDC construction approval process is a multi-step, highly coordinated effort that ensures a data center is structurally sound, operationally reliable, and compliant with both local regulations and international standards. By completing site selection, design finalization, regulatory permitting, and IDCA compliance verification, developers can secure approval to commence construction while minimizing delays and risks .

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