

Emerald AI, Google and NVIDIA form alliance for grid-flexible AI data centres

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AI factories are the infrastructure of the intelligence era. Scaling them responsibly will depend as much on innovation across the grid as inside the data center.

Today, Emerald AI, Google and NVIDIA announced the launch of the AI Energy Management Alliance (AEMA), a first-of-its-kind coalition advancing data centers that can dynamically manage their electricity use in response to grid conditions.

This power flexibility can help unlock faster, larger connections for AI infrastructure while supporting the energy systems and communities that make its growth possible. Getting more watts out of existing infrastructure reduces environmental impacts per watt and supports energy affordability.

The objective is clear: build AI infrastructure that doesn't just connect to the grid but works with it.

Flexibility Is an Energy Imperative

Power has become a defining constraint on the expansion of U.S. AI infrastructure.

Traditional interconnection processes were designed around facilities with flat, static electricity demand. They weren't built for computing infrastructure capable of responding intelligently when the power system is constrained.

A flexible data center can adjust its electricity drawn from the grid in several ways — shifting computing workloads, discharging storage, using paired generation or responding to system contingencies. These capabilities allow a large electricity customer to serve as a controllable resource rather than an inflexible load.

Used effectively, flexibility can make more efficient use of existing grid capacity, reduce demand during periods of system stress, and avoid or defer costly infrastructure upgrades. It can also give utilities and grid operators greater confidence to connect AI facilities on shorter timelines.

Technology-Neutral, Performance-Based Requirements

AEMA is technology-neutral and performance-based. Its focus is on the measurable service a facility can deliver — including response speed, duration, predictability and behavior during an emergency — rather than the specific hardware or software used.

Reliability remains paramount. The alliance's principles call for:

Defining ride-through, curtailment and contingency-response obligations before a facility connects — meaning the alliance is setting clear rules for facilities regarding staying connected during brief grid disturbances, reducing power use when needed and responding to emergencies.

Standardizing technical requirements, performance metrics and operational data sharing.

Creating faster, risk-adjusted pathways for customers that make credible and verifiable flexibility commitments.

Allocating interconnection costs in a way that reflects actual system impacts and benefits, such as avoided upgrades and improved ramping capability.

These measures can reduce uncertainty for developers while giving system operators the information and control needed to preserve reliability.

Convening the Full AI and Power Value Chain

AEMA convenes the full value chain across computing and power — including AI platforms, infrastructure providers, data center operators, technology companies, power producers, utilities and regional grid operators.

The founding members will be joined by launch partners from across the ecosystem. Together, AEMA will develop technical and operational approaches, collaborate with utilities on interconnection solutions and advocate for policies that recognize grid-responsive demand.

Accelerating US AI Infrastructure

AI factories transform energy and data into intelligence. Power-flexible design gives them the potential to support the grid as they do it.

NVIDIA and Emerald AI are already working with energy and infrastructure leaders on AI factories that can respond to grid conditions in real time. AEMA will broaden that work by bringing the technology, energy and policy communities together around models that can be deployed across the U.S.

The rules governing power for AI are being written now. By creating a common framework for performance, reliability and collaboration, AEMA aims to help the U.S. build the infrastructure of intelligence at the speed and sustainability the moment demands.

Learn more about AEMA and membership opportunities.

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