



September 22, 2025

Supervisor Mike Coddington
Howell Township
3525 Byron Road
Howell, MI 48855

RE: data center application for land use rezoning

Dear Supervisor Coddington,

DTE Energy fully supports the application to rezone parcels of land in Howell Township for the purpose of developing a data center. We encourage the township to approve the application during the September 23 Planning Commission meeting and at the next possible Board of Trustees meeting.

We support this project not just because of the positive impact it can have on the local community, but because it can also have a meaningful impact on affordability for our customers, including those in Howell Township. Utility infrastructure investments are not unlike investments in municipal infrastructure. When large, energy-intensive users become part of DTE's customer base, costs are spread more widely, benefiting all customers. Given the scale of infrastructure investments DTE has been making on behalf of its customers, the timing of this project is fortuitous. Furthermore, DTE can support this data center with our current generating capacity and is highly confident that the 345kV transmission lines which run through the site will be able to provide sufficient power without affecting local reliability.

Data Centers – and specifically the one proposed in Howell Township – will become major contributors to the investments DTE is already making in the distribution grid and our generation fleet, helping make our electric system more stable and resilient for everyone. Moreover, any costs associated with infrastructure unique to the data center will be paid for by the project and not passed on to DTE's existing customers.

In recent years, DTE Energy's electric company has invested significantly to improve the reliability of the local electric distribution grid serving Howell Township. This includes upgrading out-dated infrastructure and trimming trees to reduce both the frequency and duration of power outages. Our grid improvement work is happening across southeastern Michigan to improve reliability during severe weather events and meet the electricity needs of our customers for decades to come.

While we are improving the reliability of our poles and wires, DTE is also transforming the way we generate electricity by retiring power plants that have reached their natural end-of-life and replacing them with assets like natural gas, renewables, and battery storage to maintain the reliable supply of electricity that our state's economy demands.

In total, DTE Energy is investing \$25 billion over the next five years in our state's electric and natural gas infrastructure, creating and sustaining thousands of Michigan-based jobs and generating millions of dollars in tax revenue for Michigan's local municipalities.

For these reasons, DTE supports this project and encourages the leadership of Howell Township to approve the application for land-use rezoning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Mahoney', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Mahoney
Director, Policy & Regional Affairs
DTE Energy

CC: Board of Trustees – Sue Daus, Jonathan Hohenstein, Tim Boal, Matt Counts, Shane Fagan, Bob Wilson

CC: Planning Commission – Wayne Williams, Robert Spaulding, Mike Newstead, Chuck Frantjeskos, Sharon Lollo