

Statement from Tyler Vault Data Center

Tyler Vault Data Center was surprised by the September 24 headline stating that our facility is "under investigation," particularly because the Texas Attorney General's published announcement does not identify Tyler Vault Data Center by name.

The Attorney General's announcement identifies **Smith County** as one of numerous Texas counties included in a statewide investigation concerning data-center water-use reporting. It does not identify Tyler Vault as having failed to comply with a reporting requirement.

More importantly, there is a significant fact missing from the article:

Tyler Vault Data Center does not use water to cool its data center.

Our cooling system was intentionally designed without cooling towers or evaporative cooling. In our operating environment, we consider the consumption of water for cooling unnecessarily wasteful of both water and energy, particularly given the high humidity conditions of East Texas.

Instead, Tyler Vault uses conventional mechanical cooling, like a home air conditioner, combined with outside-air economization when environmental conditions permit. During cooler weather, outside air is used to reduce the amount of mechanical cooling required by the data center. We take that efficiency one step further by making beneficial use of the heat produced by our equipment to help reduce heating requirements elsewhere in the building.

In other words, rather than consuming water to remove heat and discharge that energy into the atmosphere, our design, without water, makes productive use of heat that would otherwise be wasted.

That distinction is particularly important when comparing the environmental impact of types of data centers.

Tyler Vault is not the only data center in Smith County

The article describes Tyler Vault as the only active data center in Smith County based on several public databases. That description overlooks an important distinction between a **public commercial data center** and a **private data center operated internally by an organization**.

Tyler Vault is a public data center. We provide low-cost data-center space and hosting to local business and infrastructure and internet backbone connectivity to other organizations.

There are also numerous private technology and data-center facilities throughout Smith County. Hospitals, universities, banks and financial institutions, local governments, public-safety organizations and other large institutions operate computing facilities of their own. Some are comparable in size to Tyler Vault, while others are smaller. All of these, like Tyler Vault, are not a hyperscale facility. We do not consume megawatts of power.

This raises several questions we believe should be answered before Tyler Vault is singled out as *the* Smith County data center involved:

1. **Did the Attorney General's Office or Texas Water Development Board specifically identify Tyler Vault Data Center to the Tyler Morning Telegraph as a facility that failed to submit a required Water Use Survey?**
2. **If so, what communication or public record specifically identifies Tyler Vault?**
3. **If not, did the newspaper conclude that the Attorney General was referring to Tyler Vault simply because we are the only public commercial data center that appeared in the databases the newspaper searched?**
4. **Did the newspaper determine whether private data centers operated by hospitals, universities, banks, the City of Tyler, Smith County, public-safety/911 organizations and other institutions were included in the State's review?**
5. **Were any of those organizations contacted to determine whether they received a Water Use Survey and, if so, whether they responded?**

Those questions are particularly relevant because TWDB states that recipients of a Water Use Survey are legally required to return it. We have contacted the TWDB to determine if there was a request or even a need for us to fill out a Water Use Survey but based on the text from the Attorney General of Texas website:

"The OAG has launched an ongoing investigation into all data center **developments in Texas, and Attorney General Paxton is committed to ensuring Texas communities and water are protected."**

<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/news/releases/attorney-general-paxton-launches-landmark-investigation-hundreds-data-center-developments-texas>

A locally owned East Texas company

Tyler Vault is not a newly constructed hyperscale artificial-intelligence facility or cryptocurrency mining operation.

We are a **family-owned East Texas business** that has operated in downtown Tyler since 2009.

We provide secure data-center space and Internet connectivity to businesses and organizations throughout East Texas. Through our facility and the telecommunications carriers connected to it, we help connect local companies and individuals to the Internet and to critical technology infrastructure.

That includes organizations throughout our own community, including the Tyler Morning Telegraph itself, as well as individuals who work there.

Being a public data center makes Tyler Vault easy to find on an Internet database. It should not make us the automatic answer when someone searches for "the data center" in Smith County.

We support accurate water-use reporting

Tyler Vault supports responsible management of Texas water resources and has no objection to providing legitimate information requested by the State of Texas.

In fact, we believe our actual water usage is an important part of this discussion because **our data-center cooling operation consumes no water**.

We welcome scrutiny of our actual environmental footprint.

What concerns us is a headline and article that appear to take a statewide investigation identifying **Smith County** and, without establishing that the State was referring specifically to Tyler Vault, turn it into a story stating that **Tyler Vault Data Center is under investigation**.

There is an important difference between those two statements.

We respectfully ask the Tyler Morning Telegraph to clarify whether the Attorney General or Texas Water Development Board specifically identified Tyler Vault as a noncompliant facility. If they did not, we believe the article and headline should be corrected to accurately reflect what the State has actually said.

Tyler Vault has served this community for more than 16 years. We are proud of the infrastructure we have built in East Texas, proud that it supports local businesses and institutions, and proud that our cooling design without water conserves energy.

We are happy to provide the newspaper and the State with accurate information about our facility.

Tyler Vault Data Center

Tyler, Texas