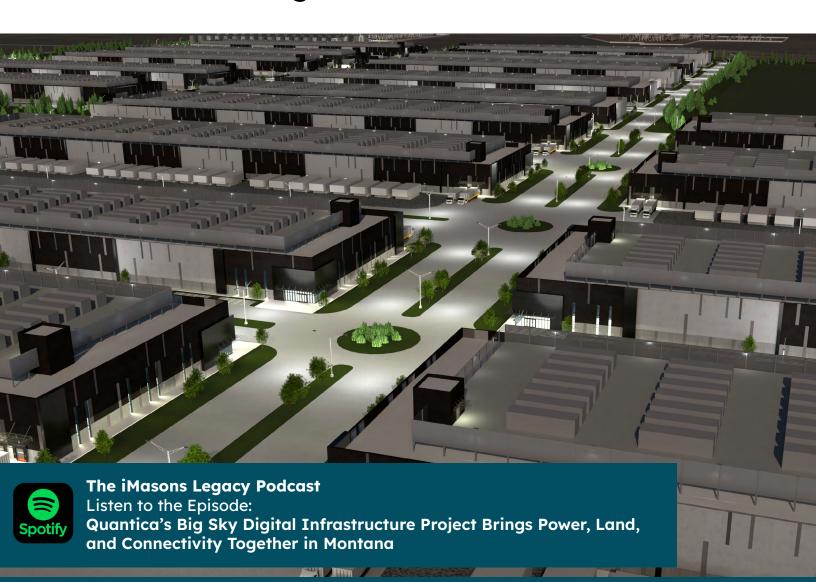




IM MEMBER STORIES



Quantica's Big Sky Digital Infrastructure Project Brings Power, Land, and Connectivity Together in Montana





Power. Land. Connectivity.

ower. Land. Connectivity. These are the three key ingredients at the heart of any data center development. And all three face constraints as the digital infrastructure industry races to meet surging demand for cloud computing and artificial intelligence services.

Big Sky Digital Infrastructure (BSDI), the flagship project of <u>Quantica Infrastructure</u>, brings all three ingredients to a shovel-ready site for hyperscale data center development northwest of Billings, Montana. What's more, the power is clean, the land is abundant, and the fiber is a first for the rural community.

The site is expected to be connected to hundreds of miles of new fiber-ready underground conduit, enabling diverse routes to major metropolitan areas that ensure fast, resilient connectivity. In a region where much of the existing service relies on microwave transmission, this level of fiber connectivity represents a step change for both hyperscale operators and local users, according to BSDI.

"We own about 5,000 acres, plus we have another approximately 40,000 acres under leases for solar, wind and battery development," said <u>Damon Obie</u>, a Montana native and General Counsel of Quantica Infrastructure. "The first phase of the project is 500 MW of renewable power and battery energy storage, expandable to 1 gigawatt."



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Damon Obie,General Counsel,Quantica Infrastructure







Abundant Clean Power

uantica Infrastructure was born out of an observation that many hyperscale data center developers are in search of sites with access to abundant clean power. BSDI is designed to provide large-scale renewable generation and storage capacity to power data center operations.

"It's not an offset," said Charlie Baker, Quantica's Chief Accounting Officer. "The renewables are going to power the data center. You're going to see the solar panels next to the data center at scale. You're going to see wind turbines on the 40,000 acres that are contiguous to our land."

The project site is adjacent to a substation with access to high-voltage transmission lines. BSDI will upgrade the substation to integrate the renewables and enable the green electrons to flow onto the grid when they exceed the data center demand.

Site development work is slated to start in 2026.





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Enabling the Digital Future

SDI is an innovative approach to address the digital infrastructure industry's power constraint challenge, noted Santiago Suinaga, Chief Executive Officer of Infrastructure Masons (iMasons), a global nonprofit professional association for the builders of the digital age.

The project has echoes of the <u>clean energy zone</u> concept that the iMasons community started to discuss in 2024, he said. These zones are masterplanned towns or city-size areas developed around concentrated sources of clean energy to serve multiple industries, including multi-tenant data center complexes.

The one difference today is that the scale of hyperscale data centers is now so big that a single tenant could utilize the entire renewable energy capacity of a site. Developers once expected to divide campuses among several tenants, but rising AI demand is reshaping those assumptions. Hyperscalers now indicate they need multiple gigawatts on a single site, a scale that projects like BSDI are designed to accommodate.

"Many hyperscalers are committed to achieve net zero carbon emissions within the next decade or so. But they are struggling to access the abundant clean energy needed for AI," Suinaga said. "The combination of solar, wind and battery energy storage at gigawatt scale in rural Montana is an interesting solution." The project also brings hundreds of jobs building and enabling the digital future to an underserved region of the United States, noted <u>John Chesser</u>, Chief Executive Officer of Quantica Infrastructure.

That impact is central to Quantica's approach. By combining renewable power, expansive land resources and new fiber connectivity, the company is positioning BSDI as a model for how rural communities can participate in the digital economy while supporting the energy transition.

"Big Sky Digital Infrastructure is designed to meet the demands of hyperscalers while delivering real benefits to Montana," Chesser said. "By bringing renewable energy, new fiber routes, and long-term economic opportunity to the state, we see this project as both a global solution and a local investment."

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— John Chesser, Chief Executive Officer, Quantica Infrastructure



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