

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Big Tech's Great AI Power Grab](#)

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Tweet: Large technology firms are driving investment in clean energy sources through “power-purchase agreements.” Adding 1GW of wind or solar costs ~ \$1B. @IEA forecast that data center electrical demand will double between 2022-26.

Summary: Deep-pocketed [tech] giants have been the biggest force behind green “power-purchase agreements”, which helped kickstart America’s renewables boom by persuading utilities and other investors to build wind and solar farms. They are now getting in on the clean-energy action more directly. Microsoft and Brookfield, a big infrastructure investor, announced a deal to build 10.5GW of renewables capacity in America and Europe by 2030. This is meant to enable the software giant to meet its pledge to get 100% of its electricity, 100% of the time, from zero-carbon sources by 2030. The two partners have not revealed the price tag, but adding 1GW of wind or solar capacity can cost about \$1B. Google, meanwhile, is dabbling in geothermal energy. It has signed the first-ever corporate deal to develop “enhanced” geothermal power with Fervo, a startup that has raised \$430m in funding. The Department of Energy reckons that innovations like Fervo’s could expand geothermal output in America around 20-fold, to more than 90GW, by 2050.

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Primary Topic: Energy

Topics: Database, Energy, Investment, News article, Productivity

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