

Teresa Benitez-Thompson Subsidized Data Centers With Massive Tax Breaks, Took Over Twenty Thousand Dollars From The Industry And Its Power Companies, Then Demanded A 'Timeout' When Data Centers Got Unpopular. She Sold Out — Then Flip-Flopped.

In 2015, Benitez-Thompson Voted For SB 170 Which “Gave Data Centers Tax Breaks”

On May 28, 2015, Benitez-Thompson Voted Yea On SB 170. “Provides for a partial abatement of certain taxes for new or expanding data centers and related businesses in this State.” (SB 170, [Final Passage](#): Passed 36-6, 5/28/15, Benitez-Thompson Voted Yea; [Nevada Legislature Summary](#), Accessed 10/11/15)

SB 170 “Gave Data Centers Tax Breaks” Which, In Fiscal Years 2023 And 2024, Reportedly Provided For “More Than \$240 Million In Sales And Use Tax Breaks For Data Centers.” “Nevada's government provided more than \$240 million in sales and use tax breaks for data centers under Gov. Joe Lombardo (R) and his predecessor, Gov. Steve Sisolak (D), in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. But Lombardo did not establish the data center tax break program, which passed in 2015 and was supported by Democrats and Republicans, including Attorney General Aaron Ford (D), who co-sponsored the legislation when he was Senate majority leader. Those tax breaks also specifically refer to foregone tax revenue via abatements, not cash handed over by the government, making a "blank check" metaphor politically resonant but false. The 2015 legislation gave data centers tax breaks, meaning the state could theoretically receive less tax revenue than it otherwise would have, but it did not pay data centers directly.” (Tabitha Mueller, “Did Gov. Joe Lombardo Write A 'Blank Check' To Data Centers?,” [The Nevada Independent](#), 9/14/26)

Benitez-Thompson Accepted A \$5,000 Contribution From Switch, A Data Center Company

On December 10, 2014, Switch Contributed \$5,000 To Benitez-Thompson’s State Assembly Campaign. (Contributions And Expenses Report, [Nevada Secretary Of State](#), 1/16/15)

MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS		Report Period	# 5
Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson		AD 27	
Name (print)	State Assembly, District 27 Office (if applicable)	District (if applicable)	

**MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN EXCESS OF \$100 OR,
WHEN ADDED TOGETHER FROM ONE CONTRIBUTOR, THAT EXCEED \$100**
(Transfer Total Amount of All Monetary Contributions to Lines 1, 2, or 3, As Applicable, of Contributions Summary)

NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON, GROUP OR ORGANIZATION WHO MADE CONTRIBUTION	DATE OF CONTRIBUTION	AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION	CHECK HERE IF LOAN	NAME AND ADDRESS OF 3rd PARTY IF LOAN GUARANTEED BY 3rd PARTY	NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON, GROUP OR ORGANIZATION WHO FORGAVE THE LOAN, IF DIFFERENT THAN CONTRIBUTOR
Switch PO Box 400850 Las Vegas, NV 89140-0850	12/10/2014	\$5,000.00			

(Contributions And Expenses Report, [Nevada Secretary Of State](#), 1/16/15)

Switch Is A Las Vegas-Based Data Center Company. “After buying hundreds of acres in Apex Industrial Park, Switch is looking to build new data centers on a swath of its holdings. ... Las Vegas-based Switch did not provide a comment for this story. ... Switch has data centers in other parts of the country as well, and lately, it has been stockpiling land and funding amid a national data-center construction boom, fueled in no small part by the rapid expansion of, and heavy investments in, artificial-intelligence systems.” (Eli Segall, “Switch Looks To Build New Data Centers In Las Vegas Valley,” [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#), 9/23/26)

Benitez-Thompson Has Accepted At Least \$20,250.00 From Companies That Supply Power For Data Centers

Benitez-Thompson Has Accepted At Least \$20,250.00 In Contributions From NV Energy And Southwest Gas.

(Contribution Search, [Nevada Secretary Of State](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

Contributor	Date	Recipient	Amount
Nevada Power Company dba NV Energy	2/29/2012	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,000.00
Nevada Power Company dba NV Energy	3/29/2012	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,000.00
Nevada Power Company dba NV Energy	7/24/2013	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,000.00
Nevada Power Company DBA NV Energy	10/15/2020	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$2,500.00
NV Energy	12/18/2012	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$500.00
NV Energy	9/23/2015	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,000.00
NV Energy	4/25/2016	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,000.00
NV Energy	5/19/2016	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$500.00
NV Energy	5/15/2018	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,000.00
NV Energy	10/30/2018	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$2,500.00
Southwest Gas	7/24/2013	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$500.00
Southwest Gas	3/11/2016	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,000.00
Southwest Gas	7/9/2018	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,500.00
Southwest Gas	12/31/2019	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$750.00
Southwest Gas Corporation	2/6/2010	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$500.00
Southwest Gas Corporation	4/2/2012	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$500.00
Southwest Gas Corporation	10/22/2012	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$500.00
Southwest Gas Corporation	11/24/2015	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,500.00
Southwest Gas Corporation	9/24/2020	Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson	\$1,500.00
Total			\$20,250.00

(Contribution Search, [Nevada Secretary Of State](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

HEADLINE: “NV Energy Betting The House On Data Centers.” (Dana Gentry, “NV Energy Betting The House On Data Centers,” [Nevada Current](#), 6/3/26)

In June 2026, NV Energy Was “Projecting” It Would Require “47% More Electricity” Than Previously Anticipated “Primarily To Satisfy The Needs Of Data Centers.” “The utility is projecting it needs 47% more electricity than it anticipated just two years ago in its last IRP, primarily to satisfy the needs of data centers in the north. That part of the state is ‘a sought-after location for data centers due to the expanse of developable land, a favorable climate for efficient cooling, and robust fiber connectivity,’ according to its 41-volume plan filed in May with the Nevada Public Utilities Commission. By 2033, the utility projects electricity sales in the northern part of the state will eclipse sales in the south, where more than 70% of Nevadans live. NV Energy says it’s received ‘interest inquiries’ from data centers seeking 22 gigawatts (GW) and has ‘executed approximately 6 GW of agreements to facilitate transmission, substation, and high voltage distribution infrastructure needed to interconnect these large loads.’” (Dana Gentry, “NV Energy Betting The House On Data Centers,” [Nevada Current](#), 6/3/26)

- **To Begin To Meet The Demand Of Data Centers, NV Energy Has Already “Executed Approximately 6 GW Of Agreements To Facilitate Transmission, Substation, And**

High Voltage Distribution Infrastructure Needed To Interconnect These Large Loads.” (Dana Gentry, “NV Energy Betting The House On Data Centers,” [Nevada Current](#), 6/3/26)

Southwest Gas Reportedly Announced In May 2026 That Is Planned On Expanding Its Great Basin Transmission System To Meet Demand Generated By Data Center Development. “Southwest Gas said May 5 it now expects to expand its Great Basin Transmission system in northern Nevada by 1 Bcf/d by 2028. Additional shipper interest could support another 1.5-Bcf/d expansion through 2035. Demand pulls include data center development at the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, Southwest Gas Holdings President and CEO Justin Brown said.” (Tom DiChristopher And Killian Staines, “Pipeline Operators Strike Deals As Data Centers Turn To Colocated Generation,” [S&P Global](#), 5/27/26)

The Pipeline Would Reportedly “Quadruple The Flow Of Natural Gas To The [Northern Nevada] Region To Power Data Centers.” “Gov. Joe Lombardo is advocating the proposed expansion of a northern Nevada pipeline that would quadruple the flow of natural gas to the region to power data centers. In a February letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Lombardo wrote the proposed project from a subsidiary of Southwest Gas “would add approximately 800 dekatherms of capacity to the 898-mile pipeline system” and will “support both existing customers and future economic development, including data centers.” The pipeline, which has a current daily average capacity of about 200 dekatherms, stretches from Nevada’s northern border to Reno-Sparks, Carson City, and Lake Tahoe. The application calls for 212 miles of new or expanded pipeline, including expansion to the Tahoe Regional Industrial Center in Storey County.” (Dana Gentry, “Lombardo Backs Natural Gas Pipeline Expansion For Data Centers,” [Nevada Current](#), 6/4/26)

In April 2026, Benitez-Thompson Reportedly Called For “Timeout On Data Centers”

In April 2026, Benitez-Thompson Reportedly Called For “Timeout On Data Centers.” ““We need to call a timeout on data centers and stop and look at the policies that have enabled – especially within the past couple of years – these data centers to mushroom up under our noses overnight,’ said Teresa Benitez-Thompson, the former three-session Assembly Majority Leader at the Legislature. “The concerns that we hear about the use of water and the use of vital resources in Nevada are very important.”” (Ray Hagar, “Dem Candidates For House Seat Wary Of Data Center Growth,” [Nevada Appeal](#), 4/30/26)