HYPERION RESEARCH

HYP_Link

Battery Project Aims to Unlock Existing Energy to Boost Pace of Data Center Availability

Tom Sorensen and Jaclyn Ludema
November 2025

RECENT DEVELOPMENT

Aligned Data Centers, a global provider of sustainable and efficient data center infrastructure, has partnered with Calibrant Energy, a provider of onsite-site energy solutions, to deploy a novel 31 MW/62 MWh battery energy storage system (BESS) at Aligned's Hillsboro, Oregon campus. This BESS is specifically designed to address the escalating power demands driven by AI and high-performance computing (HPC). This "first-of-its-kind" solution promises to accelerate facilities commissioning by years, bypassing typical delays associated with utility infrastructure upgrades. The BESS functions as a grid-responsive asset that discharges during peak demand periods and stores energy during high production periods. Developed using Calibrant's scalable Path to Power framework, the BESS is expected to transform a data center's power load from a grid liability into a dynamic asset, enhancing regional grid reliability and circumventing costly, unpredictable, or time-consuming alternatives.

ANALYST COMMENT

Increasingly, standard regional power grids are not up to the task of keeping pace with the power requirements of cutting-edge advanced computing and AI equipped computer centers. While practices like small scale nuclear, petroleum generators, and other on-site power sources are gaining popularity, these methods have their drawbacks: they can be costly to construct and maintain, are contingent on adherence to rigorous local and federal regulations and often bypass existing available resources. Accessing new efficiencies from existing grids, according to statements from Aligned, could allow facilities to rapidly upgrade their power envelope when compared to traditional utility options while minimizing the impact on the local power grid.

While the solution may not be appropriate for every site and region, methods of advanced power management and provisioning are more important than ever in light of increasingly power-hungry hardware. Ultimately, a mosaic of solutions for these energy woes likely will be required to keep pace with progressive data center demands. This initiative reflects a broader industry shift toward novel energy solutions amid mounting pressure from AI growth and is an example of the innovations that are required of data center developers to effectively and responsibly maintain power growth projections.