



WYOMING
ENERGY
AUTHORITY

CRYPTOCURRENCY MINING IN WYOMING

Blockchain Legal Framework

In 2018 and 2019, Wyoming passed a series of laws to develop a [favorable environment](#) for blockchain companies.

- [Wyoming Money Transmitter Act - Virtual Currency Exemption](#)
- [Open Blockchain Tokens Exemption](#)
- [Electronic Corporate Records](#)
- [Limited Liability Companies - Series](#)
- [Property Taxation Digital Currencies](#)
- [Financial Technology Sandbox Act](#)
- [Wyoming Utility Token - Property Amendments](#)
- [Commercial Filing System](#)
- [Special Purpose Depository Institutions](#)
- [Special Electric Utility Agreements](#)
- [Corporate Stock Certificate Tokens](#)
- [Banking Technology and Stock Revisions](#)
- [Digital Assets Existing Law](#)

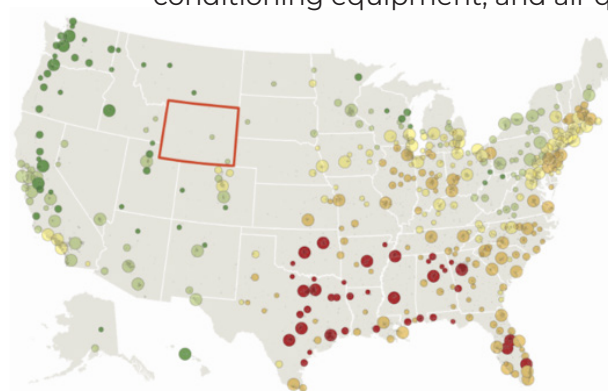
For more information on Blockchain Legal Framework:

**University of Wyoming
Center for Blockchain and
Digital Innovation**

Steve Lupien, Director
(307) 222-3241
slupien@uwyo.edu

Why Wyoming?

- Cool ambient air = Free cooling
 - Wyoming claims the lowest number of cooling days (days below 85°F/30°C) in the region
- Access to multiple long-haul fiber routes
- Low cost, abundant, redundant, reliable power sources
- Low natural disaster risk
- Nine telecommunication providers near I-80 and throughout the state
- Incentives:
 - Managed Data Center Cost Reduction Grant Program.
 - Up to \$2.25 million grant for reimbursing utility expenses for power or broadband
 - Data Center Permit Exemption
 - Projects that are located in an existing business park that exceed \$178.3 Million capital investment are exempt from Industrial Siting Permit requirement (approx. \$500,000 savings)
 - [Foreign Trade Zones](#)
 - The Casper/Natrona County International Airport has an active Foreign-Trade Zone which extends benefits up to a 60-mile radius from the airport.
 - Data Center Sales Tax Exemption - two levels of minimum investment
 - Level One: \$5 Million in capital infrastructure plus \$2 Million data center equipment equals a sales tax exemption on qualifying computer equipment
 - Level Two: \$50 Million in capital infrastructure plus \$2 Million data center equipment also includes sales tax exemption on UPS, back-up power generation, specialized heating and air conditioning equipment, and air quality control



Metro area population
○ Less than 175,000
○ 175,000 to 500,000
○ More than 500,000

Scale of hazards
Lower → Higher

Low Disaster Risk

By Matthew Ericson, Joe Burgess and Bill Marsh / *The New York Times*. Sources: *Sperling's Best Places*; *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (tornado map)*; *University of Miami (hurricane map)*; *U.S. Geological Survey (earthquake map)*



Utility Blockchain options in Wyoming

Black Hills Energy

To support the growing blockchain industry in Wyoming, Black Hills Energy developed an innovative solution to meet the unique energy demands of blockchain operations, the Blockchain Interruptible Service tariff.

- For new loads of 10,000 kilowatts (kW) or greater
- Under this tariff, a customer's rate will be developed based on a fixed cost per kilowatt-hour (kWh) with no additional demand charges
- Rate based on market prices, interruption levels negotiated with the customer, and credit risk
- Negotiated price remains fixed for a period of two to three years
- Minimum term of two years and a negotiated number of annual hours of service interruption

For more information, visit the [Black Hills Energy website](#).

Rocky Mountain Power/PacifiCorp

Rocky Mountain Power is Wyoming's largest regulated electric utility and the lowest-cost major electric utility in the Intermountain West. The utility's average electric rate is more than 10 percent lower than the average price in Wyoming and 34 percent lower than the national average.

- Customers who avoid peak hours can see approximate rates as low as \$0.017 per kilowatt-hour under existing tariff rates, depending on demand and delivery voltage requirements.
- Baseload customers can see approximate rates as low as \$0.047 per kilowatt-hour under existing tariff rates, depending on demand and delivery voltage requirements.
- Rocky Mountain Power has also implemented a pilot interruptible program for baseload customers, providing additional cost savings opportunities.
- The utility is seeking regulatory approval to support new large energy usage customers, like blockchain (subject to 10,000 kilowatts minimum load). The proposal would allow for customized rates based on location, contracted service hours, and credit evaluation with a minimum three-year contract requirement.
- Rocky Mountain Power is a division of PacifiCorp, is owned by Berkshire Hathaway and has the ability to leverage extensive resources.
- Rocky Mountain Power works closely with communities to identify prime locations and energy infrastructure.

For more information about the utility's competitive rates, visit [Rocky Mountain Power's website](#).

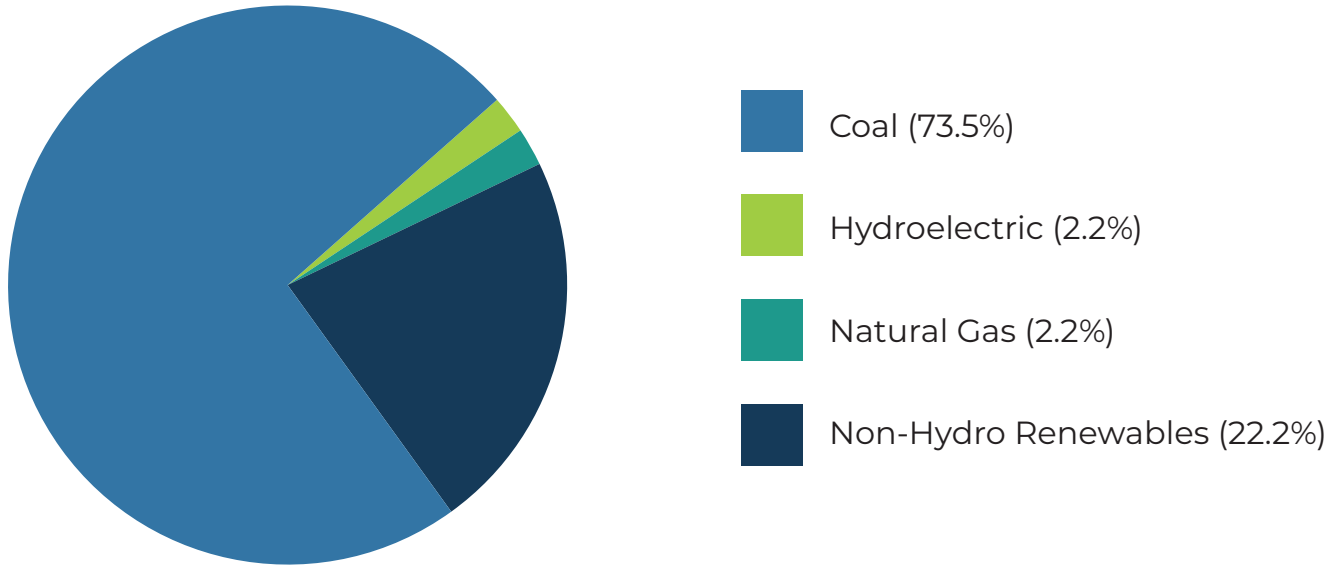
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota) is a subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc. based in Bismarck, ND. Montana-Dakota provides electric service to parts of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. In Wyoming, Montana-Dakota serves approximately 16,000 customers in six communities with the district operations located in Sheridan, Wyoming.

Montana-Dakota provides service to general electric customers under their Small General Electric Service (Rate 20) tariff for those customers will billing demand of 50 kilowatts or less and their Large General Electric Service (Rate 39) tariff for those customers with billing demand exceeding 50 kilowatts. For more information about the utility's rates, visit [Montana-Dakota's website](#).



Wyoming electric generation mix



Who provides power in Wyoming?

In Wyoming, utility companies have a certificated service territory that gives the utility exclusive rights to sell power to a geographic area. Take a look at the [electric certificated territory map](#) to see who provides electric service throughout Wyoming.

CONTACTS

For inquiries regarding existing tariffs and energy purchase contracts:

Black Hills Energy

Eric Scherr
(605) 721-2206
eric.scherr@blackhillscorp.com

PacifiCorp - Rocky Mountain Power

Ron Wild
(307) 352-5236
Ron.Wild@pacificorp.com

Montana-Dakota Utilities Company

Travis Jacobson
(701) 222-7855
travis.jacobson@mdu.com

Powder River Energy Corporation

Quentin Rogers
quentinr@precorp.coop

Energy providers wishing to add contact details or other information please contact: Kaeci Daniels - Kaeci.daniels2@wyo.gov

All other inquiries: **Wyoming Energy Authority** -
Glen Murrell - glen.murrell@wyo.gov