

were powered by the AI boom?



[Peter Ricchiuti](#), senior professor of practice and research director of [Burkenroad Reports](#), was interviewed by [The Advocate](#) for a story about Louisiana companies that have benefited from the explosive growth in AI.

Meta has announced plans to build a massive data center in Richland Parish, and Hut 8 received zoning approval for a \$2.5 billion facility in West Feliciana Parish. To meet the demand of those centers and any others that could be headed to the state, Entergy has asked the Louisiana Public

Service Commission to approve construction of three new gas power plants. Those plants would cost at least \$3.2 billion to build.

"Utility stocks were very, very dull for decades," Ricchiuti said. "But the AI play has made utilities sexy again."

To read the story in its entirety, visit [theadvocate.com](https://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/business/which-louisiana-stocks-in-2024-were-powered-by-the-ai-boom/article_254ecd7c-ce0f-11ef-8cef-07dab5ad614f.html):

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