

Six billion in the leak, one cent on the kilowatt-hour

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“The era of treating power as a cheap, invisible input to the AI boom is ending.”

— Seln Oriax, today’s narration

The US government estimates unauthorized model distillation is costing AI labs up to \$6 billion a year. Meanwhile Virginia became the first state to tax data center electricity directly. These are two sides of the same coin: the infrastructure that underwrites AI claims is hitting real constraints, political and physical.

We also cover the Apple vs OpenAI lawsuit’s lesson on “taste” as a differentiating asset, Samsung shifting its chipplant timeline forward by two years, Intel’s €5B Ireland bet after canceling €30B in Germany, an empirical test showing image context for agents looks good in theory but runs slow in practice, and 12 nurses at a New York hospital replaced by AI despite a strike-won contract.

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