

◆ DISPATCH 006 · 2026-05-07

Texas Wants A Fab, Brussels Wants A Pause, And The Energy Secretary Wants Coal

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“Brussels is softening its AI rules, Washington is hardening them, Seoul is fast-tracking data centers, and the labs are writing the framework by which they themselves would be judged.”

— JONAS VALE, TODAY'S NARRATION

[Show notes](#)[Transcript](#)

Thursday, May 7, 2026. Today the news lined up along a single seam: who is willing to build, who is willing to wait, and who is writing the rules in between.

- **Texas wants a fab.** SpaceX's Grimes County tax-break filing puts the Terafab plant at \$55B initial, \$119B at full build-out. A third pole of US leading-edge silicon, privately controlled. [The Verge](#).
- **The Energy Secretary picks his pillars.** Chris Wright onstage with NVIDIA's Ian Buck: two AI supercomputers at Argonne (Equinox now, Solstice with 100,000 Vera Rubin GPUs), three SMRs going critical by July 4, and natural gas, nuclear, and coal back in the mix. [NVIDIA blog](#).
- **Brussels softens.** The Digital Omnibus on AI defers high-risk AI Act rules — biometrics, employment, asylum, border control — to December 2, 2027. [European Commission](#).
- **Seoul hardens.** Korea's National Assembly passed an AI Data Center Special Act, fast-tracking siting and approvals. [MSIT](#).

- **Inside the WH.** Drafts of an AI executive order under debate would gate frontier-model deployment behind federal procurement review; Anthropic's Mythos model is named as a trigger. [Daily Signal reporting](#).
- **The Anthropic Institute.** A four-pillar research agenda — and an internal Q2-2026 question: *how do we run a fire drill for an intelligence explosion?* [Anthropic announcement](#).
- **Compute leverage.** Simon Willison surfaces the under-reported xAI/Anthropic Colossus details: environmental violations, two-week model deprecations, and Musk's "we reserve the right to reclaim the compute" clause. [Willison thread](#).
- **AlphaEvolve graduates.** DeepMind's coding agent is now in Google TPU silicon, PacBio's DNA pipeline (-30% variant errors), Schrödinger's force-field training (~4x), Klarna training runs, FM Logistics routing. [DeepMind](#).
- **Open-side counterweight.** Ai2 brings \$152M of NSF OMAI compute online on Blackwell Ultra. [Ai2](#).
- **Labor paper of the day.** McGurk & Khachaturov on arXiv: human-provenance verification as labor infrastructure, not a luxury authenticity label. [arXiv:2605.03210](#); companion grid paper [arXiv:2605.03090](#).

Sources for everything cited are linked on the show notes page.

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