

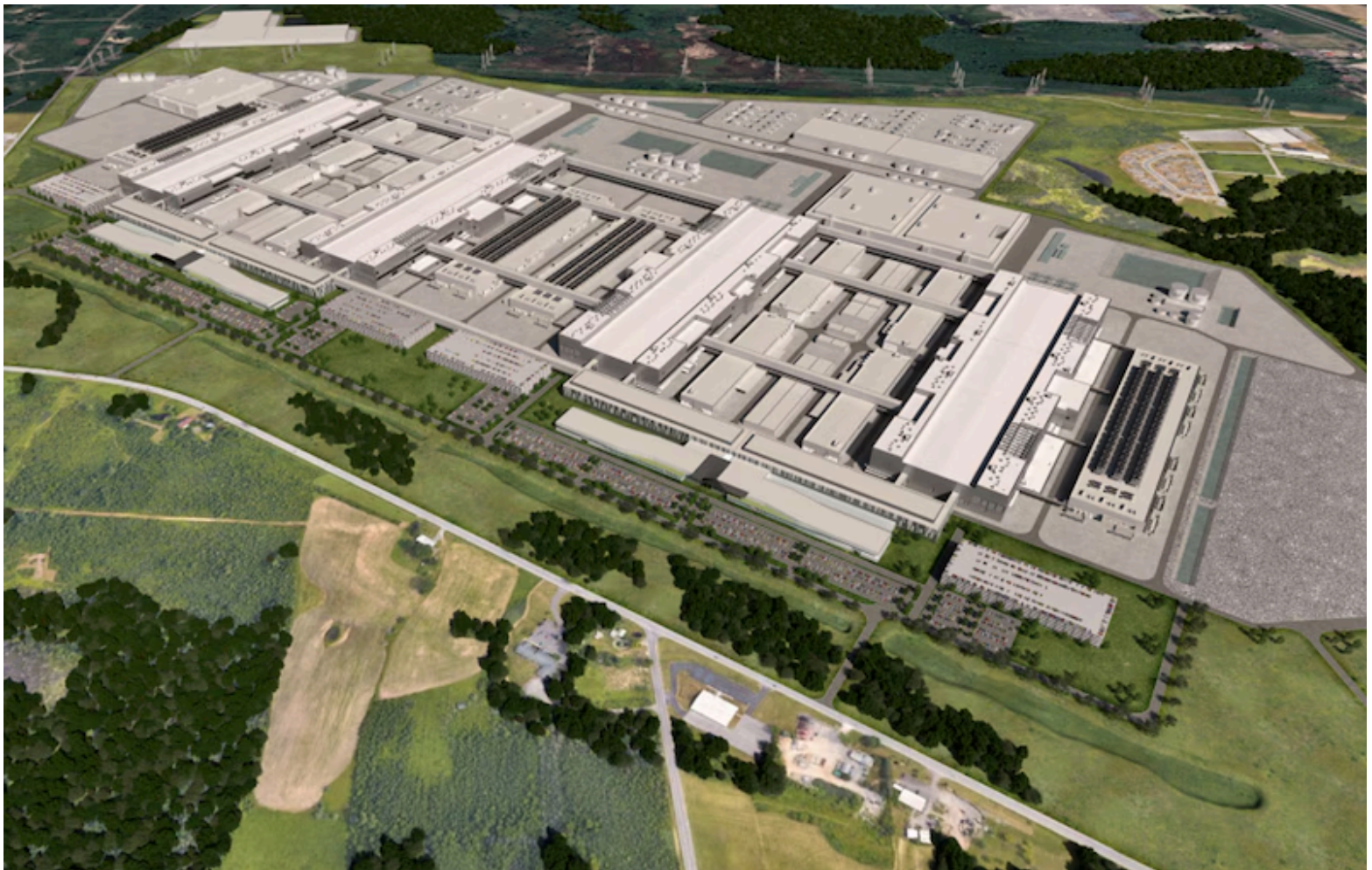
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# Five takeaways from newly released Micron chip project impact report

Updated: Jun. 25, 2025, 4:55 p.m. | Published: Jun. 25, 2025, 10:17 a.m.



This rendering of Micron Technology's planned chipmaking complex in Clay was included in the company's draft environmental impact statement filed in March. Route 31 is at the lower portion of the photo. Caughdenoy Road is to the left. Micron Technology



By [Glenn Coin](#) | [gcoin@syracuse.com](mailto:gcoin@syracuse.com)

Syracuse, N.Y. -- The construction of Micron Technology's massive chipmaking plant in the town of Clay would alter the look and feel of Central New York for decades to come, a newly released impact report says.

The 10,000-page report, nearly three years in the making, was finally released today by the county and federal governments. Called a draft environmental impact statement, the report details the enormous impacts the project could have on Central New York, from traffic to air quality to housing to noise.

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Syracuse.com obtained a version of the report in late April and already has published some major details from the plan, including traffic and highway changes, job forecasts and construction timelines.

Release of the report today for public comment is a critical and long-awaited step in moving forward the largest private development ever proposed in New York state.

"This marks a major milestone in Micron's commitment to New York," said Gov. Kathy Hochul in a news release. "This project is set to transform Central New York — and we're moving full speed ahead."

Here are five quick takeaways from the report:

- All major traffic improvements, including a brand-new exit on Interstate 81 in Cicero and a complete redesign of the I-81/Route 31

intersection, would be done by 2031. The state has estimated previously that would cost \$350 million.

- While Micron and public agencies will do their best to ease some impacts, there would be “unavoidable significant adverse effects.” Among those: a huge increase in greenhouse gas emissions, destruction of more than 200 acres of wetlands, noise from construction and traffic, and loss of habitat used by five species of rare bats and birds.
- Local firefighters would be trained on how to deal with potential construction hazards, and Micron would establish a medical clinic on site staffed with a doctor and other healthcare professionals.
- While Micron pledges to use 100% renewable electricity, it would also burn as much natural gas as 107,000 typical New York state households.
- Onondaga County could add 23,500 households by 2041. The city of Syracuse could see an increase of 7,500 households.

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The public will have until Aug. 11 to submit written comments on the report. Three public hearings are scheduled for the same day, July 24, at Liverpool High School.

Micron plans to build up to four chipmaking factories at the corner of Route 31 and Caughdenoy. The project, which Micron says could cost \$100 billion and employ 9,000 people, would be the largest private investment in New York state history.

The report is being reviewed and released simultaneously by the U.S. Department of Commerce, which has pledged up to \$4.6 billion in direct taxpayer subsidies for the Micron project. Commerce and OCIDA are working together to hold a single review process.

After the public comments are submitted, the agencies must review and respond to each point before they issue the final environmental impact study. That's likely to come out in October, Onondaga County Executive Ryan McMahon said.

After that, the agencies will issue what's called a record of decision, which is basically an approval or denial of Micron's plans.

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Micron would still need a variety of approvals and permits before it could start construction, now slated for November.

The company needs permission from the state and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fill in more than 200 acres of wetlands and more than a mile of streams. The company will need a variety of approvals from the town of Clay, from the overall site plan to building permits for plumbing and stormwater drainage.

[Micron could get \\$20 billion in taxpayer subsidies](#) to build the first two factories.

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