

DATABANK ATL 5 DATA CENTER

📍 Atlanta, GA

BACKGROUND

In 2024, DataBank, a leading data center solutions provider, started the development of its new **state-of-the-art South Fulton Campus**. This development includes several data center facilities and a 180MW on-site substation to power and cool the campus. The first phase of this campus buildout is the construction of **ATL 5**, the on-site substation.

SCHNABEL'S ROLE

Schnabel was brought onto the project in September 2024 by **Reeves Young**, a site work subcontractor to the general contractor **Brasfield & Gorrie**, to provide **permanent excavation support services**. The site assigned for the substation presented a unique challenge—it was situated on a slope.

To create a **flat and stable platform** for construction, Schnabel was tasked with cutting into the slope to install the site wall. While the fill was used to build up the opposite side. The work involved the installation of:

- **Over 300 permanent soil nails.**
- A permanent shotcrete bump wall covering over **9,000 square feet.**

CHALLENGES

During the excavation process, Schnabel encountered **unexpected conditions**:

- **Large boulders** beneath the surface.
- **Voids** discovered behind the shotcrete wall.

These findings required the use of **additional shotcrete** and a **thicker wall design** than originally anticipated. Despite these challenges, Schnabel responded quickly with adjustments that allowed the team to maintain momentum and **avoid any schedule delays**.



AT A GLANCE

WORK PERFORMED BY SCHNABEL

- Installation of 300+ permanent soil nails.
- Installation of a 9,000+ square foot permanent shotcrete bump wall.

BENEFITS FOR CLIENT & CITY

- The work was completed **one week ahead of schedule**, allowing other contractors to begin their work sooner supporting the project schedule.
- This overall project is expected to bring **economic growth** and **new employment opportunities** to the Atlanta area.



KEVIN CARGILL, PE
Schnabel President

“With over 60 years of experience, Schnabel is committed to being the safest and most efficient geotechnical company, providing effective and timely solutions for our clients.”

