

## **ILLINOIS POWER AGENCY**

## The IPA Announces New Program Administrator for the Adjustable Block Program

April 21, 2022

The Illinois Power Agency is pleased to announce that it has selected <u>Energy Solutions, Inc.</u> to serve as the new Program Administrator for the Adjustable Block Program.

The selection was made by the Agency after a careful evaluation of responses to a Request for Qualifications, and a subsequent Request for Proposals, and was approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission ("ICC") at its Regular Open Meeting on April 21, 2022, pursuant to the ICC's authority under Section 16-111.5(b)(5)(ii)(B)(iii) of the Public Utilities Act.

The Adjustable Block Program was launched in early 2019 as part of the reforms to the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard brought about by Public Act 99-0906, the Future Energy Jobs Act. This IPA-administered solar incentive program supports the development of new distributed generation and community solar projects across Illinois.

With the September 2021 enactment of Public Act 102-0662, known as the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (or "CEJA"), the Adjustable Block Program is expanding in numerous ways, including a substantial increase to the program's size, an expansion of the program from three categories of project types to six, statutory reinforcement of the Program's consumer protection requirements, inclusion of prevailing wage requirements, and the incorporation of policies to ensure an equitable transition to a clean energy future.

"Since the Adjustable Block Program first opened for project applications, the Program has supported the development of over 670 MW of new distributed generation and community solar projects in Illinois, further advancing the state's success in renewable energy implementation," said IPA Director Anthony Star. "The passage of CEJA presents an exciting opportunity for the Agency to significantly expand the Program into its vital second phase with a distinct focus on diversity and equity. I am confident that Energy Solutions is well-positioned to provide program administration services for this growth given their decades of experience designing and administering nationally-recognized solar programs."

The transition of the Program from the incumbent Program Administrator to Energy Solutions will begin shortly and expected to be completed by July 1, 2022. Additional announcements to program participants, including Approved Vendors and Designees, will be forthcoming and will include more details on the transition process.