

Prioritization of ABP Application Review During Program Administrator Transition

May 23, 2022

On Monday, May 16, 2022, the IPA announced updated dates for a pause in accepting applications, which will start on July 1 and end on August 31, 2022. More information for Approved Vendors and Designees on what program resources will be available during this pause is available <u>here</u> as part of that announcement.

During this pause, the program portal will not be open for submission of Part I and Part II applications and prior to the pause the Agency will prioritize the review of received applications as described in this announcement.

Application Prioritization Rationale

The Agency has determined that the review of applications received prior to the pause will be prioritized by type as outlined below. To date, project applications have been reviewed in the order that they are received. This new prioritization is temporary and is designed to successfully manage high volume of applications that affect large numbers of customers (community solar) and applications for customers who will most directly benefit from quicker application processing (residential customers who are anticipating payment for the RECs that will be generated by their systems).

The Program Administrator will prioritize traditional <u>community solar applications</u> that either (a) are already under contract and now submitting Part II applications, or (b) are for projects selected off the waitlists as part of the reopening process pursuant to Public Act 102-0662 and have updated their Part I application. Additionally, on June 13, 2022, the initial application window for the new category of community-driven community solar will close and the review and selection of those applications will be a priority. The Agency also notes that the number of community solar applications to be reviewed is significantly lower than DG applications and requires different review resources from the Program Administrator.

For distributed generation projects, the Program Administrator will prioritize processing of <u>Part II</u> <u>applications</u> and specifically Part II, <u>Small DG</u> applications for <u>purchased</u> systems. The Agency understands that systems that are leased or have a PPA typically do not include provisions to directly compensate the customer for the REC value; rather the value of the REC is generally factored into the lease amount or PPA rate. Prioritizing Small DG systems (which are predominately residential) that were purchased will lessen the impact of any processing delays on Illinois residents.

Application Priority List



The list below outlines application prioritization in order from highest priority to lowest priority.

- 1. Community solar projects (both Part I and Part II)
- 2. Part II purchased systems
 - i. Small DG purchased systems
 - ii. Large DG purchased systems
- 3. Part I purchased system
 - i. Small DG purchased system
 - ii. Large DG purchased systems
- 4. Part II leased and PPA systems
 - i. Small DG
 - ii. Large DG
- 5. Part I leased and PPA systems
 - i. Small DG
 - ii. Large DG

Please note that during the application pause and the change in project review prioritization, the dates on the <u>Block Capacity Dashboard</u> showing the Program Administrator's progress in reviewing batches of applications submitted may not show accurate information, as it will show the oldest application not yet reviewed, which will not reflect the prioritization described herein. The prioritization protocol outlined here went into effect on May 13, 2022, and will be followed until June 30, 2022. The Agency will provide clarity if this prioritization will continue beyond June 30, 2022, if needed.

The Agency appreciates the patience of Approved Vendors, Designees, and their customers during this transition period. The transition will enable the Adjustable Block Program to expand into this vital next phase envisioned by the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act. After the initial transition, the Agency and Program Administrator will be rolling out additional program enhancements over the coming year.

For Questions and Inquiries:

For any transition-related questions and inquiries, please contact the IPA at:

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For application or Program specific questions and inquiries, please contact:

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