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## Program Clarifications for Reopening – Batching & Block Capacity

September 1, 2022

The Illinois Power Agency and the Adjustable Block Program Administrator are offering the following clarifications related to the program reopening processes. The IPA appreciates the continued patience of program participants during this reopening and the handover to the new Program Administrator.

The announcement below provides additional detail on the following items:

- As of 9:00 AM September 1, the ABP portal allows for the creation and submission of new project applications for all distributed generation categories and Community-Driven Community Solar. Disclosure Forms from the legacy portal are available in the new ABP portal and can be converted into new project applications.
- Beginning in mid-September, in-progress applications from the legacy portal will be available in the new portal.
- In late September, batching functionality for all project categories except for Traditional Community Solar will be available in the new portal.
- All waitlisted projects from the 2021-2022 program year have been allocated rollover capacity and thus will not reduce the available block capacity for the 2022-23 program year.

### Portal Functionality in September – Project Application Submittal and Batching

As announced during the program year 2022-23 webinar held on August 31, 2022,<sup>1</sup> data from the legacy program portal, including in-progress Part I applications that were started but not completed in the legacy program portal will not be available in the new program portal on September 1, 2022.<sup>2</sup> Those applications will not be accessible for editing or submission in the

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<sup>1</sup> The webinar is available for viewing on [YouTube](#); copies of the presentation made at the webinar are available on the [ABP website](#).

<sup>2</sup> Please note, completed Disclosure Forms (e.g., signed by customers and re-submitted to the Program) from the legacy program portal have already been imported into the new program portal and are available to be converted in Part I applications.

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### Illinois Adjustable Block Program

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new program portal until the importation of this data from the legacy portal is completed. The Agency expects this data transfer to be completed by mid-September.

As it relates to Part I applications, only the ability to begin and submit new Part I applications will be available in the new program portal beginning September 1, 2022.<sup>3</sup> As discussed further below, Approved Vendors will not have the ability in the ABP portal to batch projects, submit batches, or make payments for submitted batches until the end of September.

As such, the Agency will ensure that before batching functionality is released in the new program portal, all in-progress Part I application data from the legacy program portal will be imported to the new program portal. The Agency will provide sufficient time for those applications that originated in the legacy program portal to be completed prior to releasing the batching functionality in the ABP portal. This ensures a level playing field for the submittal of all Part I applications, regardless of when they were started.

### **Batching and Block Capacity**

Block capacity is managed at the batch level, thus the submittal of a batch of Part I applications is the point at which the available capacity for a block is reduced. As batching functionality for all project categories (aside from Traditional Community Solar) will not be released in the new program portal until the end of September, and this release will come after Part I application data from the legacy portal has been imported, all legacy and new Part I applications will be afforded the same opportunities for batch submittal.

The Agency will ensure that the functionality to submit batches is not released until such a time that Part I applications from legacy portal are given sufficient time for Approved Vendors to complete and submitted them.

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<sup>3</sup> Other functionalities related to Disclosure Forms have been released on September 1, 2022, as well.

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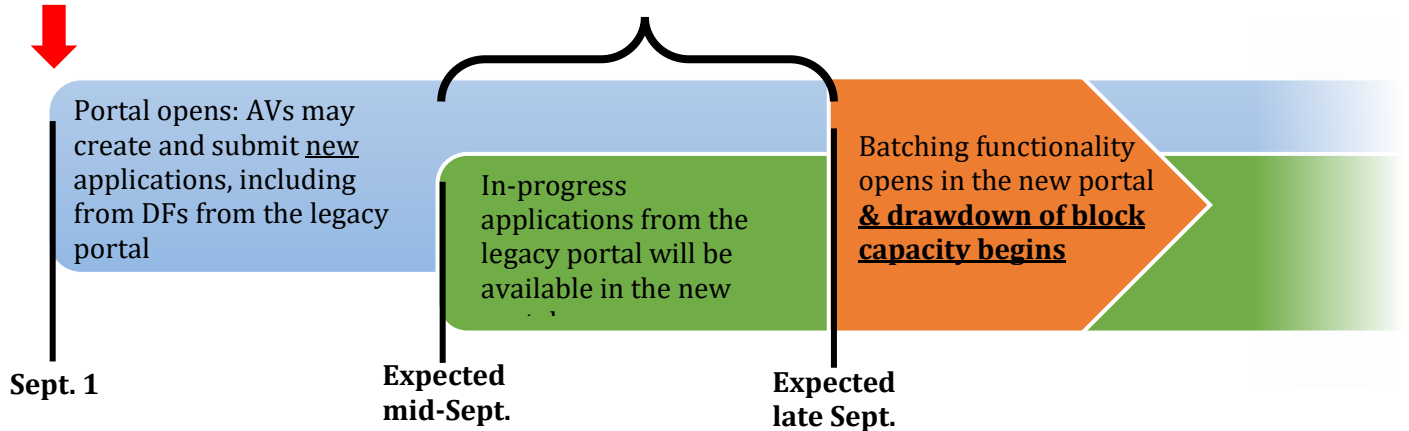
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*The Adjustable Block Program is a state-administered solar incentive program developed and managed by the Illinois Power Agency and administered through its third-party Program Administrator, Energy Solutions.*

At least 10 calendar days to ensure time for AVs to complete and submit applications from the legacy portal

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## Uncontracted Capacity and Opening Block Sizes

With the reallocation of uncontracted capacity from 2021-22 program year as outlined in Section 1.A of the recently released [Program Guidebook](#), all waitlisted capacity for oversubscribed blocks from the 2021-22 program year received rollover capacity via the reallocation process. Accordingly, there are no outstanding waitlisted projects that will diminish capacity for 2022-23 program year. Block capacity allocations for the 2022-23 program year will not be impacted by any batches submitted prior to September 1, 2022.

## Block Closing

Please note that the block closing procedure is outlined in Section 1.B of the [Program Guidebook](#):

*When a block's capacity is fully allocated, the Program Administrator will announce that the block will close in seven calendar days or when the next project application submitted to the block would exceed the block's capacity by 10 MW from the original published block size, whichever comes first. During this soft close period, no more than 10 MW of additional capacity will be accepted into a given category. That capacity cap is managed*

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*at the batch level—meaning if a batch causes a block to exceed the 10 MW additional capacity limit, the Program Administrator may remove individual projects from that batch in consultation with the batch’s Approved Vendor to ensure the block remains under allowed capacity cap.*

For avoidance of doubt, if the amount of capacity received for a given Group/category during the soft close period for the 2022-23 program year exceeds the allowed additional 10 MW on the first day that batching functionality is available, the Agency will take into account other avenues to ensure that any valid applications that originated in the legacy Program portal (and that are batched on the first day that batching functionality is available) are recognized.

### **Distributed Generation Disclosure Forms Generated with Errors in the New Program Portal**

The IPA and Program Administrator are aware that the new program portal has generated errors in some Disclosure Forms. Distributed Generation Disclosure Forms that contain errors as generated by the new program portal will still be allowed to be converted into new project applications. Depending on the nature and extent of these errors, the Program may require that Approved Vendors or Designees deliver a corrected Disclosure Form to customers (after the new program portal’s generation of Disclosure Forms is functioning as intended); however, re-signature will not be required.

### **Traditional Community Solar, Community Solar at Public Schools, and Community Solar in the Equity Eligible Contractor Block**

As previously announced, Part I applications for Traditional Community Solar, Community Solar at Public Schools, and Community Solar in the Equity Eligible Contractor Block will open on November 1, 2022. Batching for all project types and categories will be available at that that time.

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