

Program and Portal Re-Opening Updates, Request for Feedback on Community Solar Project Selection Proposal, and Program Administrator Office Hours

September 9, 2022

Program News

• Program and Portal Re-Opening Updates

September 1, 2022, marked the re-opening of the Adjustable Block Program. Now, participants can submit Part I project applications for Distributed Generation and Community-Driven Community Solar projects (via the portal), create new Community Solar Disclosure Forms (via CSV template), submit new Approved Vendor applications (via the AV application form), and more.

As of September 7, 2022, additional Portal features and functionality became available, including new helpful hints for completing project applications and portal access for newly registered Approved Vendors. The Program Administrator will provide updates as more portal features are released in the upcoming weeks and months. In support of the re-opening, transition processes, and substantial updates to the Long-Term Plan, the Program Administrator and IPA released the Program Year 2022-23 Resource Guide and held an Informational Webinar addressing portal capabilities, REC prices, updated REC contracts, the updated Program Guidebook, the new Consumer Protection Handbook, and more.

Transition Updates

Program Administrator Office Hours for Portal Support

To support AVs and Designees experiencing technical difficulties with use of the portal, and in support of the Program re-opening, the Program Administrator has offered open "office hours" to answer questions, provide support, and gather feedback. Sessions have been held with individual AV or Designee points of contact via Zoom, and we are thankful for the many AVs, Designees and interested entities who have attended sessions and allowed us to support them, capture their suggestions, and more. Questions and answers from all sessions are being compiled and will be shared, without any identifying information, so that all stakeholders can benefit from the information. The Program Administrator is currently working to schedule more office hours sessions to support Approved Vendors and Designees.

• Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) Prevailing Wage Training Webinars

As noted in the 2022 Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan, most Adjustable Block Program projects must comply with the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act, which requires that employees engaged in construction activities related to a project be paid prevailing wage. Information regarding prevailing wage can be found on the Program's Prevailing Wage Hub. Additionally, the IDOL will host informational webinars on prevailing wage requirements and will answer questions as time allows during scheduled webinars, which will be held via WebEx at the following dates and times.

- $\\ \circ \quad \text{Monday, September } 12^{\text{th}} \text{ at } 3:00 \text{ p.m. CT Join link:} \\ \underline{\text{https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m9c3d0ac5d387f913799fd8985964441}}$
- Thursday, September 22nd at 10:30 a.m. CT Join link: https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m89e362981092112d55fbd7eeb43f4d1b
- Thursday, October 6 at 10 a.m. CT Join link: https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m5d05852b52473224596a137b72521578
- Wednesday, November 16 at 3:20 p.m. CT Join link: https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=mbcef9ff65828f936043500c4b3a33d26



<u>REMINDER:</u> All transition updates can be found on the <u>ABP Transition Hub webpage</u>.

<u>CONTACT US</u>: For Portal, application, or Program-specific questions and inquiries, please contact <u>admin@illinoisabp.com</u> or call 877-783-1820.

Requirements and Reminders

Traditional Community Solar (TCS) Project Selection Proposal – Request for Stakeholder Feedback
 The IPA released an initial proposal and stakeholder feedback request on Traditional Community Solar
 project selection and scoring criteria. Through this proposal, the IPA encourages robust and comprehensive
 stakeholder feedback for the TCS selection process. Please review the full proposal and submit responses by
 September 16, 2022, to IPA.Solar@illinois.gov with the subject "Responder's Name – Response to TCS
 Scoring Strawman Proposal Feedback Request."

Please keep in mind that applications for Traditional Community Solar projects (and TCS projects within the EEC and Public Schools categories) will not be available until November 1, 2022, once this feedback process is complete.

- Program Year 2022-2023 Resources Available for Stakeholders
 On September 1, 2022, the launch of the Program Year 2022-2023, a variety of resources were released for Prospective and Approved Vendors and Designees. Resources are available at the following links.
 - o Approved Vendor Application
 - o Welcome to Program Year 2022-2023 Webinar
 - o Program Year 2022-2023 Resource Guide
 - o Program year 2022-2023 Webinar Q&A