

# Disclosure Form API Working Group, CDCS Application Window Closing, and Upcoming Part II Application Details

November 18, 2022

## Program News

- **API Working Group – Call for Participation and Feedback**

As shared last week, the Agency and Program Administrator (PA) seek engagement from stakeholders regarding usage and functionality on the development of a Disclosure Form (DF) API Disclosure Form uploads to the Program portal. Interested AVs and Designees are asked to **complete this form by the end of the day on Friday, November 18: <https://forms.office.com/r/6mELmE0rMv>**

The Program Administrator plans to hold a meeting between interested parties on November 30, 2022 with more details to be shared with form respondents.

- **CDCS 90-day Application Window Ends November 30, 2022**

On November 30, 2022, 90 days after the September 1, 2022 application opening, the Community Driven Community Solar (CDCS) project application window will close. **As a reminder, projects must be batched and batches submitted prior to the November 30, 2022 deadline, meaning the last day for application submittals is November 29, 2022.** Following the close of the application window, the Agency and Program Administrator will begin reviewing and scoring CDCS projects based on the scoring criteria included in Section 1.G. of the current [Program Guidebook](#). Projects will be selected in the order of highest to lowest score until the block is fully allocated. Once scoring is complete, Approved Vendors will be notified of their project score(s) and whether their submitted project(s) will be awarded capacity from this Program year. Projects that were not selected and that have a minimum score of at least 10 points will be placed on a waitlist for the 2023-2024 delivery year.

- **EEC Block Capacity – Group A**

The IPA is committed to the success of the Equity Eligible Contractor category. The Agency is currently reviewing submissions to the EEC block through the lens of the requirements of the Illinois Power Agency Act, the Long-Term Plan, the Guidebook, and other Program materials. The Agency will issue additional guidance on the matter of the category reaching capacity on December 2, 2022.

- **Ongoing Program Portal Updates**

The Program Administrator continues to update and optimize the new Program portal, provide new help guides and informational webinars, and open Office Hours for support. Ongoing portal updates can be found at <https://illinoisabp.com/portal-updates/>.

## Updates on Portal Issues/Improvements

- **REC Estimates** - Some Approved Vendor's REC estimates vary from the estimates being generated by the portal as part of the Part I application. The IPA and the Program Administrator are reviewing all Part I REC estimates to ensure that they align with the requirements of the REC Contract and are being calculated correctly. The findings of this review will be communicated once review is complete. Approved Vendors will be given the opportunity to review any corrections during the Part I approval process. Any corrections needed will be applied prior to REC contract generation and submission to the ICC.
- **Features/Functionality** - The display of the REC estimate tool has been changed to accommodate clearer election of either PV Watts or Custom Capacity, as of November 7, 2022
- **Issue Reports and Bug Fixes**
  - An issue leading to incorrect display of AV ID's when selecting an Approved Vendor on a Disclosure Form has been fixed as of November 7, 2022.

- Inverter sizes on some TCS applications that were already batched but incorrectly entered have been corrected as of November 7, 2022
- An issue affecting the display of some data on Distributed Generation Lease PDF forms has been fixed as of November 7, 2022

### **Future Release Information**

- Part II Application - The Program Administrator and IPA continue development on Part II Application availability in the Program portal and will be providing information shortly about upcoming release in December, including a portal help guide, an informational webinar outlining the full Part II process and how applications will be supported upon release, and expanded support for stakeholders around the release including supplemental office hours. Planned activities include:
  - Release of portal help guide for Part II Application: Week of November 28
  - Webinar walk-through of Part II Application: Week of December 5
  - Release of Part II Application in the Program portal: Mid-December
- CS DF API - The Program is aiming for availability of the Disclosure Form API for Community Solar before the close of the calendar year.

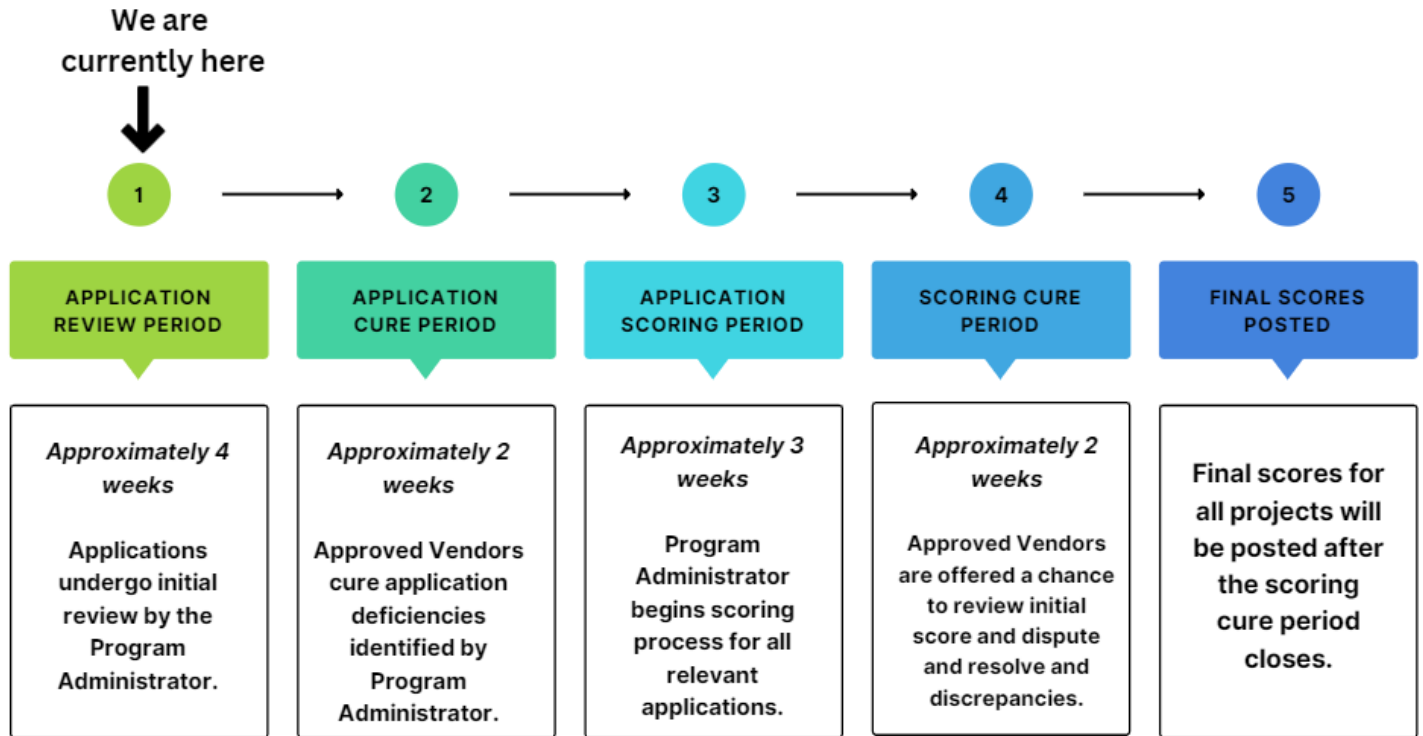
### **Ongoing Operations Updates**

Recent and forthcoming operational updates include:

- Processing of project applications submitted prior to July 1, 2022, and transition to the new Program Administrator is complete. Stakeholders are asked to watch for any “Need Info” requests from the Program Administrator for additional information to finalize any application processing. The Program Administrator will soon begin reviewing applications submitted in the new portal, in the order in which they were received.
- The Program Administrator has completed all Community Solar subscriber verifications from September Quarterly Reports. The Program Administrator will be following up with AVs shortly with Schedule Bs and requests to update standing orders.
- Workbooks have been re-distributed to SharePoint for AVs and Designees to update for the upcoming December Subscriber Verification, for which Quarterly Reports will be due by December 10, 2022. The Program Administrator has emailed AVs subject to the December Quarterly Report with additional instructions. December REC invoices will be available on SharePoint for download by Approved Vendors beginning December 1, 2022. **The December invoice period ends December 10, 2022, meaning that Approved Vendors need to download and submit invoices to the contracting Utility by December 10, 2022.** Any invoice amounts not submitted by this date will be carried forward to the next invoicing period.

### **Traditional Community Solar Application Review and Scoring Process**

- The Program Administrator is currently reviewing submitted Traditional Community Solar applications. See below for the status of the application review and scoring process. Approved Vendors should be on the lookout in the coming weeks for Need Info requests that will need to be resolved promptly in order to progress through this process.



### Transition Updates

- **Program Administrator Office Hours**

AVs and Designees experiencing technical difficulties with use of the portal or in resolving other challenges have continued to take advantage of open Office Hours, via Zoom, from the Program Administrator, with individual AV or Designee contacts, and utilizing a waiting room for appointment privacy. Upcoming office hours are planned for the following dates and times with more dates expected to follow:

- Wednesday, November 23 – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. CPT - Join link: <https://energy-solution.zoom.us/j/95588710302Co>
- Wednesday, November 30 – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. CPT - Join link: <https://energy-solution.zoom.us/j/95588710302Co>
- Additional Office Hours, including support of Part II Application functionality, will be announced.

- **Portal Help Guides**

The Program Administrator has launched a package of resources and technical guidance to support portal use. The main resource page is available at [IllinoisABP.com/portal-help](https://illinoisabp.com/portal-help), and include a diverse array of guides for stakeholders, with a growing list of guides and updated versions as needed.

**REMINDER:** All transition updates can be found on the [ABP Transition Hub webpage](#), and a new [Events & Engagement](#) page at the Program website provides a calendar of upcoming webinars, meetings, support, feedback requests, key dates, holidays, and more. Please visit [IllinoisABP.com/events-engagement/](https://illinoisabp.com/events-engagement/) for continuous updates.

**CONTACT US:** For Portal, application, or Program-specific questions and inquiries, please contact [admin@illinoisabp.com](mailto:admin@illinoisabp.com) or call 877-783-1820.

## **Requirements and Reminders**

- **Upcoming and Recorded Equity Accountability System Webinars, and Additional Resources**

As previously shared, and in accordance with Chapter 10 of the [Final 2022 Long-Term Plan](#), the Agency and Program Administrator have hosted introductory webinars to the Equity Accountability System (EAS) and Illinois Shines, providing an EAS overview, discussion of key elements, future opportunities, and requirements for Approved Vendors and Designees, and available support from the Program Administrator. Webinars were held on October 4, 2022 and on November 15, 2022, with detail about annual Compliance Plans, and a limited Waiver process. Webinar recordings, a copy of the presentation slides, and questions and answers from both webinars have been posted to the [Equity Accountability System page](#) of the Program website. In addition, stakeholders are asked to complete an attestation form following their viewing of each webinar.

- **3-year Rolling Average: Buyer and Seller Obligations**

On November 15, 2022, pursuant to the REC contract's requirement to analyze the RECs that a designated system has delivered versus the RECs the system is contracted to deliver on a 3-year rolling average basis, the Program Administrator provided drawdown calculations to the Utilities for projects under 2019 contracts that have been Energized for 3 full delivery years. Utilities now have an undefined number of days to contact Approved Vendors about drawdowns, and AVs will have five (5) days to respond to these inquiries. If you receive a communication regarding a drawdown please respond promptly.

- **DCEO Job Training Programs**

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) invites stakeholders to provide input on the clean energy jobs curriculum that will be used in workforce training programs through the Illinois Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA). DCEO's website includes information around public listening sessions, feedback surveys, and submitting questions and comments. For more information including details on CEJA workforce programs, please visit <https://dceo.illinois.gov/climateandequitablejobs.html>

- **Upcoming Stakeholder Feedback Requests – Consumer Protections**

Reminder to all stakeholders that the Agency plans to request stakeholder feedback on various consumer protections items that relate to the Adjustable Block Program before the year is out. The feedback requests will include but are not limited to: New Disclosure Forms, Designee management plans, marketing requirements for ARES, the Program's disciplinary process, contract requirements and more. Stay tuned for more information on these upcoming requests for feedback.