

Questions & Answers from the May 25, 2023 Program Year 2023-2024 Webinar



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Block Capacity

Where can we view the waitlists for each project category?

- The current waitlists can be found on the Program's website at the bottom of this page: <https://illinoisabp.com/block-capacity-dashboard/>.

When will IPA update the block capacity to reflect rollover of unused capacity from other categories from Program year 2022-2023?

- The Agency will update the block capacity to reflect rollover from the other categories once the capacity to be reallocated is known. That will follow the conclusion of the Community-Driven Community Solar scoring, which is expected to be finalized in June.

Equity Eligible Contractor Category

Can the Program Administrator provide an update on the EEC program awards for 2022-2023? We are interested in dates being announced for awards. If projects are not awarded before June 1, 2023, how will that affect the 2023-2024 program year?

- After the ICC order was released on May 4, the Program Administrator was able to begin review of EEC applications, which is currently in process. Those EEC applications will be sent to the ICC as they become Part I approved, which will continue into June and is expected to occur across the summer of 2023.

Regarding the EEC developer cap, the May 19, 2023 announcement from the Agency stated, "By way of example, if the annual block size is 100MW, and the developer cap is applied due to a sub-categories oversubscription on Day One, all EEC-AVs will be limited to development of no more than 20MW of projects across any sub-category of the EEC block." Should that be read as the developer cap is applied to the subcategory (Community Solar/CS and Distributed Generation/DG) within the EEC block, vs Group (Group A + B combined)? Can the Agency clarify if the developer cap % applies to subcategory within the Group, or applies to Group A and Group B combined within the EEC?

- The developer cap would apply across the category if the cap is triggered. This is in place so no developer/affiliates can develop projects exceeding 20% of the entire project category, inclusive of both Groups A and B.

It was our understanding that Program Administrator started their review of EEC Group B application in February of 2023. When should we expect to hear awards for these projects?

- The Program Administrator did begin their review of EEC Group B applications in February of 2023. Individual projects are reviewed on a first come, first served basis so Approved Vendors will hear individually on their application approvals as they take place. Application review progress can be viewed on the Program's website. The Program is continuing catch up on reviews at the moment and we are publishing updates, including the turn around time and where we are at on the 'submitted as of date' at the Program website. You can view that information under the [Project Application Reports](#) page of the Program website.

When submitting an EEC project to the Program we recently noticed that a land use permit was not listed as a required attachment. Can the Program make this change to ensure all applications submitted to this category are required to attach this from the beginning?

- All projects in the entire Program are required to submit a land use permit. The Program Administrator will look into this issue.

Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan

Is the target day for the next Long-Term Plan draft still August 15, 2023?

- Yes, the target day for the release of a draft of the next Long-Term Plan is August 15, 2023. There will be stakeholder feedback opportunities prior to that date.

REC Prices

Are the Group A and Group B prices switched in your slides?

- Thank you. Yes, these prices should be switched from what was presented on the screen. We apologize for that error and appreciate your bringing it to attention. (We have updated the recording and presentation slides that are posted to have the correct information). The correct REC prices can also be found in the Program Guidebook which can be found on the Program's website Resources page.

Does Part I application submission date determine which energy year/REC pricing the project is subject to?

- Yes, the Part I application submission date determines which energy year/REC pricing the project is subject to. Please keep in mind that applications will need to be batched, and a batch needs to be submitted in the portal, for a project application to be considered 'submitted'.

Minimum Equity Standard

If you're a company with several affiliated AVs, do you need to submit a separate MES Compliance Plan on June 1 for each of your AVs? Or can you just submit one and list all the AVs associated with your company?

- There is a field in the MES Compliance Plan form to list affiliated AVs. If the companies are affiliated and therefore all use the same, exact workforce denominator, and the companies are just single-project AVs or are the LLCs that some companies have made to develop one single project under, then you can submit under one parent company and note those affiliated LLCs. Please note that this is the answer for one particular circumstance, and should vendors have additional questions, they should contact the Program Administrator at Administrator at admin@illinoisabp.com.

Has the Agency further defined the term 'project workforce' in terms of the MES Compliance Plan?

- The Agency has provided further clarity on the definition of the term 'project workforce' in regards of the MES Compliance Plan. The definition of 'project workforce' and additional information can be found in section C of the new MES FAQs published by the Agency (last edited May 25, 2023), found here <https://illinoisabp.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/MES-FAQ-May-24-2023-.pdf>. If you need further assistance, please join an upcoming Office Hours session or contact the Program Administrator with your specific question.

Do the MES Compliance Plans need to list the names of all EEPs and demonstrate that they are, in fact, qualified as EEPs?

- For the MES Compliance Plans that are due June 1, 2023, Program participants do not need to list the names of the EEPs to demonstrate that they are qualified as EEPs. For the initial MES Compliance Plan, Program participants will need to outline their plans for meeting the MES across the next year. Program participants will need to list their EEPs in the end of year MES reports.

Is there a preferred method that MES Compliance Plans be submitted by June 1, 2023?

- The MES Compliance Plan can be submitted through this online form: <https://forms.office.com/r/58Z370sEz4>. To review the plan before submitting, questions can be found [on this PDF](#), but please keep in mind you must use the online form to fully submit the plan. This form can be found on the [Equity Accountability System page](#) on the Program website.

If you need assistance, please contact the Program Administrator at admin@illinoisabp.com.

How can AVs access Program Administrator office hours?

- Upcoming MES Support Office Hours are Friday, June 2 – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. CPT. You can join using the link: <https://energy-solution.zoom.us/j/95588710302Co>. Please see the weekly Program announcements for upcoming Office Hours.

Disclosure Forms

When will the ability to edit DFs be available?

- The Program Administrator expects that the ability to "clone" DFs and then edit from a cloned form to come in Summer 2023. We have this as a high priority and understand the significance of this feature.

Could the Program Administrator describe if and how existing projects will be impacted by updating the DFs? For example, will the following scenarios require a new DF: Projects that have signed the current DF but have not been batched and submitted by June 1, 2023? Customers that were sent a

DF before June 1 but do not sign by June 1? Projects that sign a DF before June 1 and have a material modification after June 1, 2023?

- Please refer to the Q&A that were released following the May 18, 2023 Disclosure Form webinar, which includes information about "in-flight" scenarios. The webinar recording, presentation slides, and Q&A can be found at the Program Year Updates page of the site, at <https://illinoisabp.com/program-year-updates/>.

Will updated DG CSV upload templates be available on June 1, 2023?

- Yes, the DG CSV upload templates will be available at the start of the new Program year on June 1, 2023.

Community-Driven Community Solar

Will CDCS 2022-2023 awards still be announced by May 31, 2023?

- We do not expect CDCS awards to be made until later in the summer, closer to the end of July.

How should we proceed with 2023-2024 CDCS applications if we don't know if the project was selected?

- We expect to release preliminary scores in the coming days and move into the scoring cure period so AVs will have some insight into their scores prior to the June 1 2023 CDCS window opening once again. Update: The Program Administrator communicated preliminary CDCS scores directly to Approved Vendors on May 26, 2023.

Program Collateral

Has the Program updated the Program Brochure or the Program Timeline document?

- Updates to both Program brochures and the Program timeline document (i.e., the Guide to Going Solar flyer) are in process and will be published very shortly in conjunction with the Program year launch on June 1. They have updated content and design, Spanish language versions, and ADA accessible versions. These will be pre-pended to DFs just as the current materials are, and will be available at the Program website's [Resources](#) page.

Approved Vendor Registration

Do AVs that were registered this year need to submit a renewal before the 2023-2024 Program year begins, or instead to submit a renewal 12 months after their initial registration?

- AVs will need to submit a renewal 12 months after their initial registration.

Traditional Community Solar

For projects that were submitted to the TCS category after Day One of the 2022 Program Year, what is the timeline for review of those applications?

- We will be able to close out the TCS Day One applications on Tuesday, May 30 after the Random Selection event occurs. We have already been working on the review of the Day Two, Day Three, etc projects we have received. There are two parts to the TCS applications: review of the application to make sure the application meets Program requirements, and then scoring of the application to make sure that it receives the minimum score needed to get on the waitlist. Applications are reviewed on a first come first serve basis, and the process utilized helps ensure there is an even playing field across all applications. You can see where your application is at on the Program website, and through our weekly update on application approval processes, on the Project Application Reports page, which includes the date of submitted applications that the Program Administrator is currently reviewing within each project category. **Update:** Results of the Random Selection event, including a [recording presentation slides](#), and the [downloadable results spreadsheet](#), have been announced and can be found in the Traditional Community Solar section of the Program website's Solar Project Categories page.