

Annual Reports, CDCS Scores, TCS Application Review and Scoring Process

July 7, 2023

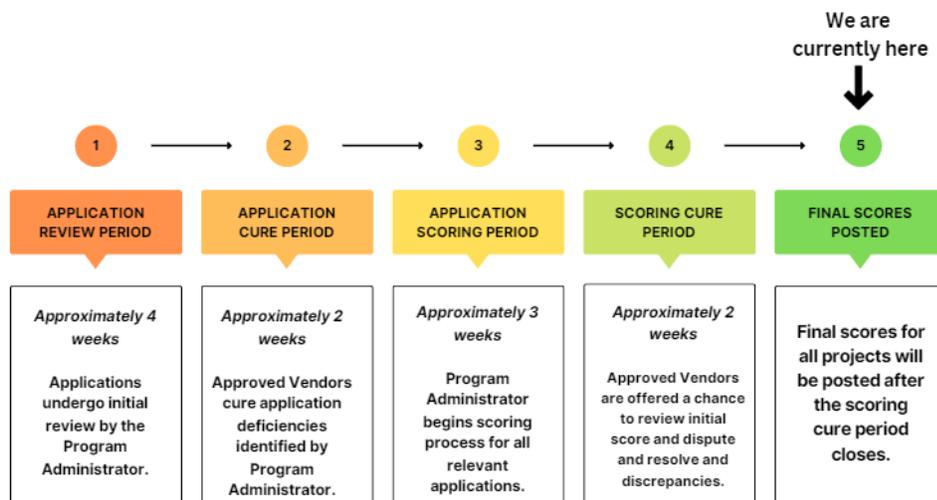
Program News

- Annual Reports** - AVs participating in Illinois Shines are required to submit an Annual Report pertaining to the contracts and systems in their portfolios. **Annual Reports opened on July 1, 2023 and are due no later than 11:59 p.m. CST, Monday, July 17, 2023.** Failure to submit an Annual Report is an Event of Default under the REC Contract and could impact an AV's standing in the Program. Available resourced provided include an [Annual Report Guide](#), as well as the [recording](#) and [presentation slides](#) from a webinar on May 9, 2023.
 - AVs should monitor the inbox of their organization's primary email address for the official invitation to submit their annual reports and submission reminders.
- Community-Driven Community Solar Scores** - The Program Administrator [released scores](#) on Monday, June 26, 2023. These scores will be used to determine which projects will be selected for a REC contract once random selection (if needed) takes place. The scores and a [full announcement](#) regarding the scoring process were posted on the Program website on the [Solar Project Categories page](#) under the CDCS sub-section.

AVs have two weeks from June 26, 2023 to appeal project scoring. Submitted appeals must be received by the Program Administrator at admin@illinoisabp.com, by **11:59 pm CPT July 10, 2023**. As the determination of appeals may influence a project's final score, and thus possibly the final selection of projects, all appeals must be reviewed by the Agency within a distinct timeframe. The Agency intends to have all submitted appeals determined by July 18, 2023, subject to the quantity and substance of appeals submitted.

The Agency anticipates the next steps in this process with the following schedule in effect, pending prompt responses from AVs:

- June 26, 2023 – Release Scores, begin two-week appeal period
- July 10, 2023 – Deadline for AVs to submit appeals to Program Administrator
- July 18, 2023 – Appeals determinations released to AVs
- July 26, 2023 – Random selection event for tied scores (if necessary)
- July 29, 2023 – Final scores published



- Minimum Equity Standard (MES) Compliance Plans** - MES Compliance Plans were due June 1, 2023 and **any plans that have not been submitted ARE OVERDUE.** Failure to comply with this Program requirement **will result in disciplinary action.** The Program Administrator is currently working to score submitted plans. AVs and Designees can expect to be notified of their MES Score **by the end of July.** If you have not submitted your MES Compliance Plan, please contact the Program Administrator at admin@illinoisabp.com for assistance.

- **Traditional Community Solar Application Review and Scoring Process** - Applications submitted after November 1, 2022 and up until May 31, 2023 are in the process of being reviewed in the order they were submitted and scores will be issued to AVs approximately two weeks after projects are reviewed. Projects that have scored a minimum of five points will be added to the waitlist in the order they were submitted. If a project does not receive a minimum score of five points, the application is not eligible to be waitlisted but can reapply to the Program at any time. Beginning June 30, 2023 weekly waitlist publication began at the [Block Capacity Dashboard webpage](#).
- **July REC Invoicing Opens July 1, 2023** - REC invoices and Quarterly Netting Statements will be made available for download from AV SharePoint folders on the morning of July 1, 2023. Invoices must be submitted to the utility by **July 10, 2023** to receive payment for the July invoice period. Any invoice amounts not submitted to the utility by July 10, 2023 will be carried forward and included in the next invoice period (October 2023).
- **Part II Verification Cut Off for July** - To allow time for invoice calculation and generation, the last valid Part II verification date for June will be **July 24, 2023**. Applications that are Part II verified on or before July 24, 2023 will be on the August invoice. Application processing will continue throughout the last week of the month and any applications that are reviewed between July 25, 2023 and July 31, 2023 will be invoiced in August.
- **Consumer Protection Working Group** - The Agency and the Program Administrators for the Illinois Shines and Illinois Solar for All programs hosted the July Consumer Protection Working Group meeting today, July 7, 2023. The presentation and notes from the Working Group will be published on the Program's [website](#). The next Consumer Protection Working Group will be held on Friday, August 4, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. CST. If you are interested to participate in the group and future meetings, please submit the form at the [website](#).

Application Processing Updates

- **Application Processing Tables** - The Program Administrator updates the application processing tables at IllinoisABP.com/project-application-reports/ on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. On June 28, 2023, the Program Administrator published the latest [Weekly Detail on Application Processing Progress announcement](#), which included updated processing tables and staffing and portal improvements. As shared in the announcement, weekly emails have been discontinued but data on processing progress will continue to be posted to the Program website three times a week including *Need Info* updates. For questions about specific project applications, please contact the Program Administrator at admin@illinoisabp.com.

Ongoing Program Portal Updates

- Ongoing portal updates can be found at IllinoisABP.com/portal-updates/, and a library of portal help guides can be found at IllinoisABP.com/portal-help/.

Updates on Portal Issues, Improvements, and Future Releases

- The planned system maintenance windows on **Tuesday and Thursday evenings (from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. CPT) will extend through July**. During these maintenance windows, the Portal is expected to be unavailable to users, which the Program Administrator and Agency hope will be minimally disruptive to Program participants. **Any users working in the portal should save their work prior to the 8:00 p.m. CPT start of the system maintenance window each day, as any unsaved information will be lost when the system is moved into maintenance mode.** In the event that portal restoration is unexpectedly incomplete as of 10:00 p.m. CPT on a given evening, an update notice will be sent to AVs and Designees.

Development Focus	Details	Planned or Actual Delivery
Enhancements, Features and Bug Fixes		
Two Additional Fields added to Part I Application form.	Fields for "REC Tracking System" and "PJM GATS or M-RETS Unit ID" have been added as optional fields in Section 6 of the Part I Application form. No changes have been made to the Part II Application form as these fields were already existing on the Part II form.	July 6, 2023

Requirements and Reminders

- **Stakeholder Feedback** - This table outlines current and forthcoming proposals and feedback requests:

Proposal or Feedback Topic and Link to Details	Request for Comment Released	Deadline for Comment	Results or Updates to Request
Long-Term Plan: Chapter 3: REC Portfolio/RPS Budget and Goals Chapter 4: REC Eligibility Chapter 5: Competitive Procurements Chapter 6: Self-Direct program Chapter 9: Consumer Protection	May 26, 2023	June 16, 2023. Comments have been shared at the Agency's website .	Draft Plan to be released expected August 15, 2023.
Long-Term Plan: Chapter 7: Illinois Shines Chapter 8: Illinois Solar For All Chapter 10: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion REC Pricing Study by Sustainable Energy Advantage	June 8, 2023	June 29, 2023 Comments have been shared at the Agency's website .	Draft Plan to be released expected August 15, 2023.

- **Regional CEJA Workforce Networking Fairs** - The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) is hosting a series of Regional Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) Workforce Networking Fairs in July to help foster connections among people interested in growing the clean energy workforce. The networking fairs will be taking place between July 11 – 27, 2023 and will take place in or near the CEJA workforce hub locations. Additional information can be found on [DCEO's website](#), which includes [details](#) on the events and [registration](#).
- **Illinois Power Agency Issues Request for Approved Vendors and Installer Designees Interested in Serving Stranded Illinois Shines Distributed Generation Customers** - As previously [announced](#), the Program Administrator is continuing to review submissions on a rolling basis for entities interested in serving stranded customers. The Program Administrator is especially interested in identifying AVs and/or installer Designees that are willing to assist stranded customers specifically with project maintenance/repair work. Please see the full [Request for AVs and Designees](#), including details regarding the opportunity to support stranded customers, eligibility requirements, and anticipated responsibilities.
- **Program Administrator Office Hours** - AVs and Designees experiencing technical difficulties with use of the portal or in resolving other challenges are invited to utilize open Office Hours that the Program Administrator offers via Zoom, using a waiting room format to support meetings with individual AV or Designee teams for privacy. Upcoming Office Hours include the following dates and times with more dates expected to follow, using Join link: <https://energy-solution.zoom.us/j/95588710302Co>
 - Wednesday, July 12, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. CPT
 - Wednesday, July 19, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. CPT

REMINDER: All Program updates can be found on the [Program Updates 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 or call 877-783-1820.