Illinois Shines API Test Environment: New Quarterly Test Data Refresh Process

August 22, 2024

Disclosure Form API users,

Several AVs and Designees working in the API Test Environment have expressed a need for current data in the Test Environment as they build out their integrations. On **October 1, 2024**, Energy Solutions, the Illinois Shines Program Administrator, will **purge all test data from the 'API Test Environment', and refresh the database with the latest copy from Production**. This will make new Approved Vendor IDs, Designee IDs, Municipal & Rural Co-Op Utilities, and Community Solar project applications (created after June 2023) available in the Test Environment. During the refresh process, the Test Environment will be unavailable for approximately four hours.

Going forward, this refresh activity of bringing new data into the Test Environment will be repeated on a quarterly basis, targeting the first working day of each quarter (i.e. January 1, April 1, July 1, October 1). A reminder email confirming the date will be sent to active API users two weeks prior to each refresh. The Program understands that losing test data can be disruptive therefore the planned timing is intended to strike a balance between the need for up-to-date production data and the need for continuity with a Program participant's in-flight test cases.

The API Production Access Review process relies heavily on the test data created during a Program participant's final test run. Program participants planning to submit a Production Access Review in the September timeframe, must **either submit prior to September 13, 2024, or perform your final test run after October 2, 2024.**

What you need to know:
- The Database Refresh is scheduled for October 1, 2024, and will take approximately four hours during normal business hours. The API Test Environment will be unavailable while the process executes.
- The Production Environment and your Production Integration will not be affected by this activity. This only affects data available in the Test Environment.
- After the Database Refresh, your password to access the Test Instance of the Illinois Shines Portal will be the same as the password you currently use in Production. If you need assistance changing your password in the Test Environment, contact the API Support Team.
- Your API Key/Token and Greenhouse password will not be changed/affected by the Database Refresh.

- All previously created Test Records will be purged from the Test Environment.

What you need to do:
- If you have scheduled jobs in your Test Environment that periodically call the API to check Disclosure Form Status, you will need to update your test data so they are no longer called, as the API call would return an error that the Disclosure Form is not found.
    - Accounts with retry loops generating a large volume of errors after the database refresh will have their Test Environment API Token disabled to prevent system performance issues impacting other API Test Environment users.
- If you are preparing for an API Production Access Review, please submit your review request prior to September 13, 2024, or be prepared to re-execute your end-to-end test (creating your sample records for the review) after October 2, 2024.

Questions
Please contact api-support@energy-solution.com for all questions related to the Disclosure Form API, including reporting new issues.

Thank you!
Illinois Shines Program
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