

Results of TCS Random Selection Event, Relevant Forms for Change of Approved Vendors, Resources for Navigating H.R.1

September 19, 2025

Coming up in Illinois Shines

2025 Program events and due dates can be found at the [Key Dates & Deadlines webpage](#).

- **Events**
 - **September 25** – Virtual Public Hearings for draft 2026 Long-Term Plan
 - **September 26** - IPA Power Hour - The One Big Beautiful Bill Act – What it Means for Clean Energy, Tax Credits, and the Road Ahead – Register at [this link](#).
- **Due Dates**
 - **September 25** – Part II Verification Cutoff for September
 - **September 29** – Written comments are due for draft 2026 Long-Term Plan
 - **September 29** – Re-Batching Opens for AVs for October 16, 2025 ICC Meeting
 - **October 1** – Election Deadline – Project Re-Batch or Withdrawal for October 16, 2025 ICC Meeting

Stakeholder Support

- **Program Administrator Office Hours** – September 24, 2025, from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CPT - Individual AV or Designee support for Program requirements, Portal, application, or other questions. Join link: <https://energy-solution.zoom.us/j/91402926068>. Office hours are held every other week.
- **Application Tips and Tricks** - The Program Administrator publishes [Tips and Tricks](#) to help support stakeholders avoid *Need Info* requests that delay application approval.
 - **Reminder – Distinctions Between Interconnecting Utility and Contracting Utility** - Some projects located in one utility’s service territory may be contracted to another utility, as the interconnecting utility and the contracting utility may or may not be the same entity.
 - The interconnecting utility is the utility that issues the interconnection agreement and to whose infrastructure the project system is connected.
 - The contracting utility (also known as the Buyer) is the utility that signs the REC Contract and purchases the RECs delivered by the system. There are only three contracting utilities: ComEd, Ameren, and MidAmerican.

A project system may be interconnected to Ameren but contracted with ComEd for REC delivery, or vice versa. The Program Administrator determines which utility will serve as the Buyer for each contract. While a batch may contain projects in multiple utility service territories, the Program Administrator will strive to assign contracts to the utility where the bulk of the projects are located but may not always be able to do so because consideration is made to allow each utility to meet its pro-rata share of the Renewable Portfolio Standards (“RPS”) REC targets and available RPS funding. The REC price for each system will be based on the applicable Group for that system’s physical location and not based on service area of the contracting utility.

Program News

All Program updates can be found on the [Program Updates webpage](#).

- **New! Results of the 2025-26 Traditional Community Solar (TCS) Random Selection Event** - On September 15, 2025, the TCS Random Selection was held, and on September 17, 2025, the [recording](#), [presentation slides](#) and [results](#) were posted to the Program website's [Traditional Community Solar](#) hub page. [This announcement](#) provides full details of Day 1 2025-26 TCS submissions, allocation of capacity, and results of the random selection event. Both Group A and Group B project waitlists (projects receiving scores of at least five points) have been updated on the [Block Capacity Dashboard](#) page and will be further updated as new projects are submitted and scored.
- **New! Relevant Forms for Change of Approved Vendors** - Section 5.A of the Program Guidebook outlines Program requirements for a change of Approved Vendors for projects not yet selected for a REC Contract. Section 6.B, *Assignment of REC Contracts*, subsection "Steps to Assign Product Order(s) or an Entire REC Contract" provides additional information. The Program has provided clarifying language at the [Program Documents](#) page, *Other Documents* section on applicable forms, including:
 - **Assignment Forms**, including two forms required for each assignment:
 - **Assignment and Assumption Agreement** – A document required by the Utility and which is signed by both Seller/Assignor and Transferee/Assignee.
 - **Acknowledgement of Assignment Forms** – A document to be signed by Assignor/Seller, Transferee/Assignee, and Buyer (Utility). Assignments are governed by Section 9.2 of the 2019 REC Delivery Contract and Section 13.1 of the 2021, 2022 and 2024 REC Delivery Contracts, and corresponding forms are available.
 - **AV Switch Template**, both the AV transferring a project and the AV receiving the project (Transferee) must provide the Program Administrator with a binding document wherein both agree that the Transferee shall have rights to the RECs produced by the project and the authorization to represent the project for an Illinois Shines application, as well as other information. A sample **AV Switch Binding Agreement** and guidance are provided at the Program website.
- **New! IPA Power Hour: The One Big Beautiful Bill Act – What it Means for Clean Energy, Tax Credits, and the Road Ahead** – This session will explore major changes to federal clean energy incentives introduced by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). Attendees will gain insight into how the OBBBA could affect clean energy development, how federal tax incentives are scheduled to phase out, and considerations for how the broader clean energy landscape may evolve in response. Speakers for this webinar include IPA Director of External Affairs Sarah Duffy and Clean Energy Business Network's Director of Policy and Communications Andy Barnes. Registration is required to attend this event. The session will be held **September 26, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. CST**. Please visit [this link](#) to register.
- **New! Navigating H.R.1: Resources for Residential and Commercial Projects** - House Resolution 1 ("H.R.1"), also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), was signed into law on July 4, 2025, and introduced significant changes to clean energy tax credits previously available under the Inflation Reduction Act. These changes have implications for clean energy customers, developers, and communities across Illinois. The Illinois Power Agency has published information on [its website](#) and the [Illinois Shines website](#) about the H.R.1, including impacts of the law, timelines relating to federal clean energy tax credit eligibility, and relevant educational resources for residents and businesses.
- **New! New to the Program Website** - The following key additions to the [Program website](#) have been shared:
 - [Navigating H.R.1: Resources for Residential and Commercial Solar Projects](#) ([Exploring Solar](#) page)
 - 2025-26 TCS Random Selection Event [Recording](#), [Slides](#), and [Results](#) (TCS hub page)
 - [Minutes from the September 5, 2025, Consumer Protection Working Group](#) ([CP Working Group](#) page)
 - Portal Roadmap Update ([Portal Updates](#) page)

- **Community-Driven Community Solar Application Review and Scoring Schedule** - The Program Year 2025-26 Community-Driven Community Solar (“CDCS”) 90-day application window closed on September 2, 2025. The Program Administrator’s application review period has commenced and is expected to take approximately 4 weeks. Further details on the schedule for application review and scoring were shared in [this announcement](#).
- **2025-26 Mentorship Program Fall Cohort Application Review Underway** – Registration for the [2025-26 Mentorship Program Fall Cohort](#) closed on September 12, 2025. The Program Administrator is reviewing applications, on a first-come, first-served basis, and mentees will be notified in approximately 1 week.
- **Stranded Customer REC Adder Rationale Document** - Stranded customers are those who have signed a contract with a solar company and then the AV (and sometimes also the Designee) goes out of business or is prevented from moving forward with the project. On September 3, 2025, the Agency issued a [Rationale Document](#), outlining its final decisions on the implementation of a REC Adder, and also published the [associated chart of stranded customer categories](#), both of which can be found on the [Consumer Protection Initiatives](#) page. The Agency and Program Administrator intend to launch the Stranded Customer REC Adder in the coming weeks.
- **Draft 2026 Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan for Public Review and Comment** - The [draft 2026 Long-Term Plan](#) details the goals and strategies for the IPA’s renewable energy programs and procurements, including program capacity and REC pricing for the Illinois Shines and Illinois Solar for All programs over the 2026-27 and 2027-28 Program Years. Written comments are due on Monday, September 29, 2025, and should be submitted to IPA.ContactUs@illinois.gov. The Agency will hold a Virtual Public Hearing for the draft 2026 Long-Term Plan on Thursday, September 25, 2025. Consult the [Draft 2026 Plan and the Cover Letter and Hearing Notice](#) for full details, including specifics about the Virtual Public Hearing. Additionally, [as previously announced](#), an error in the draft 2026 Long-Term Plan REC Pricing Model was brought to the Agency’s attention by a stakeholder. The Agency has corrected the error. For more information, please refer to the [Errata Announcement](#).
- **Part II Verification Cut Off for September** – The last Part II verification date for September will be September 25, 2025. Applications that were Part II verified on or before September 25, 2025, will be included in the October invoicing period. Application processing will continue throughout the last week of the month and any applications reviewed between September 26, 2025, and September 30, 2025, will be invoiced in November 2025.
- **Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) Re-Opens 2024 Long-Term Plan** - [As previously announced](#), on August 14, 2025, the Joint Solar Parties and Advanced Energy United petitioned the ICC to reopen the proceeding that approved the 2024 Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan to make modifications given the passage of the federal reconciliation bill (H.R. 1.). On August 21, 2025, the ICC granted the Petition for Reopening the 2024 Long-Term Plan. The Petition and the Commission’s Reopening Memorandum are available in the ICC Docket [23-0714](#). Deadlines for Responses to Objections, Replies to Responses, and Position Statements have passed, and the Commission has published an October 30, 2025 Deadline for Commission Action.
- **Annual Report Cure Period** – The Annual Report Cure Period concludes on October 30, 2025. At this point no modifications to Annual Report data will be permitted, so it is critical for AVs to respond to cure emails in a timely manner. Once the cure period has ended, the Program Administrator will calculate any potential Drawdowns for the annual REC performance evaluations and Community Solar Parameters Evaluations. These will be completed by December 2, 2025. AVs will receive draft notifications from the Program Administrator in advance of formal notice being provided by the contracting utility in early 2026.

Reference and Reminders

- Re-Batching for ICC Meetings** – To avoid late requests to withhold projects from submission to the ICC, AVs must indicate any requests to withdraw or withhold projects during the two-day re-batching window. In the absence of any action by an AV, the Program Administrator will re-batch the projects at its discretion and submit eligible projects to the ICC. Please note that due to recent federal action, the Agency has decided to temporarily pause enforcement of the two withhold limit from ICC meetings. This pause will be in effect until additional federal guidance is received. AVs that do not wish to take advantage of these additional withholdings may send projects to the ICC during the re-batching window. Upcoming windows for re-batching are as follows:

Re-Batching Opens for AVs	Election Deadline – 12:00 p.m. CPT (Re-batching closes for AVs)	Trade Date (ICC Meeting Date)
9/29/2025	10/1/2025	10/16/2025
10/14/2025	10/16/2026	10/30/2025

- Portal Maintenance and Releases** - Scheduled system maintenance occurs Tuesday and Thursday evenings, from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. CPT, during which times the Portal is typically unavailable to users. Users working in the Portal should save their work prior to the 8:00 p.m. CPT start of system maintenance window. Any unsaved information will be lost when the system is moved into maintenance mode. The latest Portal updates and enhancements, a Portal Development Roadmap, and Portal help guides can be found [here](#).
- Application Processing Tables and Update** – Application processing tables are maintained [here](#). These tables are updated daily. For questions about specific project applications, please contact the Program Administrator at admin@IllinoisShines.com.
 - Following the conclusion of the Small DG soft close period on May 7, 2025, review of Part I applications had exceeded the 10-day expected turnaround time. The Program Administrator has now returned to the expected turnaround time for Small DG processing. In addition to information available at the Project Application Reports page, the status of individual project applications can be checked with the [Project Look Up Tool](#).
- Stakeholder Feedback** – This table outlines current and forthcoming proposals and feedback requests. Details on previous proposals and feedback requests can be found on the [Stakeholder Feedback](#) page of the Program website.

Proposal or Feedback Topic and Link to Details	Request for Comment Released	Deadline for Comment	Results or Updates to Request
Draft 2026 Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan	August 15, 2025	September 29, 2025	An updated version of Appendix E has been posted to the 2026 Appendices page of IPA website. For more information, please refer to the Errata Announcement .

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