

Fall 2025 AV Roundtables, 2025-26 Mentorship Program Fall Session, October Consumer Protection Working Group

September 26, 2025

Coming up in Illinois Shines

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

- **Events**
 - **October 3** – Consumer Protection Working Group
- **Due Dates**
 - **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** – October 8, 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.
 - **Distributed Generation Project Application Checklist** – To avoid common errors, inconsistencies or omissions in Part I and Part II for Distributed Generation project applications, the Program provides a [DG Project Application Checklist](#) to assist stakeholders. Please see the current Program Guidebook for full application requirements. Stakeholders needing assistance or who have questions are encouraged to visit the [Program website](#) to access help guides and/or to contact the Program Administrator.

Program News

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

- **New! Fall 2025 AV Roundtables** - The Program Administrator is excited to announce the next round of AV Roundtable meetings for each of the Program's project categories. AV Roundtables provide an opportunity for participants to share Program feedback and offer insights on market challenges and conditions. Roundtable participants will connect with Sector Strategists and other Program Administrator team members. Prior Roundtables have yielded beneficial insights which help drive specific Program improvements. The Program emailed AVs a Roundtable Interest Form on September 24, 2025. AVs wishing to participate should complete the interest form by October 8, 2025. Additional AV Roundtable schedule information is forthcoming.
- **New! October REC Invoicing Opens October 1** - REC invoices and Quarterly Netting Statements will be made available for download from AV SharePoint folders on October 1, 2025. Invoices must be submitted to the utility by October 10, 2025, to receive payment for the October invoice period. Any invoice amounts not submitted to the utility by October 10, 2025, will be carried forward and included in the January 2025 invoice period.

- **New! 2025-26 Mentorship Program Fall Session Begins Next Week** – Following registration for the [2025-26 Mentorship Program Fall Cohort](#), the Program Administrator notified mentees and mentors selected for participation. The Program Administrator thanks stakeholders for their interest and readiness to participate. The Fall Session of the 2025-26 Mentorship Program begins next week. Registration information for the Winter Cohort of the 2025-26 will be forthcoming.
- **New! October 2025 Consumer Protection Working Group** - The Agency and the Illinois Shines and Illinois Solar for All Program Administrators will host the next Consumer Protection Working Group meeting on October 3, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. CPT. The Working Group’s meeting agendas, Zoom links, and a participation interest form can be found on the [Consumer Protection Working Group](#) page on the Program website.
- **New! Find a Community Solar Project** - The IPA and Program Administrator seek updated Illinois Shines Community Solar project information from developers to populate the [Find a Community Solar Project report](#) at the Program website, including project-specific information known to AVs. This report is valuable to potentially interested subscribers, the Agency, other developers, and other stakeholders. On Thursday, September 25, 2025, the Program emailed a template to Approved Vendors participating in the CS project categories and interested to have projects included on this list. The template should be returned to communitysolar@illinoisshines.com by October 10, 2025 for inclusion in the next report update. Updates to this list will be made quarterly.
- **New! New to the Program Website** - The following key additions to the [Program website](#) have been shared:
 - [Program Year 2025-26 Public Schools Outreach Action Plan](#) ([Exploring Solar with Illinois Shines](#) page)
 - [September Illinois Shines Data Report](#) ([Illinois Shines Data Report](#) page)
 - [Change of Approved Vendors and Assignment Forms](#) ([Program Documents](#) page)
- **Reminder – Deadline for Public Comment on Draft 2026 Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan** - 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.
- **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. On September 26, 2025, the Agency held “IPA Power Hour: The One Big Beautiful Bill Act – What it Means for Clean Energy, Tax Credits, and the Road Ahead.” A recording of the event will be available at the [IPA website](#).
- **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 information for assignment of projects post-REC Contract. The Program has provided clarifying language at the [Program Documents](#) page, [Other Documents section](#) on applicable forms, including:
 - **Change of Approved Vendors Before REC Contracting** – For projects not yet selected for a REC Contract, 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.

- **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.
- **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.
- **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](#).
- **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](#). On September 25, 2025 the Commission released the Proposed Order on the Reopening of the 2024 Long-Term Plan. Briefs on Exceptions are due October 1, 2025 and Replies to Exceptions are due October 6, 2025. 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. 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.
