



Self-Perform REC Adder Evaluation

Request for Stakeholder Feedback

May 21, 2026

Beginning the 2026-27 Program Year, projects participating in the Community Solar subcategory of the Equity Eligible Contractor category where the EEC Approved Vendor “self-performs” most of the engineering, procurement and construction (“EPC”) and development work, will be eligible for a \$5/REC adder.

This adder seeks to recognize the additional cost of development that may be incurred by EEC Approved Vendors that work on community solar projects and who conduct a substantial portion of the project pre-development and development activities. Self-performance includes pre-development activities that occur before the submittal of the Part I application (i.e., permitting, feasibility studies, interconnection application, etc.). Self-performance also includes project operations that are executed after Part I application submission but before Part II application submission (i.e., procurement, construction of the system, commissioning, professional services, fulfilling community solar subscriptions, etc.).

At the time of Part I submission, Approved Vendors requesting the EEC CS Self-Perform REC adder must complete and sign the attestation in Appendix H of the [2026-27 Program Guidebook](#). Additionally, Approved Vendors must demonstrate through a written narrative all the pre-development activities performed prior to the Part I Application and all the activities to be performed prior to Energization of the project. Please note that additional documentation will not be required at Part II.

The Agency proposes that the EEC Approved Vendor must perform **at least 50% of all the** EPC or development work to be eligible for the \$5/ “Self-perform” REC adder. This will allow Approved Vendors performing tasks in multiple areas to be able to take advantage of the adder. The Agency seeks to find a balance between project cost and labor to equitably assign a value to each task and therefore proposes the following value of cost/labor in percentages, in Table 1, for tasks related to the EPC and development of a community solar project. The Agency is seeking feedback on:

1. The listed tasks included in each section (Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Other)
2. The proposed values in percentages assigned to each task and their relative weighted value.

The Agency requests that stakeholders provide sufficient rationale to support their suggestions. Table 1 is intended to be used as a guide for Approved Vendors to draft their narratives for the REC Adder request submitted at Part I and for the Program Administrator to evaluate the narratives and confirm that the Approved Vendor performed or will perform at least 50% of all the EPC and development work.

Responses are due by May 27, 2026, and should be sent to: IPA.Solar@illinois.gov

Table 1. Self-performance Task Values

Engineering (up to 20%)	
1. Feasibility study and Site Assessment, at least two of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Site surveys and irradiance study b. Environmental impact analysis c. Land use and zoning regulation analysis d. Grid access and interconnection feasibility e. Community engagement 	5%
2. System's electrical and structural design	5%
3. Permitting and Regulatory Compliance, at least one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interconnection application b. Land use permit and site control agreement 	10%
Procurement (up to 30%)	
1. Procurement of Equipment and Materials, at least two of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Solar panels b. Inverters c. Mounting structures d. Electrical components 	30%
Construction (up to 40%)	
1. Construction and Installation, at least one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Civil work and foundation b. Structural work: mounting system installation c. Electrical work: PV modules, inverters, cabling d. Substation and electrical infrastructure 	30%
2. Interconnecting procedures, at least one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interconnection b. Testing c. Commissioning 	10%
Other (up to 10%)	
1. Subscriber acquisition	10%
Total	100%