November REC Invoicing Opens November 1, 2026, Annual Report Cure Deadline Today, Program Holiday Hours

October 30, 2026

Coming up in Illinois Shines

2026 Program events and due dates can be found at the Key Dates & Deadlines webpage.

- Key Dates
  - **October 30** – Annual Reports Are Finalized (For AVs that HAVE signed the REC Contract Amendment)
  - **November 3 –** Election Day (IPA Closed)
  - **November 5 –** Distributed Generation Roundtable
  - **November 11 –** Veterans Day (IPA Closed)
  - **November 30 –** 2026-27 Designee Renewal Process Ends
- Deadlines
  - **October 30** – Re-Batching Opens for AVs (For November 19, 2026, ICC Meeting)
  - **November 4** – Election Deadline for Project Re-Batch or Withdrawal (For November 19, 2026, ICC Meeting)

Stakeholder Support

- New! **Program Holiday Hours** – In observance of Election Day, the Program will have limited services and updates on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. On this day, the Program Call Center will be closed. Updates to the Block Capacity Dashboard, application tables, application project reports, and waitlists will resume Wednesday.
- **Program Administrator Office Hours** – November 4, 2026, 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. The schedule is available at the Key Dates and Deadlines page.
- **Application Tips and Tricks** – The Program Administrator publishes Application Tips and Tricks to help support stakeholders avoid Need Info requests that delay application review and approval. See this week's tip: "Customer-Owned 2026 Small DG Projects May Be Eligible for a REC Adder"

Program News

All Program updates can be found on the Program Updates page.

- New! **New Project Removal Request Process** – The IPA is launching a new Illinois Shines Project Removal Request Form for the 2026-27 Program Year. This form will allow for more accurate tracking of removal requests, reducing the total review and processing time that AVs experience. The form will allow for single- and multi-project submissions, given all included projects are on the same REC Contract. More details to come on batching submissions. The form will go live on **December 1, 2026.** However, starting **January 1, 2027**, the IPA expects all project removal requests to be made through the Project Removal Request Form and will not accept requests made via email. It should be noted that this process is being implemented for Illinois Shines projects only. Projects participating in Illinois Solar for All should continue to submit removal requests via email.
- New! **November REC Invoicing Opens November 1, 2026 –** REC invoices and Quarterly Netting Statements will be made available for download from AV SharePoint folders on November 1, 2026. Invoices must be submitted

to the utility by November 10, 2026, to receive payment for the *November* invoice period. Any invoice amounts not submitted to the utility by November 10, 2026, will be carried forward and included in the February 2026 period.

- New! **Part II Verification Cut Off for November** – The last Part II Verification date for November is November 19, 2026. Applications that are Part II verified on or before November 19, 2026, will be included in the December invoicing period. Application processing will continue throughout the last week of the month and any applications that are reviewed between November 20 and November 30, 2026, will be invoiced in January 2027. Part II Verification Cut Off dates for each month have been added to Key Dates and Deadlines page.

- New! **Reminder: Timing of Requests for Collateral Refund Due to High Interconnection Costs** – Requests for collateral refund due to high interconnection costs (an amount exceeding 30 cents per watt AC of the Designated System's Proposed Nameplate Capacity) must be made within 14 or 30 *calendar* days, not *business* days, of having received the subject interconnection cost estimate, depending on the REC Contract Version. Section 4.2 of the 2019 REC Contract specifies that the Seller must request a refund within fourteen (14) days, not fourteen (14) business days. Section 7.2 of the 2021, 2022, 2024 and 2026 REC Contracts specify that the Seller must request a refund within thirty (30) days, not thirty (30) business days.

- Updated! **2025-26 Annual Report Cure Deadline Today October 30, 2026** – The Annual Report Cure Period concludes today, October 30, 2026. Annual Report data (including REC delivery quantities and daily average subscription rates) is now considered final. Following the conclusion of the Annual Report cure period on October 30, 2026, the Program Administrator will calculate any potential Drawdowns for the annual REC performance evaluations. The calculation will include any finalized batch or contract assignments, REC delivery obligation reduction requests, or Force Majeure requests that are reported before October 30, 2026. Once the REC performance evaluation and CS systems parameters evaluations are complete and any necessary Drawdowns are determined, the Program Administrator will share results with the utilities for review. Following utility review, draft results will be shared with AVs in advance of the official notice of Drawdowns by the Contracting Utility in early 2027.

- Updated! **CDCS Project Application Review and Scoring Schedule** – As outlined in Section 5 of the Program Guidebook, the CDCS application window closes 90 days after the start of the Program Year. With the Program Year commencing on June 1, 2026, the application submission deadline for Program Year 2026-27 CDCS projects was August 31, 2026. Applications submitted have now entered the Scoring Cure Period. Preliminary scores are being sent to AVs today, October 30, 2026. Please view this announcement for more information. AVs have two weeks, until November 13, 2026, to review initial score and dispute and resolve any discrepancies.

- **Reminder: Standing Orders Must Be Initiated from an AV's Own Registry Account** – Per Section 6 of the Program Guidebook, Renewable Energy Credit Management and Assignments, AVs are required to set up an irrevocable Standing Order for the transfer of RECs from the system to the utility. Standing Orders must be initiated from an AV's own registry account and not from the account of an affiliate or third party. SPAVs must therefore have SPAV accounts in GATS or M-RETS and cannot initiate Standing Orders from their parent company account.

- **EAS Learning Series Webinar Resources** – The latest EAS Learning Series webinar, *Partnering for Equity: Building Genuine and Sustained Relationships with EECs*, held October 15, 2026, highlighted the business case for embracing diverse and equitable business partnerships, practical steps AVs can take for building genuine and sustained relationships with EECs, and feedback from EECs on best practices for partnerships. A *Best Practices for Building Genuine and Sustained EEC Partnerships* PDF resource, webinar slides, and a pre-recording of the event, can be found on the EAS Overview page.

- **IPA to Host Three-Part Power Hour Webinar Series on Financial Opportunities** – As previously announced, the IPA will host an educational webinar series on financial opportunities in December 2026. The three-part series, designed to support businesses participating in the IPA's clean energy procurement programs, will spotlight business development, grant, and loan opportunities. Attendees will meet and hear from a diverse range of expert

presenters sharing valuable opportunity information. Each event will be recorded, and registration for each webinar is required.

- **IPA Updates Renewable Portfolio Standard Budget Forecast** – The IPA released an updated Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) Budget Forecast. Updates and corrections are discussed within the accompanying Memo. The Agency invites stakeholders to review the full RPS Budget Model and accompanying Memo. Questions regarding the RPS Budget materials may be sent to IPA.ContactUs@illinois.gov.
- **2026-27 Designee Renewal Process** – As previously announced, renewals for Designees and Nested Designees registered prior to the start of the 2026–27 Program Year began October 16, 2026, and runs through November 30, 2026. EEC Designees and Subcontractors may also renew their status and will receive an updated EEC certificate following the renewal review. See Section 4.G of the Program Guidebook for additional information. AVs are responsible for ensuring their Designees and Nested Designees are compliant with renewal requirements. Non-compliance with this requirement may result in possible disciplinary actions, as set out in the Consumer Protection Violation Response Matrix in the Consumer Protection Handbook.

Reference and Reminders

- **Re-Batching for ICC Meetings** – AVs must indicate any requests to withdraw or withhold projects from ICC submission during a 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. 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)
10/30/2026	11/4/2026	11/19/2026
11/13/2026	11/17/2026	12/3/2026

  DG projects are only permitted to be withheld twice before they must be submitted to the ICC for REC Contract approval or permanently withdrawn from the Program. Projects that have been withheld more than two times will be required to submit to the ICC or withdraw. See Section 5.A of the 2026-27 Program Guidebook for more detail.

- **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. Please visit the Portal Updates page for details on recent and planned Portal updates and help guides.
- **Application Processing Tables and Updates** – Application processing tables are maintained here. These tables are updated daily. In addition to information available on the Project Application Reports page, the status of individual project applications can be checked using the Project Look Up Tool. For questions about specific project applications, please contact the Program Administrator at admin@illinoisshines.com.
- Updated! **Status of Small DG Part I and Part II Application Processing** – Small DG application review timelines are significantly delayed; **Part I application review time is currently five weeks and Part II application review time is currently 13 weeks.** The Program anticipates returning to the target two-week review time for Part I applications by the end of October and Part II by the end of November. Please see this announcement for more details, including ways the Program Administrator is expanding the Application Processing team and implementing automated review enhancements to improve efficiency and increase application review capacity.

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