



ILLINOIS POWER AGENCY

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IPA's Illinois Solar for All Supports Launch of U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Energy Connector

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The Illinois Power Agency (IPA) is excited about the soft launch of the U.S. Department of Energy's [Clean Energy Connector](#), a digital platform that makes community solar with verified savings and strong consumer protections more accessible to households participating in government-run low-income support programs. Illinois is one of the two pilot states, in addition to the District of Columbia, chosen to support the pilot in connecting income-eligible families to solar energy and lowering electricity bills through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Through the Connector, the IPA's Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) Program, in collaboration with DOE and the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity's Office of Community Assistance, hopes to address barriers to community solar adoption and streamline LIHEAP-approved households to access ILSFA community solar projects in an equitable manner. A total of nine LIHEAP Administering Agencies throughout Illinois will be participating in the initial Connector pilot rollout, connecting eligible LIHEAP recipients directly with ILSFA community solar subscription managers. While there are currently no active community solar projects seeking subscribers through the Connector, this new tool provides an opportunity for ILSFA community solar projects to reach eligible residents more easily and help lower their energy burdens.

Since the announcement of the pilot Connector in July 2022, the IPA's ILSFA program staff have been working hard to provide feedback, coordination, and test the operability, security, and performance of the platform.