

ILLINOIS POWER AGENCY

Storage for All Program



Request for Information #1
on Development of the Storage for All Program
September 30, 2026

Background – Statutory Requirements for Storage for All Program

The Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability Act (CRGA) charges the Illinois Power Agency (IPA or Agency) with evaluating and potentially developing and implementing a Storage for All program, which would provide incentives to encourage development of energy storage projects co-located with solar projects developed under the IPA's already well-established [Illinois Solar for All program](#) (ILSFA).

Section 1-56(b)(3) of the IPA Act as amended by CRGA notes several requirements for the Storage for All program, including but not limited to:

- The program should encourage development of energy storage colocated with solar projects developed through the ILSFA program.
- The program shall be available to current and future participants of the low-income single-family and multifamily subprograms, and the subprogram for nonprofit and public facilities in the ILSFA program.
- The program design should ensure that the distributed storage will be accessible to income-qualified households with zero upfront costs and in coordination with job training programs, as well as how the program may be supported by other programs or initiatives to maximize storage benefits and limit double-counting of incentives.
- The program budget may be up to 25% of the funds currently allocated to the low-income single-family and multifamily subprograms, and the subprogram for nonprofit and public facilities of the ILSFA program.
- Any unused Storage for All funds during a program year may be reallocated to Illinois Solar for All projects that are waitlisted or otherwise not selected due to funding limitations per a process to be defined by the Agency.

Background – Statutory Call to Engage Stakeholders in Development Process

CRGA also calls for the IPA to engage stakeholders directly in the development of this new storage program for income-qualified customers. The law provides that this stakeholder process shall include an exploration of how to ensure that the distributed storage will be accessible to income-qualified households with zero upfront costs and in coordination with Illinois's job training programs. Additionally, the law calls specifically for the inclusion of these stakeholder groups in the program development process: members of the Illinois Commission on Environmental Justice, representatives of Approved Vendors participating in the Illinois Solar for All program, representatives of community-based organizations, and members of the Illinois Solar for All Stakeholder Advisory Group.

Timeline – From Collecting Ideas from Stakeholders to Program Design in the Initial Energy Storage Resources Procurement Plan

The Agency plans to host stakeholder feedback opportunities across Fall 2026 and likely into the Winter 2026-27. This request for written feedback begins the stakeholder engagement process. This written request for information will be followed by a virtual workshop expected to be held in October 2026 to discuss design and implementation ideas for this new program. After the workshop, the Agency will review feedback received thus far and issue a second written feedback request with refined questions across late Fall 2026 or Winter 2026/27. All stakeholder feedback will inform the Agency's design of the Storage for All program in its initial Energy Storage Resources Procurement Plan (ESRPP or Plan).

The draft of the ESRPP will be published by the Agency on June 1, 2027, with public comments on the Plan draft due 45 days later, on July 16, 2027. The Agency will review all comments received and incorporate any required revisions to the ESRPP prior to filing the Plan with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) to commence the docketed proceeding. The schedule defining the post-stakeholder feedback segment of finalization of the ESRPP, including litigation, ICC review and determination, and implementation of the plan has not yet been defined, with such details expected to be defined and published later in 2027.

Following the ICC's Final Order approving the plan, the ESRPP will then be able to be implemented. Thus, the Storage for All program will not be available to the public until at least 2028.

Any topics not included herein, such as questions related to consumer protection, equity, application process, etc., will be included in the second feedback request issued in Fall/Winter 2026/27.

Feedback Submission Process for Request for Information #1

Stakeholders are encouraged to review the questions listed below and provide feedback and insights. The information provided by stakeholders through responses will inform the development of the Storage for All program. At this time the Agency will not be issuing responses to feedback received, although the Agency may reach out to stakeholders to seek additional insights, explanations, or materials.

Stakeholders should follow the instructions provided below when developing responses, paying attention to confidentiality provisions and response deadlines.

Stakeholder Response Instructions:

- All responses are to be submitted to the IPA at IPA.Storage@illinois.gov by November 6, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. CPT

- Responses must include the following header in the email subject line:
 - [Stakeholder Name] Response –StorageForAllRFI_Sept2026
- Responses will be published on the [IPA's Energy Storage webpage](#)
- Responses should include contact details including *at least* one contact name, title, email, and phone number.
- Confidential Treatment of Materials Submitted
 - Any written responses, data, attachments or other information submitted by stakeholders that contain confidential information must be clearly labeled as such.
 - If confidential information and/or materials are included in any submission, stakeholders must clearly specify the confidential material within the document, identify the confidential nature of the submission by including the word “confidential” in the document name and in the reference to the document in the submission. Confidential documents will not be posted publicly.
 - If any stakeholder response to a question is confidential, stakeholders shall provide two copies of the responses – 1) the original, unredacted, confidential version to be reviewed by the IPA (*will not be posted publicly*), and 2) a redacted version where only the confidential provisions are redacted - which will be posted publicly on the [IPA's Energy Storage webpage](#). Independent of that designation, if the Agency determines that a response contains confidential information that should not be disclosed, it reserves the right to provide its own redactions.

Resources to Inform Responses to This Feedback Request

The Agency has provided resources below for stakeholders that might be new to the energy storage space.

- [Illinois Solar for All Program Website](#) – This website overviews the Illinois Solar for All program and has many resources that outline program processes.
- [Illinois Solar for All Approved Vendor Manual](#) – This resource explains various processes and requirements of the Illinois Solar for All program.
- [U.S. Department of Energy's Solar + Storage 101](#)
- [Utility Dive – Energy Storage 101](#)
- [CESA's Bridging the Gap – Policies Making Energy Storage Accessible](#)
- [CESA's Energy Storage Incentive Rate Setting for States](#)

What's Next?

The Agency has planned a virtual workshop for stakeholders to gather and discuss the questions outlined here and more. See below for information on workshop attendance:

Storage for All Program Development – Workshop #1

- Friday, October 30, 2026 at 2PM CPT
 - Register for the virtual workshop using this link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Hgl7OgsFRe2Z_rKDPD3n2Q
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Stakeholder Feedback Questions

Please review the questions below and provide feedback accordingly. Questions are listed by topic area.

Program Funding

1. CRGA provides that the Agency may utilize up to 25% of the funds currently allocated to the low-income single-family and multifamily subprograms, and the subprogram for nonprofit and public facilities of the ILSFA program for the Storage for All program. As a frame of reference, in Program Year 27, the ILSFA program budget is approximately \$50 million meaning a 25% utilization would result in not more than about \$7.6 million being pulled from the ILSFA program to support the Storage for All program. Please provide feedback on what percentage of funding would be most appropriate to start with for the Storage for All program. Include supporting insights, data or other information supporting your recommendation into how this initial funding sum may affect program outcomes in the near and long-term.
 - 1.1. Please find data and assumptions to support your response to Question 1 above in Appendix A to this document.
 - 1.2. Additionally, if you find the assumptions the IPA made in Appendix A to be inconsistent with current market conditions, please provide feedback as to the correct assumptions the Agency can review and the sources for those assumptions.
2. If applicable, please expand on any answer provided to Question 1 above. For example, should the IPA start by utilizing a smaller amount of the permissible budget in the first iteration of this program (<25%)? Alternatively, should the Agency utilize the full budget allowance under the law (25%), or somewhere in between? Please provide any supporting reasoning for the specified preferred budget percentage in your response.

Integration with the Illinois Solar for All Program

3. When in the application process should the storage portion of a solar + storage project be selected for incentivization? Said another way, how should the Storage for All program best intertwine itself with the already established processes of the ILSFA program?
 - 3.1. Should the Agency consider different approaches, depending on whether it is a current or future ILSFA participant? Meaning, should there be an application process for already approved ILSFA solar projects to add a storage component to the system through the Storage for All program and then a separate, distinct application process for projects that are wanting to install solar and storage together at once and looking to apply to both the ILSFA and Storage for All programs?
 - 3.2. Please consider any existing processes, such as the ILSFA application submission process, project selection process, as well as contracting processes that are inflexible, such as REC payment timing, etc.

Program Focus

4. Should the Storage for All program be developed in such a way as to specifically focus on one or more “focus” areas, or alternatively, should the Agency seek to incentivize as many storage projects as possible? Potential areas of program focus could be supporting community energy resilience, disaster preparedness, or energy bill reductions (particularly for residents of low-income and environmental justice communities).
5. Should the program focus - if one is selected - be a criterion that is evaluated during project review and selection? If yes, please provide details on how focus areas can be translated to evaluation criteria and applied in a fair and equitable manner necessary for project selection.

Rebate, Grant, or Other Incentive Mechanism

6. CRGA allows for flexibility in the way the incentive for this program is paid out to participants, noting that the Agency can utilize grants, rebates, or other incentives to encourage storage development. With this in mind, what incentive approach works best for this program – an ongoing REC adder to the already established ILSFA REC price for a project or is a one-time payment such as a rebate or a grant a better option?
7. Is there a situation where a solar + storage project in development would be reduced to just the solar installation? For example, if a customer originally intends to have a solar + storage project installed, then after application to ILSFA and Storage for All determine that they no longer want to install the storage portion of the project.
 - 7.1. Considering situations like this are likely to arise - how linked should the storage and solar incentives be? If the storage portion of a project is not completed, should the solar incentive also be considered at risk? If a project approved for

solar + storage incentives is built with just a solar installation, what consequences are appropriate at the contract and program levels?

8. What opportunities or challenges should the Agency consider with one approach or another? Please explain in detail the impacts of the preferred approach.

Ensuring No Upfront Costs and Understanding Customer Benefits

9. Is there anything specific the Agency should keep in mind while working to ensure that no upfront costs are paid by participants in the Storage for All program?
10. How should Storage for All identify, quantify, and prioritize the various benefits of storage to the customer, including household energy burden reduction, household and local reliability improvements, and disaster preparedness?
11. How can the Agency ensure that the ILSFA program's 50% savings requirement remains unimpacted or is augmented by the addition of an energy storage component to a solar project participating in the ILSFA program?
 - 11.1. Please consider that the ILSFA program prioritizes no-cost offers for Residential Solar (Small) customers and the vast majority of existing ILSFA Residential Solar (Small) projects utilize no-cost leases.
12. The Agency is requesting that project developers provide data related to costs for developing and installing solar + storage projects in Illinois, especially as it relates to the storage portion of the project. Please mark any cost data shared with the Agency as confidential per the Feedback Submission Process outlined above.
13. The Agency is also requesting that project developers provide data related to the ongoing benefits seen by customers with storage as a part of their solar installation. The Agency anticipates that in addition to quantifiable bill analysis, other benefits may be quantifiable as avoided outages in minutes or hours, and community benefit of reduced local grid burden associated with service disruptions.
 - 13.1. Does the reduction of energy burden by a customer's LIDR impact the benefits seen from the addition of storage to a customer's solar installation?

Avoiding Double Counting of Incentives

14. What should the Agency consider to ensure incentives aren't double counted, especially keeping in mind that Storage for All projects are required to be colocated with Illinois Solar for All projects?
15. What assumptions should be made about other sources of funding for solar + storage projects that would participate in this program? (CRGA's VPP program, existing solar + storage rebate, etc.)

Appendix A – Relevant Data for Storage for All Program Design Considerations

DATA POINT	FIGURE	ASSUMPTIONS
Residential Storage Project Data		
Average installation cost of a residential storage system in Illinois	~\$15,000	• Tesla Powerwall 3, as Tesla leads the residential storage market with ~50% market share¹ • Assumed system size of 13.5 kWh/11.5 kW, which is the size of the Tesla Powerwall 3² • Assumes installation cost per kWh of \$950-\$1,300 and uses median of \$1,125 multiplied by Tesla Powerwall 3 size of 13.5 kWh = \$15,187
Average cost of incentivizing a residential storage project	~\$10,000	• Assumed system size of 13.5 kWh/11.5 kW, which is the size of the Tesla Powerwall 3 • Assumed that project will utilize ~\$4,000 DG Solar + Storage Rebate from Illinois utilities³ • Assumed that project will participate in VPP Program, dispatching 5.4kW across 5 years (minimum required participation time in program) at \$10/kW thus earning ~\$270⁴
ILSFA Data		
Average size of ILSFA project across eligible subprograms ⁵	18 kW AC	Data is pulled directly from ILSFA program
Average cost to incentivize ILSFA project across eligible subprograms ⁶	\$53,585	Data is pulled directly from ILSFA program
Data on Program Budget and Related Impacts		
Storage for All Budget Ceiling	~\$7.6 million ⁷	• Total ILSFA budget for PY27 = \$50.8 million • Budget for eligible ILSFA subprograms = \$30.5 million • 25% of eligible ILSFA subprograms budget = \$7.6 million
Number of solar projects that could be incentivized for \$7.6 million via ILSFA	~142	• \$7.6 million/\$53,585 average ILSFA project incentivization cost across the 3 eligible subprograms
Number of storage projects that could be incentivized for \$7.6 million via Storage for All	~700 projects	• Assumes the \$10,000 average cost to install a residential storage project noted above

¹ See [Energy Sage Solar and Storage Marketplace Report 2025](#) and [“Tesla dominated the home battery market—will its reign last?”](#)

² While the Agency understands that this size battery system is likely larger than the needs for an average residential system, the large market share that Tesla has in the residential storage market space along with the desire to select conservative estimates led to selection of this product upon which to base assumptions.

³ [ComEd Solar + Storage Rebate](#) and [Ameren Solar + Storage Rebate](#) ; Both utility rebates offer \$300/kWh for storage paired with solar

⁴ [ComEd VPP Filing with Illinois Commerce Commission](#) and [Ameren VPP Filing with Illinois Commerce Commission](#)

⁵ Does not include Community Solar subprogram as solar project that participate in that ILSFA subprogram are not eligible for Storage for All

⁶ Does not include Community Solar subprogram as solar project that participate in that ILSFA subprogram are not eligible for Storage for All

⁷ Dependent on the year that Storage for All program might be launched and the budget for that Program Year for ILSFA