



CEJA Turns One: Key Highlights from the IPA

September 30, 2022

Agenda

- 1. Housekeeping and Introductions**
- 2. Background on the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA)**
- 3. Utility-scale procurements under CEJA**
- 4. Adjustable Block Program under CEJA**
- 5. Illinois Solar for All under CEJA**
- 6. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) under CEJA**
- 7. IPA's additional implementation of activities under CEJA**
- 8. Q&A**

- **Introduction and Scope**
- **Power Hour is a series of educational and informative presentations on a wide range of clean energy topics and emerging issues**
- **Today's Power Hour:**
 - During this webinar, the speakers will provide a background on CEJA, highlight the IPA's implementation of programmatic and procurement activities under CEJA, its impact on IPA solar programs, and key activities on the horizon.
 - **Future IPA Power Hour Webinars will cover other topics related to the clean energy economy in Illinois**

Upcoming Webinar

IPA Power Hour 9: The Role of Energy Storage for Accelerating the Transition to a Decarbonized, Clean Energy Future in Illinois

Date: October 28, 2022

Time: 12-1pm CST

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- **Independent State Agency created in 2007**
- **Agency duties include**
 - **Development and implementation of procurement plans for electricity supply for utility customers**
 - **Development and implementation of other renewable energy programs**
 - **Implementation of the Renewable Portfolio Standard**
 - Development of Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan
 - Conduct competitive procurements for utility-scale projects
 - Manage programs for community solar and solar for homes and businesses



Background on CEJA

How did we get here – why CEJA?

- **Various ingredients came together to provide the right formula for a bill**
 - **Need to support nuclear plants at risk of closure**
 - **Strong desire for more equitable outcomes from the clean energy economy**
 - **Need for additional funding (as well as changes to the budgeting approach used to support new renewable energy projects)**
 - **Ethics and ratemaking reform**
 - **Ensuring strong labor standards on new projects**
 - **Need to handle coal plant closure and communities in transition**

RPS-Specific Issues

From RPS standpoint, we had both massive successes and serious challenges from FEJA

- **Incented the development of over 25,000 projects between all programs, competitive procurements, etc.**
 - **Previously 80 MW of solar in Illinois**
 - **Now over 2000 MW of solar in Illinois**
 - **Over 670 MW of new distributed generation and community solar developed**
 - **Over 2300 MW of new utility-scale wind and utility-scale solar developed**
- **Still well behind the percentage-based targets of the RPS (only at around 8%, even with all of these new projects)**
- **Funding largely exhausted, due to participation levels/contract payment structure/inability to roll over funds**
- **Sense that weren't seeing the benefits of the clean energy economy spread equitably across our state**

Different Solutions Introduced

Across 2019-2021, different solutions introduced (non-exhaustive sampling of proposals below):

- **HB 804/SB 1718 (the “Clean Energy Jobs Act”)**
- **HB 1734/SB 311 (the “Downstate Energy Affordability Act”)**
- **HB 2640/SB 1601 (the “Path to 100 Act”)**
- **HB 3446/SB 529 (the “Coal to Solar and Energy Storage Act”)**
- **HB 1472/SB 1100 (the “Climate Union Jobs Act”)**
- **HB 4074/SB 2896 (the “Consumers and Climate First Act”)**
- **Additional proposals on RPS self-direct, nuclear support, and more**

Process: From Proposals to Public Act



About a 2.5 year process from the bills, concepts, etc. to the actual conclusion of a bill being signed into law

- Ongoing feedback processes: Workshops, working groups, committee hearings, bill drafts, and comment processes
- Also....a global health pandemic

Late May 2021, began to see drafts of a bill that borrowed ideas from each of these bills

Pieces came together, and on September 15th, the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (Public Act 102-0662) signed into law

- CEJA represents a number of parties' visions and ideas, across all different types of constituencies, put into a heavily negotiated bill
- Gigantic bill touching on a number of areas

CEJA's RPS Goals and Targets

- **25% by 2025 goal increased to 40% by 2030 with a further target to reach 50% by 2040**
 - **This goal is based on the calculation of the procurement of RECs, rather than tied to specific generation in the state**
 - **Customer load in Illinois is approximately 120 million MWH annually**
 - **25% would be 30 million MWH (30 million RECs annually)**
 - **40% would be 48 million MWH/RECs**
- **Specific targets include:**
 - **45 million RECs annually by 2030 from new wind or solar**
 - **45% from wind, 55% from solar**
 - **Solar 50% from the Adjustable Block Program, 47% from utility-scale solar, and 3% from brownfield site solar**

CEJA's RPS Budget Changes

- **Rate cap increased from 2.015% of 2007 rates to 4.25% of 2009 rates**
 - An increase from ~\$235 million to ~\$590 million in annual RPS collections
 - Ramps up annual utility funding for Solar for All to \$50 million/year (from ~\$11 million/year)
- **Changes to how funds are accounted for**
 - Pre-CEJA funds collected 2017 through 2021 could rollover year to year and then unspent funds refunded to customers
 - After 2021 there were to be annual reconciliations of collections and expenditures
- **CEJA changes how funds are accounted for**
 - Five-year spending window. Funds collected in a given year can be spent over the subsequent five years on a first-in, first-out basis

Plan provides outline for (most) RPS implementation activities

- **New Plan published 120 days after P.A. 102-0662's passage**
 - **New chapters on self-direct program, DEI initiatives, consumer protection**
- **45 days for comments, 21 days for revisions before filing**
 - **Comments received from 40+ parties**
- **Filed with Illinois Commerce Commission for approval on March 21, 2022**
 - **ICC Docket No. 21-0231 (available on ICC's e-Docket system)**
- **ICC Order approving Plan on July 14, 2022**
- **Final Plan filed consistent with Order on August 23, 2022**



Utility-Scale & Brownfield Site Photovoltaic Procurements Under CEJA

Pre-CEJA Approach

- **Pre-FEJA**
 - Competitive procurement akin to energy procurements
 - However, projects only supported through charges to default supply customers
 - Only 2010 LTPPAs, then funding constraints on long-term contracts
- **Post-FEJA**
 - **Still competitive procurement**
 - Procurement “event,” not open enrollment like program-related projects
 - Bids selected on the basis of fixed price per REC
 - Payment based on RECs received by counterparty utility
 - **Post-FEJA procurement events**
 - Initial Forward Procurements
 - Subsequent Forward Procurements (wind)
 - Additional Forward Procurements (solar)
 - Selected projects
 - ~2600 MW total selected
 - 1600 MW utility-scale solar
 - 1000 MW utility-scale wind
 - All but one within IL

- **Changes in scale**
 - RPS budget (2.015% of 2007 rates to 4.25% of 2009 rates)
 - Minimum project size is slightly larger (now 5 MW)
 - 70-75% of RPS through utility-scale & brownfield site
- **Indexed REC price model**
 - **Floating REC price**
 - Prices changes based on assumed energy revenues
 - Provides all-in revenue certainty without IPA procuring energy from projects
 - **RPS budget impacts?**
 - Unknowable, but mitigated somewhat through changes to 16-108(k) and 1-75(c)(1)(E) of IPA Act
 - Utilization of price index for expected prices
 - How to plan for the longer-term?

Key Changes (cont.)

- **Diversity, equity, and energy transition grants**
 - **Changes to project selection criteria?**
 - **Energy Transition Community Grant areas**
 - **Workforce diversity progress**
- **Labor requirements**
 - **Prevailing wage now expressly required**
 - **Project labor agreements also required**
- **Large Customer Self-direct Program**
 - **Discussion of mechanics**
 - **New avenue for private development of projects**
 - **RECs netted out from utility-scale procurement requirements**
- **Brownfield site coal mine definition change**

Subsequent Forward Procurement

- **Conducted within 240 Days of CEJA's passage**
 - **Conducted in May 2022**
- **Targeted procurement quantities**

Utility-scale Wind	2,500,000 RECs
Utility-scale Solar	2,000,000 RECs
Brownfield Site Photovoltaic	125,000 RECs

- **Actual procurement results**
 - **Approximately 495 MW of new utility-scale solar, 200 MW of new utility-scale wind, and 4.95 MW of new brownfield site photovoltaic projects**
 - **<https://www.ipa-energyrfp.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Spring-2022-Indexed-REC-RFP-Results-12-May-2022-posted.pdf>**
- **Stakeholder comment processes thereafter**

Upcoming Procurement Events



Procurement	Technology	Procurement Date	Annual REC Target
Wind Forward Procurement	Wind (utility-scale)	Fall 2022	1,750,000
Solar Forward Procurement	Solar (utility-scale)	Fall 2022	1,000,000
Brownfield Site Photovoltaic	Photovoltaic (brownfield)	Fall 2022	65,000
Wind Forward Procurement	Wind (utility-scale)	Summer 2023	1,750,000
Solar Forward Procurement	Solar (utility-scale)	Summer 2023	1,000,000
Brownfield Site Photovoltaic	Photovoltaic (brownfield)	Summer 2023	65,000

“For 2023, the Agency proposes to hold the procurement in late spring or early summer—and if procurement volumes are not filled, the IPA would consider holding a subsequent procurement in late 2023” – from Section 5.6 of 2022 Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan



CEJA Turns One: Adjustable Block Program

Program changes under CEJA

Program Changes under CEJA

Key statutory or administrative updates to the program include, but are not limited to:

- **Project size changes**
 - Breakpoint between Small and Large Distributed Generation now 25 kW, up from 10 kW
 - The size threshold applicable to Large DG and Community Solar projects increased from 2MW to 5MW
- **3 new project categories**
 - Projects located at Public Schools
 - Community driven-community solar projects
 - Projects developed by Equity Eligible Contractors
- **Updated REC prices**
- **Prevailing wage requirements for projects**
- **Updated REC Delivery Contracts**
 - Changes to contract payment terms, including a pay-upon-delivery structure for certain categories
- **Compliance with the Equity Accountability System starting June 2023**
 - All Approved Vendors and Designees now required to submit Minimum Equity Compliance Plans beginning in program year 2023-24
- **Shift from cascading blocks to annual blocks**
- **Reallocation of uncontracted capacity from previous program year**

What has been implemented?

What has been implemented since the enactment of CEJA last year?

Updated Requirements

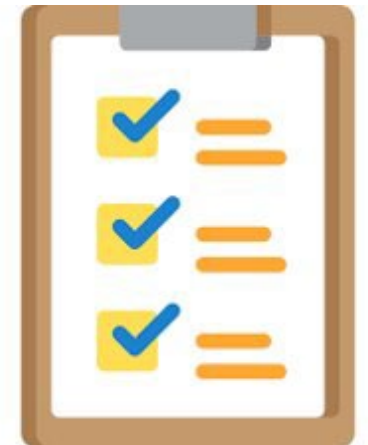
- Prevailing wage requirements in place as of Program reopening December 2021
- Implementation of new project size requirements and new project categories
- Capacity reallocation process in place

New Documents

- Finalization of the 2022 Long Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan
- New Program Guidebook with updated requirements
- New Consumer Protection Handbook
- New contract requirements for Community Solar and Distributed Generation

Program Timing

- September 1st opening of the 2022-2023 Program Year
- June 1st opening of all future Program Years
- Shift to annual blocks



CEJA's impact on the Program

Program Re-opening – December 2021 & September 2022



- **December 2021** – CEJA required the Agency to open blocks of capacity for the program within 90 days of enactment, by December 14, 2021.
 - This included category-specific requirements applicable to the selection of waitlisted traditional community solar projects as well as the establishment of blocks for the newly established categories of public school projects, community-driven community solar, and equity eligible contractor projects.
 - Among other program updates, REC prices were updated, block sizes were determined, and processes related to prevailing wage compliance were established.
- **September 2022** – Program is re-opened after the finalization of the Agency's 2022 Long-Term Plan.
 - Updates from Plan to all project categories are finalized and incorporated, aside from updates to Traditional Community Solar.
 - Uncontracted capacity from previous Program year is allocated.

Shift in Program Focus Under CEJA

- Three new categories were added beyond the Program’s existing three categories, serving to incentivize specific project types through the Program.
 - **Public Schools** – Small and Large Distributed Generation projects as well as community solar projects which serve a public school in Illinois.
 - **Community-Driven Community Solar (“CDCS”)** – Community Solar projects up to 5MW that meet specific community-driven requirements including community involvement in project development and ownership
 - **Equity Eligible Contractor (“EEC”)** – Projects that are submitted to the Program by an Equity Eligible Contractor Approved Vendor - companies that traditionally face barriers to entry and success in solar market.
- Focus of program shifts to include equity provisions:
 - Equity Accountability System
 - Prevailing wage requirements
 - Equity Eligible Contractor block
 - Training and mentorship program for minority-owned, woman-owned, veteran-owned, disability-owned and small businesses

2022-2023 Delivery Year Capacity



Category	Group A (MW)	Group B (MW)
Small Distributed Generation	42.18	99.09
Large Distributed Generation	57.58	99.09
Traditional Community Solar	51.27	118.63
Community-Driven Community Solar	10.55	24.27
Equity Eligible Contractor Projects	43.59	101.04
Public School Projects	154.85	

The block sizes above were amended with reallocated capacity from the 2021-22 program year.

What's on the horizon for the Program?

Future of Program

- **Began accepting applications for all categories, except Traditional Community Solar, on September 1, 2022.**
- **Applications for the Traditional Community Solar category will open on November 1, 2022.**
- **Beginning with the 2023 delivery year and for all subsequent delivery years, the Agency will open all blocks of capacity on June 1st.**
- **Implementation of the Equity Accountability System and June 1, 2023 with submission of the Minimum Equity Standard Compliance Plans.**
- **Continued educational webinars and resources on Equity Accountability System and new Program categories.**
- **Continued stakeholder feedback sessions on programmatic changes.**
- **Trainings and mentorship program for minority Approved Vendors**

2023-2024 Delivery Year Capacity



Category	Group A (MW)	Group B (MW)
Small Distributed Generation	40	94
Large Distributed Generation	40	94
Traditional Community Solar	60	140
Community-Driven Community Solar	10	23
Equity Eligible Contractor Projects	20	46
Public School Projects	100	

The block sizes above will be amended with reallocated capacity from the 2022-23 program year.



CEJA Turns One: Illinois Solar For All

Program changes under CEJA

Program Changes Under CEJA

- **Sub-Program Changes**
 - Separate multi-family program
 - End of low-income community solar pilot procurement
 - Participant-friendly name updates
- **Funding Changes**
 - Utility contributions grow from approximately \$11 million/year to \$50 million per year
 - Funding Allocation Changes
- **Focus Changes**
 - Broadening participation
 - Energy sovereignty
 - Coordination with other programs

Sub-program Changes

Sub-Program Changes

- Low-Income Community Solar Pilot Projects eliminated
- Split Low-Income Distributed Generation into two separate sub-programs
 - Low-Income Single Family and Small Multifamily Solar
 - Low-Income Large Multifamily Solar

Sub-Program Colloquial Name Changes

Formal Names	Participant-Friendly Names
Low-Income Single-Family and Small Multifamily Solar (previously Low-Income Distributed Generation, 1-4 units)	Illinois Solar for All: Residential Solar (Small)
Low-Income Large Multifamily Solar (previously Low-Income Distributed Generation, (5+ units)	Illinois Solar for All: Residential Solar (Large)
Low-Income Community Solar	Illinois Solar for All: Community Solar
Incentives for Non-Profits and Public Facilities	Illinois Solar for All: Non-Profit and Public Facilities

Increase in Funding

- Illinois Solar for All funded by both the Renewable Energy Resources Fund (“RERF”) and utility-funding
- Utility contributions grow from approximately \$11 million/year to \$50 million per year

Prior Allocation

- 22.5% Distributed generation (residential)
- 37.5% Low-income community solar
- 15% Non-profit/public facilities
- 25% Low-income community solar pilot procurement
 - 1 procurement event held, \$20 million allocated.

New Allocation

- 55% Residential
 - Small (1-4 unit)
 - Large (5+ unit)
- 40% Low-income community solar
- 25% Non-profit/public facilities
- Funding removed for pilot procurement - \$17.5 million from RERF

Funding Changes

Increase in Funding

Additional funding from CEJA was applied in PY2022

	Low-Income Distributed Generation	Non-profit and Public Facilities	Community Solar
PY2021-2022 Original Allocation	\$8,334,018	\$5,556,012	\$13,890,031
PY2021-2022 with new CEJA funding (same for PY2023)	\$23,775,000	\$16,125,000	\$26,600,000

Funding Changes

Increase in Funding

The additional funding from CEJA allowed significant growth in the program compared to the previous year.

Program Year	Residential Solar (Small, 1-4 unit)	Residential Solar (Large, 5+ unit)	Non-profit and Public Facilities	Community Solar
PY2020-2021	54 projects approved (301 kW, \$0.78 million)	9 projects approved (424 kW, \$0.85 million)	20 projects approved (2.4 MW, \$4.8 million)	3 projects approved (4.7 MW, \$11.9 million)
PY2021-2022 (with new CEJA funding)	160 projects approved (976 kW, \$2.74 million)	2 projects approved (323 kW, \$0.53 million)	45 projects approved (6 MW, \$14.3 million)	6 projects approved (7.4 MW, \$21.3 million)

Statewide Reach

The Agency shall strive to ensure that renewable energy credits procured through the Illinois Solar for All Program and each of its subprograms are purchased from projects across the breadth of low-income and environmental justice communities in Illinois, including both urban and rural communities, are not concentrated in a few communities, and do not exclude particular low-income or environmental justice communities.

Small and Emerging Businesses

The Agency shall make every effort to ensure that small and emerging businesses, particularly those located in low-income and environmental justice communities, are able to participate in the Illinois Solar for All Program. These efforts may include, but shall not be limited to, proactive support from the program administrator, different or preferred access to subprograms and administrator-identified customers or grassroots education provider-identified customers, and different incentive levels.

- **Progress and continued barriers to participation shall be reported at least once a year**

Two pilots introduced in 2022 Long-Term Plan to promote Residential Solar (Small):

- **Residential Solar Program Delivery Pilot**
 - The Program Administrator will assume the majority of the customer-interaction and public outreach functions for Residential Solar (Small) projects. Selection will prioritize Small and Emerging Businesses. Will streamline the application and project development processes and seeks to ease soft costs related to customer acquisition.
- **Home Repairs Pilot**
 - Will provide additional incentives for the home repairs and upgrades necessary to install solar on homes that are eligible for the Residential Solar (Small) sub-program. Intends to address roof repairs and other deferred maintenance repairs that can create barriers to solar readiness and program involvement.

25% carveout of each sub-program for projects that:

Promote energy sovereignty through ownership of projects by low-income households, not-for-profit organizations providing services to low-income households, affordable housing owners, community cooperatives, or community-based limited liability companies providing services to low-income households. Projects that feature energy ownership should ensure that local people have control of the project and reap benefits from the project over and above energy bill savings.

- \$10 REC adder for Residential Solar (Small and Large) and Non-profit/Public Facilities projects
- Prioritization points for Community Solar projects

- **CEJA instructs ILSFA to**

...be implemented in a manner that seeks to minimize administrative costs and maximize efficiencies and synergies available through coordination with similar initiatives, including the Adjustable Block Program..., energy efficiency programs, job training programs, and community action agencies.

- **CEJA created several new programs that interact with ILSFA**

- Job Training and Placement Programs—implemented under DCEO
- Equity and Environmental Justice programs—grant programs
- Energy Efficiency Programs and Community Action Agencies—facilitate participant referrals
- Climate Bank and the Clean Energy Jobs and Justice Fund—financial vehicles to facilitate project financing
- Equitable Energy Upgrade Program—ICC administered on-bill financing of projects

Expanding Grassroots Education Efforts

CEJA expanded authorization of grassroots education funding to support activities beyond community education campaigns.

- General energy education
- Job training program outreach
- Other activities deemed to be qualified by the Agency

Illinois Solar for All Advisory Group

The Agency will convene an Illinois Solar for All Advisory Group, to develop and explore ideas and advise the Agency on the ILSFA program. The group will meet regularly, and representatives will be invited from the Agency, the Illinois Commerce Commission, the ILSFA Program Administrator, Approved Vendors, Approved Vendor Aggregators, Equity-Eligible Contractors, industry participants, grassroots educators or local organizations, the public, and other interested stakeholders. (2022 Plan)



CEJA Turns One: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

DEI requirements under CEJA

DEI Requirements Under CEJA

- **The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (Public Act 102-0662) strengthens equity and diversity requirements for IPA-administered incentive programs and procurements**
- **Implementation of the new CEJA provisions include:**
 - **The Equity Accountability System**
 - Minimum Equity Standards
 - IL Power Agency's Energy Workforce Equity Database
 - **Racial Disparity Study**
 - **Outreach to Small and Disadvantage Businesses**

- **What is the Equity Accountability System?**
 - A compliance system implemented through the Agency to advance equity across Illinois by providing access to the clean energy economy for businesses and workers statewide.
- **Major Components of the EAS**
 - Minimum Equity Standards
 - EEC Category in ABP & Competitive Procurements
 - AV Compliance Plans
 - Compliance Plan Submittal Process
 - Review
 - Enforcement

The IPA is establishing an online portal in two phases for Approved Vendors of suppliers, vendors and subcontractors to bridge equitable distribution of benefits for all Illinois communities

The Portal will also contain details for:

- Potential employment opportunities for Equity Eligible Persons and Equity Eligible Contractors to connect
- Phase one will tentatively launch later this year – the second phase will incorporate DCEO workforce development, and justice grant program information as it becomes available

Section 1-75 (c-15) of the Public Act 102-0662 empowers the Agency to conduct a racial disparity study for the purpose of addressing race-conscious contracting and hiring goals

The general purpose of the study will be:

- Review of the State's renewable energy sector for access, participation and utilization of contractors with a specific emphasis on minority owned /disadvantaged workers
- Provide recommendations how to adjust the Equity Accountability System to ensure standards of meeting its goals

The Illinois Power Agency plans to increase minority participation in our solar incentive programs through commitment to DEI and improve participation and utilization of disadvantaged businesses and individuals in the Agency's renewable energy programs to help lead Illinois' transition to a clean energy future

- The IPA's vision for DEI outreach to minority and small businesses is designed to develop and foster a culture that prioritizes advancing access to a clean energy economy for communities that have been historically excluded from economic opportunities within the energy sector
- We will work closely with key stakeholders – including minority-owned electrical firms, community-based organizations, minority trade associations, and the construction industry – to utilize their feedback of implementing strategies that meet the IPA's vision for DEI outreach

What has been implemented?

What Has Been Implemented?

- **Major Items**

- The Minimum Equity Standards for Utility-Scale Procurements
- Approved Elements through the proposed Long-Term Plan
 - The creation of a quantitative scoring system for issuing waivers
 - The definition of the “project workforce” subject clarified and broadened regarding the MES requirements
 - EEPs have an option to self-identify as Qualified Persons for installing clean energy
 - Continued collection of demographic & geographic data on AV employees on a project-level basis
- Equity Eligible Contractor Components
 - To date there are 10 registered Equity Eligible Contractors and 5 additional applications under review
 - Bonus system in competitive procurements for utilizing EEC contractors
 - Ongoing efforts to include EEC utilization into community solar project selection scoring
- Outreach Activities

What's on the horizon?

What's on the Horizon?

- **Ongoing Energy Workforce Equity Database Activities**
- **Outreach Work to Small & Disadvantaged Businesses**
- **Events already done and upcoming include:**
 1. **CESA (Clean Energy State Alliance) – panel discussion about energy equity**
 2. **ComEd Solar Forum – awareness for participation in the Illinois solar programs**
 3. **Chicago Urban League/Invenergy LLC– Oct 2022 townhall on clean energy industry opportunities to raise awareness round job training programs and contracting opportunities**
- **IPA Outreach Vision**
 - **Our efforts for outreach is designed to develop and foster a culture that prioritizes advancing access to a clean energy economy for communities that have been excluded from economic opportunities within the energy sector.**
 - **To further enhance our effort the IPA is expanding the DEI Team to include two new positions: a DEI Outreach Associate and DEI Data Analyst**



CEJA Turns One: IPA's Additional Implementation of Activities

Additional CEJA Implementation Activities



- **Carbon Mitigation Credit Plan & Procurement**
 - Supports at-risk nuclear plants
 - Plan developed in Sept, approved in Nov, procurement in Dec
 - Stands to save ComEd customers potentially \$2-\$3 billion in 2022-2023 delivery year
- **Prevailing Wage/Project Labor Agreements**
 - Requirements enforced through programs/procurements
 - Coordination with IL Department of Labor
- **Additional Consumer Protection Work**
- **Self-Direct RPS Program**
 - Outlined in Long-Term Plan
 - Presently analyzing market size
 - Early 2023 for deliverables
- **Coal-to-Solar procurement events**
 - April 2022 First Procurement Event
 - October 2022 Second Procurement Event
- **Consultation with ICC re: storage plan**
- **Consultation with ICC re: Renewable Energy Access Plan**



Q&A

Contact Us!



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