



February 2026 DEI Advisory Committee Meeting

Illinois Power Agency | February 25, 2026 | 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Welcome In!

Please, take a moment to arrive.

Housekeeping



- Mind the mic
- Use the chat
- Ask for tech support if needed

Working Agreements

<p>Focus on Systems: Move out of the individual focus and zoom out to consider systemic cause for barriers or burdens felt by individuals.</p>	<p>Move up/Move up: Be aware of one's own contributions. If you find yourself talking more, move up your listening. If you find yourself listening more, work to move up your contributions.</p>	<p>With and not for: We are representatives in this space and we are tasked with advocating for perspectives and turning back to our spheres to bring them along with us in this space.</p>	<p>Confidentiality within this space: Maintain confidentiality of what committee members share. Allow members to speak their minds.</p>	<p>Agree to Disagree: We may not always agree. There may be non-closure and we can expect and work to accept that.</p>
---	---	--	--	---

Agenda

1. **Welcome**
2. **Introductions**
3. **Updates from the Bureau Chief**
4. **Equity Learning Series Conversation**
5. **Topic Generation**
6. **Closing**



Introductions

- IPA Staff: Name, Pronouns, Title, Areas of work
- Committee Members: Name, Pronouns, Organization
- Reflection Prompt:

What word best captures how you're prioritizing equity in your work this year?

Updates from the Bureau Chief



- Welcome in Esther Kim, DEI Partnerships Manager!
 - Partnerships One-on-One
- Racial Disparity Study Update
- Stakeholder Feedback
- Annual Report Released

Equity Learning Series Overview

Objective: Engage participants with the context for the spirit of the law, identify opportunities to enhance their business model through diversification, and equip participants with holistic recruitment and retention strategies which lead to sustainable employment of EEPs in the IL clean energy sector.

Overview from Jess Blue, Community Solar Sector Strategy and Equity Learning Series Lead & K.C. Doyle, Strategy/DEI Team Lead, Energy Solutions

Equity Learning Series Overview

- Reactions and Discussion from the last ELS Training?
- Overview of Proposed Outline for **Training #2: Partnering for Equity: Building Genuine and Sustained Relationships with EECs**
 - *Seeking Committee Feedback on:*
 1. Business case for EEC partnerships
 2. The format of bringing in EEC Panelist
 - Is there any interest from the Committee to participate?
 3. Best Practices/Tips to name within the training

Group Discussion

- What are other topics you'd like to engage the marketplace with this Learning Series?
 - *What are the conversations that move the needle of our shared work?*
 - *Additional topics that have been requested:*
 - Funding for SEB and EECs
 - Navigating the MES and Unions
 - SEB meeting the MES
 - Using the Equity Portal
 - Breaking Down the Data: A Deep Dive on Data-Driven Impact of the MES
 - Meeting the MES in Southern Illinois

Future Topic Generation

- What emerging equity topics or gaps should we discuss next?
- Any intersectional issues (e.g. workforce, policy, small business) we should elevate?
- Ideas for speakers, research, or data to inform upcoming agendas?

Closing & Next Steps

- Gratitude for your continued insight and partnership.
- Meeting notes and materials will be posted on the website.
- Please complete the short feedback form after the meeting.
- Next meeting: TBD