Illinois Solar for All
Solar Access & Job Training

Future Energy Jobs Act
Webinar for IL Solar Energy Association
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LVEJO
Expanding Access to Solar & Increasing Job Opportunities
What does this all mean for Illinois communities?
What does this all mean for Illinois communities?

For the first time, Illinois will have a program that:

- Expands access to solar energy
- Saves people $ on electric bills
- Offers real career opportunities

*for economically disadvantaged households needing these benefits the most*

- Prioritizes environmental justice communities
- Community-driven economic justice opportunities
Illinois Solar for All

SOLAR INCENTIVES
IL Solar for All: Across All Incentive Categories

- Solar **must produce** energy and economic benefits that flow directly to participating low-income households.
- Priority **will be given** to projects that show meaningful involvement of community members in designing proposals.
- Projects **must include** job training opportunities if available, and shall endeavor to coordinate with the job training programs.
IL Solar for All: How is it funded?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Energy Resources Fund (&quot;RERF&quot;)</td>
<td>~$189 million</td>
<td>Existing money already collected, will not be replenished, needs protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Portfolio Standard</td>
<td>5% or $10 million / year</td>
<td>Ongoing, collected every year</td>
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Illinois Solar for All: Solar Incentives By Category

- Community Solar: 38%
- Rooftop Solar: 25%
- Community Solar Pilot Projects: 22%
- Non-Profits & Public Facilities: 15%
Illinois Solar for All: Community Solar, continued

38% of incentives increase low-income participation in community solar projects: large solar systems built off-site, providing power & savings to many households.

$ saved on each household’s electric bill.

GOALS
● Minimum of 25% for projects located within environmental justice communities

KEY SPECIFICITIES
● Developer of a project shall identify its partnership with community stakeholders regarding the location, development, and participation in the project

Source: https://solect.com
Illinois Solar for All: Community Solar, continued

KEY SPECIFICS

- **100% low-income subscriber owned** community solar projects should also be offered incentives
  - Includes low-income households, non-profits, affordable housing owners
- Anchor tenants, i.e. large single subscribers are not prohibited

Source: https://solect.com
Illinois Solar for All: **Rooftop/On-Site Solar**

22% of incentives are for **solar built on-site for low-income households**.

$ saved on household’s electric bill.

**GOALS**
- Minimum of 25% for projects located within environmental justice communities

**KEY SPECIFIC**
- Participating companies install solar panels **shall commit to hiring job trainees for a portion** of their low-income installation
- An administrator shall facilitate partnering the companies that install solar panels with entities that provide solar panel installation job training
Illinois Solar for All: Non-Profits & Public Facilities

15% of incentives are for solar built on-site serving non-profit & public sector customers taking electric service at public buildings

GOALS
- Minimum of 25% for projects located within environmental justice communities

KEY SPECIFICS
- Non-profit community orgs, churches can get on-site solar
- Intent for non-profit & public customers to be serving low-income
- May be program boundaries around what scale/type of customers could qualify

Source: Interfaith Power & Light
Illinois Solar for All: Community Solar Pilot Projects

25% of incentives up to $50 million max to competitively bid pilot community solar projects, may be larger than 2MW, $20 million limit each

$ saved on each household’s electric bill.

KEY SPECIFICS

- Pilots must result in economic benefits for members of community where located
- Pilots must include a partnership with at least one community-based organization
- Funding $ may not only go to utility
- Some funds $ must include a partnership including community ownership by subscribers

Source: https://solect.com
IL Solar for All: Who runs it? How will people know about it?

- Run by Illinois Power Agency and/or third party
- Required collaboration with community agencies
- Up to 5% of funds for IL Solar for All to community-based groups providing grassroots education
IL Solar for All: **Next Steps & Timeline**

- **Protect the RERF**: existing $ needs to stay with IL Solar for All program
- **Start connecting dots | What kinds of projects could be built locally**: Community partners, location, developers, ownership, etc.

**TIMELINE:**
- June 2, 2018 - Final REC prices available
- June 15, 2018 (approx.) - IL Solar for All Program Administrator in place
- **Fall - Winter 2018** - IL Solar for All begins!
Jobs Training Program

SOLAR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Solar Installers

- Rooftops, ground-based, connecting equipment
- Are most of the solar workforce, but rely on other sectors of solar workers to acquire, design, fund, permit the work, and recruit subscribers in community solar projects
Solar panels + solar workers indoors and outdoors:
They DO work in the Midwestern winter!
Jobs Training Program: Solar Installer Pipeline

Pipeline to establish a pool of trained solar installers for IL Solar for All and general market

GOALS
● Minimum of 50% of trainees come from environmental justice communities
● 2,000 jobs created for formerly incarcerated and foster care alumni

KEY SPECIFICS
● Designed to ensure training orgs are located in, and trainees are recruited from, the same communities that the program aims to serve
● Incentives for hiring formerly incarcerated and foster care alumni
Jobs Training Program: Solar Installer Pipeline

To establish a pool of trained solar installers

KEY SPECIFICS: Curriculum

● Programs must provide trainees with the opportunity to obtain real-world experience

● Programs must assist trainees so they can obtain applicable certification or participate in an apprenticeship

KEY SPECIFICS: Structure

● ComEd granted competitively to 4 programs led by: OAI, Inc., Safer Foundation, Elevate Energy, Illinois Central College
Jobs Training Program: Craft Apprenticeship, Multi-Cultural Training

Pre-allocated to specific kinds of organizations in the law. May, but need not, relate to solar training

KEY DETAILS

- Apprenticeship can focus on broader electric industry
- Multi-cultural training delivered through diversity-focused community organizations with history of providing training
- Example organizations: IBEW, Chicago Urban League, Nat’l Latino Education Institute, etc.
Jobs Training: **Who runs it?**

**How will people know about it?**

- Administered by **ComEd** and/or third party, but jobs training will be delivered by many different organizations
- Each training program provider will either directly recruit or should develop partnerships to recruit from communities, ideally with community organizations
## Jobs Training Program: How is it funded?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Line item on customer electric bills</td>
<td>$30 million total</td>
<td>Ongoing, collected over time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **$10 million sent out three times:** 2017, 2021, 2025 = $30 million total
  - $3 million to Solar Jobs Training Pipeline
  - $3 million to Craft Apprenticeship
  - $4 million to Multi-Cultural Jobs Training
Jobs Training: Next Steps & Timeline

• Start connecting dots | Where could jobs training candidates be recruited locally? Who are the right community contacts if you or someone you know are interested in the classroom training and on the job experiences in your community?

• **TIMELINE:** Regulatory process at Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is complete, programs starting up in 2018, talk to organizers about program timeline specifics!
  - **August – September 2017** – ComEd jobs training plan approved
  - **2018 ongoing** – All programs begin to run, timeline varies by program
Thank you! Gracias!

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