



Advisory Committee Member Written Feedback Submission

Submit written feedback here if you were unable to join a committee meeting or if you were unable to provide feedback in the meeting.

Member Name: Laurie Fields

Submission Date: March 12, 2024

Topic: Small Residential pilot program

Feedback: One thought I had since our meeting is that to promote the program for small residential and to help vendors meet the need in areas that don't have many vendors, it might help for someone from Elevate to work with Grassroots Educators or others (Community Action Agencies, etc.) to put together bundles of projects in one area. I'm not a solar installer, but if I was, I think I would be much more interested in sending a team to an area I didn't normally work to do installs if they could do several houses in the same general area at once. I also thinking that this could have a great effect on publicity for the program – if one town or county has 15 homes that get solar through ILSFA at the same time, that is something to publicize and encourage others to consider the program. I also think it would help get over the “we don't trust the state to actually show up and do something” mindset if we had a group of homeowners in a smaller region who are benefiting from the program at the same time. It would work against the “well, it worked for that one person but it won't for me” mindset that is often – in my experience in the far southern reaches of the state – the next step from “we're forgotten down here.”



Advisory Committee Written Member Feedback Submission

Submit written feedback here if you were unable to join a committee meeting or if you were unable to provide feedback in the meeting.

Member Name: Kim Knowles

Submission Date: 3/13/24

Topic: Seeking suggestions for addressing new barriers encountered during the pilot implementation, such as drop-off during income verification, and suggestions on new partnerships that may support the pilot's work in the final month of outreach.

I don't think there's any time for new partnerships. I think the best way to reach folks is with community ambassadors, organizations or people that are already trusted. I suspect you know this, and by this I do not mean simply a community-based organization. I mean one that has access to ambassadors and/or staff that are proven trusted leaders or organizers. This pilot may be helping Elevate and IPA see just how difficult grassroots education can be.

Topic: How may we encourage customers to continue in the customer journey to address the drop-off during income verification?

I think we need a better understanding about the dropoff. Also, some folks just need an incredible amount of handholding.

I think we need self-attestation in EJ and LI communities.

I think we shouldn't be trying to run this pilot in some of the most over-burdened and under resourced communities. Residential small projects may not be suited for such households, with community solar being a better program match.

Has Garfield Park Community Council been able to help and to provide insight on the dropoffs?

Two members mentioned the importance of continuous follow-ups, **even weeks or months later**, with income-eligible residents to try to address the drop off.

As a grassroots educator, I have been following folks for years. That, of course, is not reasonable for this pilot, but yes, I would say follow up throughout the entire year.

Topic: Home Repairs and Upgrades Pilot, Questions Considered by the Advisory Committee-

Suggest allowing the Advisory Committee to have input on the topics and questions considered.



Topic: Are there other state, federal, local, or non-profit programs that have funding (or have cycles of funding) for home repairs that we could add to our external funding document?

I don't think this pilot/program should expect people to go to other sources of funding first, and I don't think it should put the burden on the AVs to pay upfront or to cover shortfalls. The REC adder model does not work. Hopefully the IL Climate Bank's application for GHGRF will be awarded and it will follow through with the home repair and upgrade grant program. I would strongly advise the PA and IPA not to continue the pilot another year as currently structured.

Topic: Is there anything else we could be doing to spread the word about the pilot to AVs and get them involved within this program year?

I don't think so. I think it has to be substantially changed to get them involved.