

# Deep Dive for Community Solar Disclosure Form

## Income-Eligible Residential Customer – Ameren

Your Disclosure Form has a unique identification number. This helps Illinois Solar for All track each form. If you contact the Program Administrator with questions, they may ask you for your Disclosure Form ID number.

### Contact Information

The Community Solar Provider is the entity that signs you up for community solar, and who you should reach out to with questions about your subscription. The Community Solar Provider may or may not be the same as your Approved Vendor or the company that owns the community solar project you are subscribed to.

### Project Information

Information about the community solar project is provided here, including the estimated date that the project will begin operating.

The Disclosure Form also provides contact information for the Approved Vendor, which will sell the Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs") generated by the solar project to a utility in exchange for an incentive payment, which in turn allows the community solar subscription to be offered to customers with guaranteed savings.



Illinois Solar for All

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## Community Solar Disclosure Form

### Income-Eligible Residential Customer

Illinois Solar for All is a state solar incentive program. Your community solar provider is required to provide you with this disclosure form so that you have clear information about the community solar subscription. More information about Illinois Solar for All is available at [IllinoisSFA.com](http://IllinoisSFA.com), and a guide to understanding your disclosure form is available at [IllinoisSFA.com/consumer-protections](http://IllinoisSFA.com/consumer-protections).

Your subscription entitles you to a share of the electricity generated from the community solar project. You will receive monetary credits for this electricity on your utility bill. Carefully read your contract before signing. You may want to compare offers from multiple community solar providers or Approved Vendors. You should take whatever time you need to shop around and to fully understand the contract before signing.

You may rescind your subscription contract by contacting the community solar provider within the period allowed by your contract or law, which cannot be less than three calendar days.

If you are unable to resolve a complaint with your community solar provider or Approved Vendor, you may contact the Illinois Solar for All Program Administrator by emailing [info@IllinoisSFA.com](mailto:info@IllinoisSFA.com) or by calling (888) 970-ISFA (4732). If you have been subject to fraudulent or deceptive sales practices, the Consumer Protection Division of the Illinois Attorney General's office may also be able to help; call (800) 243-0618 or visit [IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/File-A-Complaint](http://IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/File-A-Complaint).

#### Contact Information

Customer	
Name	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Service Utility	
Customer type	

Community Solar Provider*	
Legal Name	
Name used for Marketing	
Phone	
Email	
Website	

\*may be different than project owner/developer

#### Project Information

Project name	
Project location	
Estimated total size	kW AC
Estimated date to begin operating	

Approved Vendor	
Legal Name	
Name used for Marketing	
Phone	
Email	
Website	

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# Deep Dive for Community Solar Disclosure Form

## Income-Eligible Residential Customer – Ameren

### Subscription Information

Make sure you consider the size of your subscription. Compare the estimated first year production (the kWh of electricity that your share of the solar project will generate in the first year) to the amount of electricity your household uses in a year. You may want to look at past electricity bills to help determine your usage. If your subscription is oversized, it's possible for you to receive more bill credits than you can actually use.

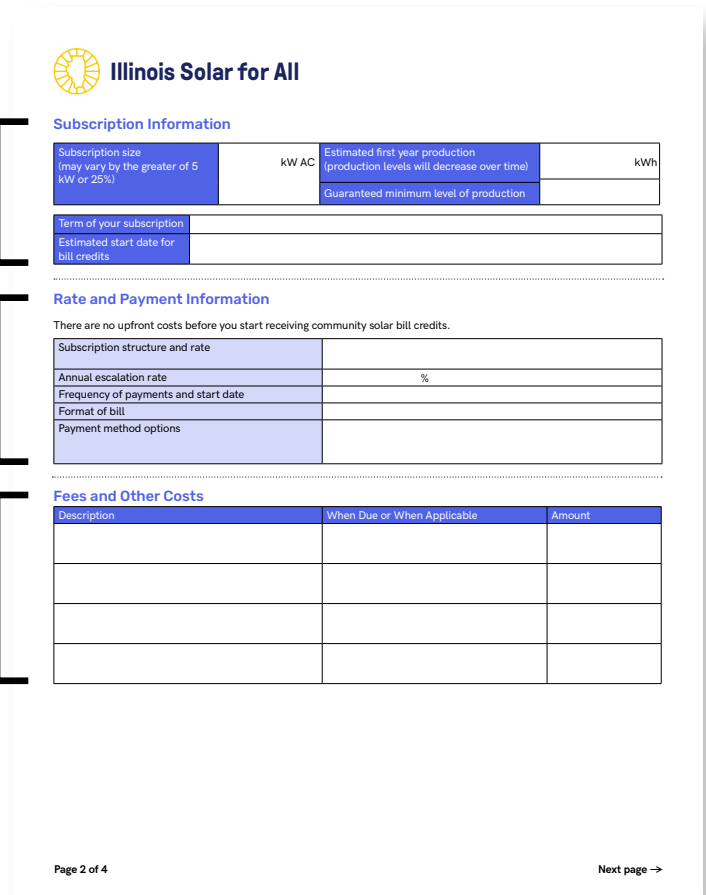
### Rate and Payment Information

This section is very important. There are many different ways that the subscription rate can be structured. Make sure you understand how much you will be paying for your community solar subscription, whether the subscription fee changes over time, and what fees may apply.

As an income-eligible resident, you will not pay any upfront costs before you start receiving bill credits.

### Fees and Other Costs

This section lays out the fees and other costs that you will pay for the community solar subscription. These costs and fees are listed out separately and then totaled up.



**Illinois Solar for All**

**Subscription Information**

Subscription size (may vary by the greater of 5 kW or 25%)	kW AC	Estimated first year production (production levels will decrease over time)	kWh
		Guaranteed minimum level of production	
Term of your subscription			
Estimated start date for bill credits			

**Rate and Payment Information**

There are no upfront costs before you start receiving community solar bill credits.

Subscription structure and rate	
Annual escalation rate	%
Frequency of payments and start date	
Format of bill	
Payment method options	

**Fees and Other Costs**

Description	When Due or When Applicable	Amount

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# Deep Dive for Community Solar Disclosure Form

## Income-Eligible Residential Customer – Ameren

### Early Termination of Subscription

If you move within the same utility service area, you can keep your community solar subscription. If you move out of your current electric utility's service area, your subscription will terminate. In this section your Community Solar Provider will list any additional circumstances for an early termination as well as list any advance notice requirements, penalties, or fees for early termination if they apply.

### Transferring Your Subscription

You have the right to transfer your subscription to another customer if they live in the same electric utility service area.

### Subscription Renewal

If your Community Solar Provider offers an option for you to renew your contract, those subscription renewal terms, or any end-of-contract requirements will be detailed here.



**Illinois Solar for All**

#### Early Termination of Subscription

Your community solar subscription will terminate if you move out of your current electric utility's service territory. Advance notice requirements and/or a penalty or fee may apply.

Additional circumstances under which you may terminate your subscription early	
Advance notice requirement for early termination	
Penalty or fee for early termination	

#### Transferring Your Subscription

You have the right to transfer your subscription to another customer if the new subscriber lives in the same utility service area. You cannot be charged for transferring your subscription. Your Community Solar Provider will assist you with the transfer. If you terminate your contract prior to the agreed end date without transferring to another subscriber, you may be charged fees (see Early Termination of Subscription section above). If you move within the same utility service area, you may choose to keep your subscription. The terms of subscription may require changes if your electricity usage changes after the move.

#### Subscription Renewal

At the end of your subscription contract term, your Community Solar Provider may offer you the option to renew your contract. These are the terms for renewal or end-of-contract requirements:

# Deep Dive for Community Solar Disclosure Form

## Income-Eligible Residential Customer – Ameren

### Value of Electricity and Savings Estimate

This section provides an **estimate of the value of the bill credits** you will receive on your electric bill. It then **subtracts your estimated payments** to provide an estimate of your **first year savings and your savings over the term of the subscription**.

If you are a **residential customer** in Ameren service territory and receive supply service from Ameren, you will receive bill credits at the utility's "Price to Compare." You can visit [www.PlugInIllinois.org](http://www.PlugInIllinois.org) to learn more about the Price to Compare and to see the current Price to Compare.

Your community solar bill credits roll over each month and do not expire unless you move to a new utility's service territory. If you move within Ameren's service territory, you get to keep any accumulated community solar bill credits (as long as you set up your new account within 12 months of closing your previous account).

Through November 2023, the bill credits only apply to the Ameren supply and transmission charges on your electricity bill. Starting in December 2023, the community solar bill credits will apply to the entire electric bill. Your community solar credits will apply first to your delivery charges, and if the credits are more than the delivery charges, they will next apply to your supply and transmission charges, and then other fees and taxes.

If you are a **residential customer** and you buy electricity from an ARES, you will still receive bill credits from Ameren for your community solar subscription calculated based on the utility's Price to Compare (which may be different than the price you are paying for electricity to the ARES).

If you receive separate bills from Ameren and from the ARES, the community solar bill credits will only apply to charges that are on the Ameren bill. If you receive a single bill only from the ARES, the community solar bill credits will be applied to the Ameren charges on the bill.

The Disclosure Form also shows your savings **as a percentage** of the value of bill credits generated by your subscription. This is calculated by dividing your estimated savings by the estimated value of the bill credits.

For income-eligible residents, ILSFA requires that your estimated savings must be at least 50% of the value of the bill credits in the first year and over the term of the subscription. In other words, your costs cannot be more than 50% of the bill credits you receive.



### Value of Electricity and Savings Estimates

With your community solar subscription, you will receive **monetary credits on your electric utility bill** for the electricity generated by your share of the solar project. Below are estimates of the bill credits your subscription will generate in the first year and over the term of your subscription (how much less you will pay in electric bills). The form also provides estimated savings in year one and over the subscription term. These estimates are based on the current rate for community solar bill credits in your service utility territory. **The below estimates are NOT a guarantee**; bill crediting rates are subject to change. For more information on savings estimates, visit [IllinoisSFA.com/consumer-protections](http://IllinoisSFA.com/consumer-protections).

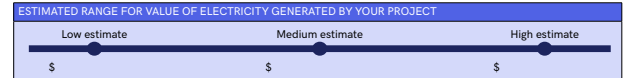
Your estimated savings must be at least 50% of the value of the bill credits for the first year and over the duration of your subscription.

Year 1

Estimated Bill Credits in Year 1	-	Total Costs in Year 1	=	Estimated Savings in Year 1	Savings as a Percentage of the Bill Credits Generated by your Subscription
\$	-	\$	=	\$	

Assuming starting electricity price of \$ /kWh

### Over Term of Subscription



Assuming starting electricity price of \$ /kWh; electricity price escalation rates of .5%, 1.7%, and 2.5%; production decrease of .5% per year

Estimated Bill Credits over Term of Subscription (Medium estimate)	-	Total Costs over Term of Subscription	=	Estimated Savings over Term of Subscription	Savings as a Percentage of the Bill Credits Generated by your Subscription
\$	-	\$	=	\$	

Most community solar subscriptions are sized so that the subscription's generation in kWh roughly matches the customer's electric usage in kWh over the course of the year. If your subscription size is too large, it is possible that you may accumulate more bill credits than you can use. Keep in mind that the solar project will generate more electricity in the summer than in the winter. For more information, visit [IllinoisSFA.com/consumer-protections](http://IllinoisSFA.com/consumer-protections).

### Additional Information from Community Solar Provider / Approved Vendor

#### Signature

By signing this form, you certify that you received and read this form and had the opportunity to ask questions about it.

Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Make sure that you fully understand your Disclosure Form and take the time to ask questions before signing.

The size of your community solar subscription is important, as an oversized subscription can cause you to not be able to use the full value of your bill credits.

If your subscription ends up being too big, ask your Community Solar Provider about adjusting the size so that you can use up your accumulated credits and have a correctly-sized subscription going forward.



# Glossary for Community Solar

**Approved Vendor (AV):** Solar contractor or developer that enrolls your solar project in the Illinois Solar for All program, and also sells the Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs") generated from solar projects to the utility in exchange for an Illinois Solar for All incentive payment.

**Community Solar (CS):** An arrangement where there is a large off-site solar project to which customers can subscribe. These customers, or subscribers, receive monetary credits on their electricity bill based on the electricity generated by their "share" of the community solar project.

**Community Solar Bill Credits:** The monetary credits that community solar customers, or subscribers, receive on their electricity bill. The amount of the credits is based on the electricity generated by the customer's share of the community solar project.

**Community Solar Provider:** The entity that enters into the subscription contract with the customer and manages the customer's subscription to a community solar project.

**Illinois Shines:** A state program administered by the Illinois Power Agency that supports the development of new photovoltaic distributed generation systems and new photovoltaic community renewable generation projects in Illinois through the purchase of Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs").

**Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA):** A state program administered by the Illinois Power Agency that supports the development of new photovoltaic distributed generation and new community renewable generation projects that serve low- and middle-income households, and non-profits and public facilities that serve and are located in environmental justice communities or income-eligible communities.

**Kilowatt (kW):** 1,000 watts of electrical power.

**Kilowatt-hour (kWh):** 1,000 watts of power used for one hour. Electrical energy consumption and production is measured in kWh. For example, if a 100-watt lightbulb is used for 10 hours, it will use 100 watts of electricity per hour, or 1000 watts over 10 hours. Over the 10-hour period, the lightbulb used 1 kWh.

**Price to Compare (PTC):** The price at which community solar subscribers are credited for the electricity generated by their share of the community solar project. The PTC is given as a price of cents/kWh, and is the utility's electric supply rate plus the utility's transmission service rate. It is called the "Price to Compare" because it is the portion of your electricity charge that would no longer pay to the utility if you instead chose to purchase energy supply from an Alternative Retail Electric Supplier; to determine whether the ARES electricity rate is higher or lower than the utility's rate, you can compare the ARES rate to the utility PTC. More information about the PTC is available at <https://plugin.illinois.gov/understanding-the-price-to-compare.html>.

**Program Administrator:** The entity responsible for running day-to-day operations of Illinois Solar for All, which is the non-profit Elevate.

**Subscription:** A community solar customer's agreement by which they pay a subscription charge to the Community Solar Provider in exchange for bill credits based on the electricity generated by their "share" of the community solar project.