

# Response for Comments: Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative

05.07.2026

## Overview

The Illinois Power Agency (the Agency) and the Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) Program Administrator (the Program Team) have reviewed feedback from stakeholders and other interested parties on the proposed changes to the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative (the “Initiative”) Design for the 2026-2027 Program Year. One party submitted written comments. Request for feedback on the proposed changes to the Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative 2026-2027 Program Year Design was issued on April 2, 2026, with public comments due on April 16, 2026. The Program Team has considered these written comments and appreciates the thoughtful input provided by the commenting party.

## FEEDBACK :

### “Topic 1: Removing the “Administrative Fee”

Yes, the Program Administrator should remove the “Administrative Fee” from the initiative. We agree that the fee is no longer necessary given the program’s popularity.

### Topic 2: Removing “Solar Related Roof Work”

The Program Administrator should keep “Solar Related Roof Work”. Removing this line item may in turn encourage full roof replacements, when only a small repair was needed.

### Topic 3: Splitting the “Water grounding (100/200 amps)” item into two separate items

Yes, the Program Administrator should split the “Water grounding (100/200 amps)” item into two separate items, for clarity.

#### **Topic 4: Scaling down the Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative, given current budget constraints**

The Illinois Solar for All program's small-residential sub-program is, for the first time, facing budget constraints. The start of the 2025-2026 Program Year saw unprecedented utilization of funding. In addition to this, the Illinois Climate Bank experienced a large loss in funding due to Trump Administration policy, which in turn resulted in a loss of funds that were to be allocated to Illinois Solar for All programs, including the Home Repairs and Upgrade initiative. Due to this new funding constraint, and in the interest of keeping the program focused on providing solar for income-eligible households, we believe the Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative should be scaled down or redesigned to maximize cost efficiency.

The Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative should be available only to households in both Low-Income and Environmental Justice tracts. This way, given a limited budget, funding is reserved for households that would likely benefit the most from this project. We understand this change may require more input and changes to the LTRRPP, but would like the Agency and others to begin to consider and even plan for this approach.

#### **RESPONSE :**

The Program Administrator thanks the commenters for their feedback on the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative.

#### **Topic 1: Removing the "Administrative Fee"**

The Program Administrator will remove the "Administrative Fee" from the initiative.

#### **Topic 2: Removing "Solar Related Roof Work"**

The Program Administrator appreciates the feedback surrounding this item and agrees that removing "Solar Related Roof Work" may inadvertently encourage Approved Vendors to submit for full roof replacements when only a small repair is needed. The Program Administrator will keep this line item in the Reference List.

#### **Topic 3: Splitting the "Water grounding (100/200 amps)" item into two separate items**

The Program Administrator will split the "Water grounding (100/200 amps)" item into two separate items.

#### **Topic 4: Scaling down the Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative, given current budget constraints**

The Program Administrator understands the commenter's argument to scale down or redesign the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative to only households in either Income-Eligible or Environmental Justice Communities so that funding is reserved for households that would benefit the most from home repairs. The initiative and the Residential Solar (Small) sub-

program as a whole experienced huge growth in demand during Program Year 2025-2026, and both are expected to see similar competition for project funding in Program Year 2026-2027.

The Program Administrator recognizes that the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative may need to be altered to maintain focus on providing solar for income-eligible households. However, as the commenters noted, scaling down the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative for this upcoming Program Year would require changes to the 2026 Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan, which is not subject to modification at this stage of the planning cycle. The Agency will consider this proposal in future updates to the Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative.

The Program would note that if submissions in the Residential Solar (Small) initial submission window are highly competitive and exceed available funding, proposed Project Selection updates regarding Home Repairs and Upgrades projects were intended to address the concerns raised by the commenting party. Home Repairs and Upgrades projects will be scored under the existing Project Selection stages, which means projects located in Environmental Justice Communities will be selected in Prioritization 1, and if applicable, projects located in Income-Eligible Communities will be selected in Prioritization 3. The Program Team appreciates the feedback received on this matter and will continue to monitor the concerns raised.