



Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

September 29, 2026, 2–3:30 p.m.

Meeting Purpose:

Topics discussed at Advisory Committee meetings aim to stimulate discussion and explore ideas to advise the Illinois Power Agency (IPA) on updates to the Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) program, with the goal of increasing participation in the ILSFA program across Illinois.

2 P.M. INTRODUCTIONS AND AGENDA OVERVIEW (5 MINS)

2:05 P.M. COMMITTEE UPDATE (5 MINS)

SPEAKER: JENNIFER BROWN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, ELEVATE

- Update from previous meeting topics

2:10 P.M. ILSFA PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR TRANSITION

SPEAKER: JENNIFER SCHMIDT, SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER, ILLINOIS SOLAR FOR ALL

2:15 P.M. TOPIC 1: BATTERY STORAGE FOR ALL (20 MINUTES)

SPEAKER: AUDREY STEINBACH, ENERGY STORAGE DIRECTOR, ILLINOIS POWER AGENCY (IPA)

Areas Covered:

- What is Battery Storage for All?
- How will it interface with Illinois Solar for All?

2:35 P.M. TOPIC 2: (45 MINS) THE PY25-26 EVALUATION PLAN

SPEAKER: MALIKA JAYARAMAN, SENIOR MANAGING CONSULTANT, ESOURCE

Areas Covered:

- The E Source team will share findings from the evaluation of program year 2024-2025, as well as findings about the Energy Sovereignty portion of the program.
- We will also collect input on our upcoming evaluation activities, including our evaluation of program year 2025-2026, our research on barriers to participation in rural areas of Illinois, and any other topics advisory committee would like to suggest we cover in the upcoming program year

3:30 P.M. CLOSING (5 MINUTES)



AGENDA BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Topic 1	Battery Storage for All Program
Background	The Illinois Power Agency is now beginning development work for the future Storage for All program. As outlined in the Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability Act (CRGA), the Storage for All program will be a low-income storage incentive program that acts as a companion program to the already established Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) program. <u>Statutory Requirements for Program</u> Section 1-56(b)(3) of CRGA notes several requirements for the Storage for All program, including but not limited to: ▶ The program should encourage <u>the development of energy storage collocated with solar projects</u> developed through the ILSFA program. ▶ The program <u>shall be available to current and future participants</u> of the low-income single-family and multifamily subprograms, and the subprogram for nonprofit and public facilities in the ILSFA program. ▶ The program design should <u>ensure that the distributed storage will be accessible to income-qualified households with zero upfront costs and in coordination with job training programs</u>, as well as how the program may be supported by other programs or initiatives to maximize storage benefits and limit double-counting of incentives. ▶ The program budget may be <u>up to 25%</u> of the funds currently allocated to the low-income single-family and multifamily subprograms, and the subprogram for nonprofit and public facilities of the ILSFA program. <u>Timeline of Program Development</u> The Agency plans to begin the stakeholder feedback process to inform the design and development of this program soon, with written feedback questions planned for release in late September 2026 and a virtual workshop held in late October 2026. The stakeholder feedback opportunities planned across Fall 2026 will inform the Agency's upcoming Energy Storage Resources Procurement Plan, a draft of which is due to be released on June 1, 2027. <u>How to Stay Connected Throughout Program Development</u>



	▶ Please check regularly for updates here: https://ipa.illinois.gov/renewable-resources/energy-storage.html and here: https://ipa.illinois.gov/contact-us/stakeholder-engagement.html ▶ Please share the link to the Storage for All email list with any parties interested in participating in the stakeholder feedback process to shape the program: https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/FCUID4A/IPAS4A ▶ Details on the upcoming stakeholder feedback processes, workshops, and program development will be primarily shared via this email digest, so signing up for updates via this list is essential for those looking to stay in the loop. ▶ Email IPA.Storage@illinois.gov with any questions! <u>Resources</u> Are you new to energy storage and want to be well prepared for stakeholder feedback process? Check out these resources to dive into the power of energy storage: ▶ U.S. Department of Energy’s Solar + Storage 101: https://www.energy.gov/cmei/systems/articles/solar-plus-storage-101 ▶ Utility Dive – Energy Storage 101: https://www.utilitydive.com/spons/energy-storage-101-how-energy-storage-works/627194/ ▶ CESA’s Bridging the Gap – Policies Making Energy Storage Accessible: https://www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/bridging-the-gap-state-policies-making-energy-storage-accessible/ ▶ CESA’s Energy Storage Incentive Rate Setting for States: https://www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/energy-storage-incentive-rate-setting-for-states/
Topic 2	ILSFA Evaluation Program Results
Background	E Source (formerly known as ILLUME) is the third-party independent evaluator of the Illinois Solar for All program. For each program year, E Source completes an assessment of the impacts of the Illinois Solar for All program, reviews the performance of the program administrator, and collects input on the experiences of program participants and other program actors. The program impacts are based on objective criteria developed through a public stakeholder process. Program actors the evaluation team collects input from include Approved Vendors, Grassroots Educators, job training program administrators, job trainees working on ILSFA projects, and other interested stakeholders.



	E Source recently completed an evaluation of the 2024-2025 program year, which ran from June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025. The full report , including source (formerly known as Illume) is the 3 rd Party contract company to conduct evaluations of the Illinois Solar for All program.