

Renewables Plan Puts Illinois on Path to Clean Energy Leadership

Plan Approved in April 2018 Details New Renewables Procurements & Programs

The Illinois Power Agency's (IPA) Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan outlines purchases of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) that will drive new renewable development to **power roughly 900,000 households** by the early 2020s. This development will keep Illinois among the nation's **wind energy leaders** and rank it among the nation's **solar energy deployment leaders**. The Plan includes forward procurements for RECs from large-scale wind and solar projects, including brownfield solar. It also establishes new community solar, low-income solar, and distributed generation programs that will lead to **diverse and balanced solar market development accessible to all Illinois residents**.

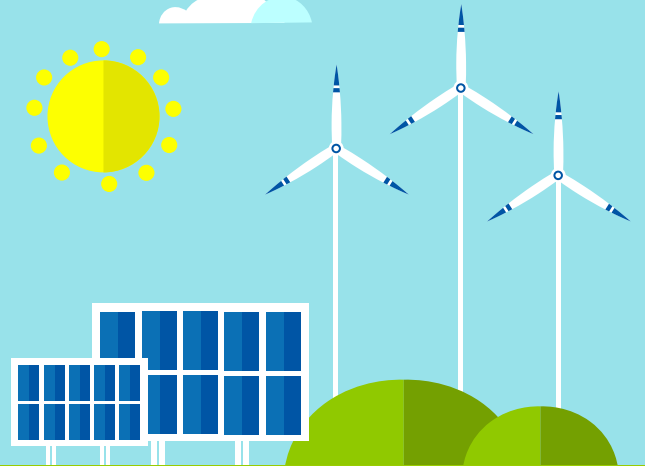
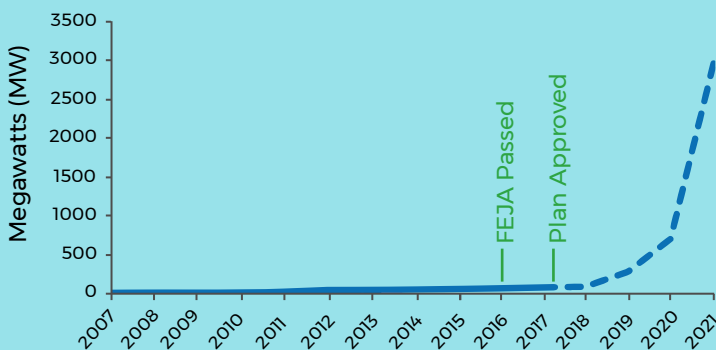
Targeting 25% Renewable

Illinois' Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) targets 25% renewable energy with an emphasis on the development of new renewable resources. Developing new resources is necessary to begin building the portfolio of renewables needed to meet the 25% goal.

Significant Renewable Deployment by 2022

	Installed in IL today	New Development Under Plan (est.)
Wind	4,330 MW	+1,300 MW
Solar	84 MW	+2,800 MW

Illinois Cumulative Installed Solar Capacity (est.)



New Renewables Procurements and Programs

The Plan outlines the various procurements that will occur and programs that will be set up through 2019 to implement the requirements of the updated Renewable Portfolio Standard, including:

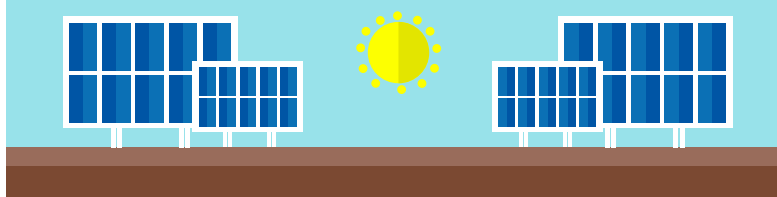
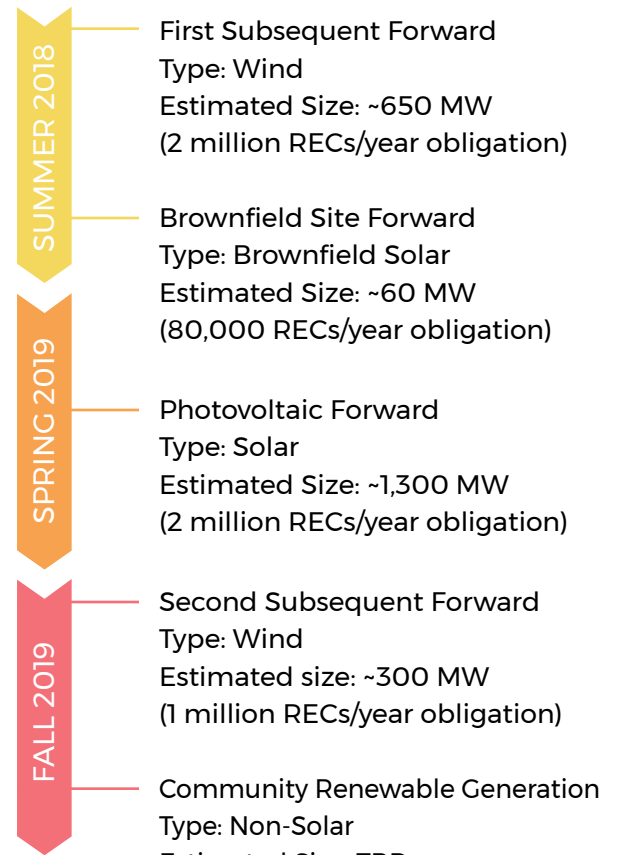
- (1) Competitive bids for new utility-scale wind, utility-scale solar (large), and brownfield solar developments;
- (2) The Adjustable Block Program for behind-the-meter (small) and community solar projects;
- (3) The Community Renewable Generation Program; and
- (4) The Illinois Solar for All Program for low-income households and environmental justice communities.

Forward Procurements

Through 2019, the Plan calls for forward procurements from large scale projects for an estimated 1,000 MW of new wind and 1,400 MW of new solar development. These procurements are in addition to the Initial Forward Procurements that concluded in spring 2018. The procurements will involve 15-year REC-only contracts with prices set through a bidding process. Long-term contracts will enable developers to secure the financing needed to develop new renewable resources.

Brownfields to Brightfields

The Brownfield Site Forward Procurement will seek RECs from roughly 60 MW of new solar development on contaminated lands, bringing that land back to productive use and benefitting communities.

Adjustable Block Program

This program features transparent REC prices for distributed generation (DG) and community solar projects that will adjust as deployment increases. This will create predictable pricing for DG and community solar. The Plan lays out the initial blocks of capacity available for different project types – small-scale DG (10 kW or less), large-scale DG (10 kW-2 MW), and community solar – as well as preliminary pricing for different project types and sizes.

Community Solar

This program will enable those who cannot put solar on their roof to subscribe to a shared off-site solar project. Subscribers will receive bill credits for energy produced and utilities will purchase the RECs through the Adjustable Block Program. The approved Plan allows up to two 2 MW community solar projects to co-locate and affirms the importance of residential participation.

Illinois Solar for All

This program will deploy solar in low-income and environmental justice communities and will coordinate with ComEd-administered job training program. Sub-programs will serve (1) low-income households, (2) non-profits and public facilities, and include (3) low-income community solar. Participating community solar projects must partner with community groups. The Plan defines program elements and provides preliminary pricing for sub-programs with transparent REC prices.

Next Steps

Starting REC prices for the Adjustable Block and Illinois Solar for All programs will be finalized in early June 2018. Program roll-outs are unlikely before fall 2018.