



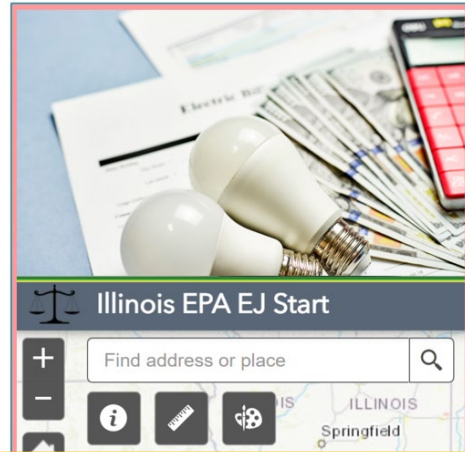
## Office of Energy

The Illinois EPA Office of Energy supports energy efficiency, resiliency, and clean energy through public partnerships and inter-agency collaborations to reduce the energy burden and improve energy equity in Illinois.

✓ Invest in the Public Sector



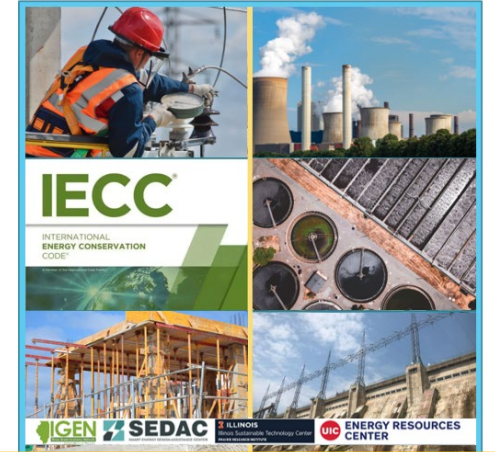
✓ Advance Energy Equity



✓ Combine Energy & Environment



✓ Support Energy Education



[www.epa.illinois.gov](http://www.epa.illinois.gov)

🌳 Land >

🌬️ Air >

💧 Water >

🏠 Energy >

---

## Federal

### State Energy Program

Public Water Infrastructure

---

Energy Codes

---

State Energy Security Plan

---

### Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (BIL)

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

---

Residential Assessments

---

Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund

---

### Inflation Reduction Act

Home Rebates

---

Contractor Training

---

---

## State

Energy Efficiency Trust Fund

---

Renewable Energy Trust Fund

---



## Questions

**Contact:**  
**Email:**

Office of Energy staff  
[EPA.Energy@Illinois.gov](mailto:EPA.Energy@Illinois.gov)

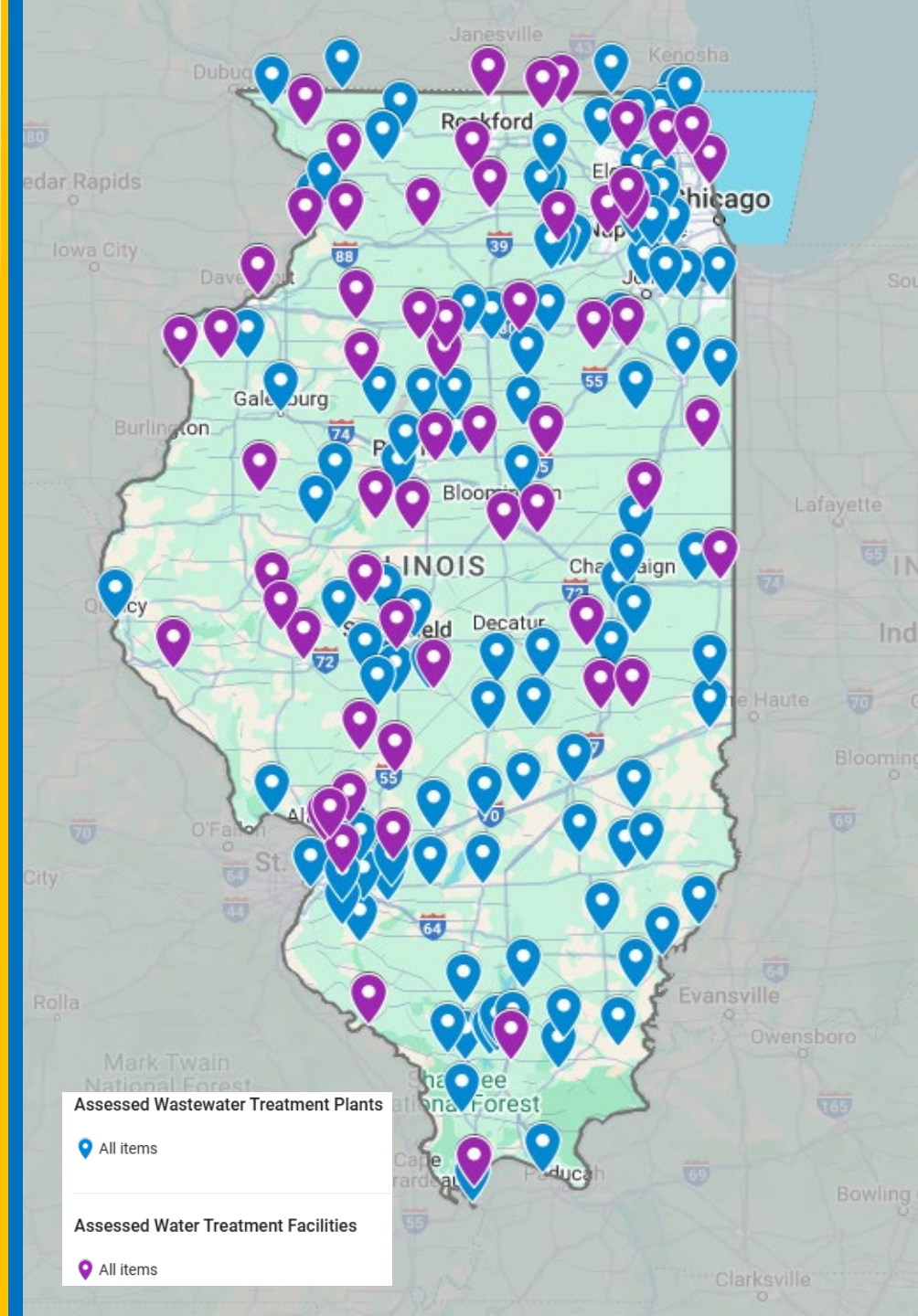


## Public Water Infrastructure

# No-cost energy assessments to publicly-owned Illinois water and wastewater treatment systems.

Helping local municipalities reduce the cost of treating water and wastewater.

Comprehensive assessment reports break down recommendations for energy efficiency improvements at each facility, including information such as estimated project costs, simple payback periods, funding opportunities, and the resulting energy and monetary savings.



# Public Water Infrastructure Energy Assessment Program

March 12, 2025

*Providing effective energy strategies for buildings and communities*



**Illinois Environmental  
Protection Agency**



**I ILLINOIS**  
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center  
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

We are an applied research program at University of Illinois.

We assist buildings and communities in achieving energy efficiency, saving money, and becoming more sustainable.

**Our goal: Reduce the energy footprint of Illinois and beyond.**



# About the IEPA PWI Energy Efficiency Program

The Illinois EPA Public Water Infrastructure Energy Assessment Program helps municipalities reduce the cost of water and wastewater treatment.

- NO-COST energy assessments **and** technical assistance
- Comprehensive report listing:
  - Cost of upgrades
  - Estimated payback period
  - Applicable incentives and funding opportunities
- Operator continuing education events

Apply at: [www.smartenergy.Illinois.edu/water](http://www.smartenergy.Illinois.edu/water)



Funding provided in whole or in part by the Illinois EPA Office of Energy.  
This program is in partnership with the U.S. Department. of Energy.



# Why Complete an Energy Assessment?

## Older Existing System or No Previous Assessments?

- Identify missed opportunities
- Plan for capital improvements
- Uncover what is possible
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party support for personnel's ideas

## New or Recently Upgraded?

- Always more to improve
- Plan for future scope outside of recent projects
- New technologies and processes always in development

**Identify opportunities for repairs or upgrades and associated funding!**



**Illinois Environmental  
Protection Agency**



**I ILLINOIS**  
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center  
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

# STEP 1: Apply for an Energy Assessment!

## Step 1: Initial Application – Pre-Qualification

- Apply at [www.smartenergy.illinois.edu/water](http://www.smartenergy.illinois.edu/water)
- Located in Illinois and publicly-owned
- Allow SEDAC/ISTC energy specialists on site
- Share facility information and utilities
- Share final report with Illinois EPA Energy Office
  - **non-regulatory** report to track effectiveness of assessment program





# Program Process

## Gather facility data

- Basic process data, utility data, and operating/staffing hours

## Schedule Site Visit

- Couple hours with two specialists to take photos and document conditions

## Report generation

- 60 to 90 days to turn around report
- Benchmark against other facilities in program
- List funding sources



**Illinois Environmental  
Protection Agency**



**I ILLINOIS**  
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center  
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

# Funding Sources - Government

Program	Description	Contact
<b>USDA Rural Development</b>	Low-interest loans: Municipalities with populations of 10,000 or less. Grants available as funding allows.	Whitney Fruhling <a href="mailto:fruhling@usda.gov">fruhling@usda.gov</a> 217-403-6228
<a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/water-wastedisposal-loan-grant-program">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/water-wastedisposal-loan-grant-program</a>		
<b>US EPA Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (WIFIA) Loans</b>	Low-, fixed-interest loans based on US Treasury rate with loan terms up to 35 years.	US EPA WIFIA Program <a href="mailto:WIFIA@epa.gov">WIFIA@epa.gov</a>
<a href="https://www.epa.gov/wifia">https://www.epa.gov/wifia</a>		
<b>IL EPA Revolving Loan Fund</b>	Low-interest loans at 1.24% Interest.	Gary Bingenheimer <a href="mailto:Gary.Bingenheimer@illinois.gov">Gary.Bingenheimer@illinois.gov</a> 217-782-2027
<a href="https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/Pages/default.aspx">https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/Pages/default.aspx</a>		
<b>IL EPA Public Water Infrastructure Program</b>	Grant program for energy efficiency project funding with 10%-20% cost match obligation.	Adena Rivas <a href="mailto:Adena.Rivas@Illinois.gov">Adena.Rivas@Illinois.gov</a> 217.785.7332
<a href="https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/energy/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency-public-water-infrastructure-.html">https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/energy/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency-public-water-infrastructure-.html</a>		

Program	Description	Contact
<b>Illinois Finance Authority</b>	Local government infrastructure financing, assistance program and direct bond purchase program, including an Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund.	Brad Fletcher <a href="mailto:bfletcher@il-fa.com">bfletcher@il-fa.com</a> 312-651-1300
<a href="http://www.il-fa.com">www.il-fa.com</a>		
<b>Federal Energy Efficient Commercial Building Deduction</b>	\$0.50/sf increased by \$0.02/sf for each % beyond 25% savings over ASHRAE 90.1 baseline. Capped at \$1.00/sf.	Contact local IRS tax office (844) 545-5640
<a href="https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/energy-efficient-commercial-buildings-deduction">https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/energy-efficient-commercial-buildings-deduction</a>		
<b>Federal Income Tax Credit</b>	30% on cost of solar array OR 2.75 ¢/kWh for 10 years	Contact local IRS tax office (844) 545-5640
<a href="https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/energy-efficient-commercial-buildings-deduction">https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/energy-efficient-commercial-buildings-deduction</a>		



**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**



**ILLINOIS**  
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center  
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

# Utility Programs & Technical Assistance

Incentive Program	Incentive Basis	Incentive Total
Measure #1 Non-DO Aeration Custom Incentive	\$0.18/kWh saved – not DO controlled aeration project Capped at 100% of project cost Must be pre-approved	\$11,000
Measure #2 DO Control Custom Incentive	\$0.21/kWh saved – DO controlled aeration project	\$15,000
Measure #3 Standard LED Incentive	\$0.75 per watt reduced	\$1,300
ComEd Energy Efficiency Program – Water/Wastewater Facilities Mike Lewis   <a href="mailto:mike.lewis@casac.energy.com">mike.lewis@casac.energy.com</a>   224-381-2233 <a href="https://www.comed.com/ways-to-save/for-your-business/resource-center/fact-sheets/wastewater-treatment-plants">https://www.comed.com/ways-to-save/for-your-business/resource-center/fact-sheets/wastewater-treatment-plants</a>		
Measure #4 Nicor Custom Incentive	\$1.00/therm saved Capped at lesser of 35% of project cost or \$350,000/yr Must be pre-approved	\$10,000

Nicor Custom Incentives Program  
[eeinfo@nicorgas.com](mailto:eeinfo@nicorgas.com)  
<https://www.nicorgas.com/business/ways-to-save/custom-incentives.html>

Example

Program	Description	Contact
U.S. DOE SWIFT	Technical assistance and networking Loans and grants Training and webinars	Amy Roderick <a href="mailto:Amy.roderick@illinois.gov">Amy.roderick@illinois.gov</a> 217-785-2892
	<a href="https://betterbuildingsolutioncenter.energy.gov/wastewater-energy-management-toolkit#Accelerator">https://betterbuildingsolutioncenter.energy.gov/wastewater-energy-management-toolkit#Accelerator</a>	
Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP)	Asset management Grant writing assistance Hands on training for operators Water and sewer rate analysis Training for local officials	James Meece <a href="mailto:jfmeece@glcap.org">jfmeece@glcap.org</a> 217-358-2143
	<a href="https://www.rcap.org/">https://www.rcap.org/</a>	



**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**



**ILLINOIS**  
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center  
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

# Technical Assistance

## We provide assistance with smaller projects, too!

- Help completing utility rebate/incentive application forms
- Estimate potential savings for individual measures
  - Swapping out a pump
  - Adding a VFD
  - Changing out some lights
- Updates to past reports with new information
- Updating benchmarking post implementation

**comEd**  
AN EXELON COMPANY

### Energy Efficiency

## Custom and New Construction Project Screening Form

January 1 through December 31, 2023

**DIRECTIONS:** Please save a copy of this form to your computer by selecting "FILE/SAVE AS" below your information electronically and select "SAVE." Note that this form requires the current Adobe Reader. Download the most recent version of Adobe Reader at <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>.

**BEFORE YOU BEGIN:** The energy efficiency team will use this form to determine your eligibility for rebates. Once you submit this form, the energy efficiency team will evaluate your project for rebates. For more information, visit [www.comed.com/energy-efficiency](https://www.comed.com/energy-efficiency) or call **855-433-2700** for assistance.

**SECTION 1: Customer Information**

Customer/Primary Contact Name: John Doe

Organization/Company Name: Anytown WWTP

Customer/Primary Contact Email: t.zintl@foxrivergrove.org

**SECTION 2: Project Information**

Project Name: Wastewater Plant Blower System

Account Number (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 123 Municipal Dr.

Primary Building Type (select one):

Education  Hospital

Other: Waste

Eligible Project:  Public  Existing

Estimated Project Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Natural Gas for Building Use:  Yes  No

Certification Being Sought (i.e. LEED): \_\_\_\_\_

Preliminary Drawings or Scope of Work Document: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 3: Project Description**

Please provide the following information about your project to the best of your ability. You do not have to complete more information that you share with us, the better we can assist you with your project.

Was this project identified in a ComEd Energy Efficiency Program facility assessment or study?  Yes  No

Assessment/Study Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Probability the project will happen (N): \_\_\_\_\_

What is the current phase of your project?

Pre-Design  Schematic Design  Design Development  Construction Documentation  Equipment Purchased

If in design development phase, how complete is your design? (N): \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 4: Project Scope**

Provide an overview of the project you are working on. Detail specifics like what equipment is being replaced and/or installed, construction or renovation plans, or any other relevant details, as applicable. Please provide as much information about your project as possible for our screening review team. The more information that is provided, the better we can assist you with your project.

The existing blower system currently consists of a 40HP Neuros turbo blower with VFD, and a 50HP Hoffman centrifugal blower. Both systems currently operate 24/7 at near full speed to meet aeration demand. The system does not currently have DO controls. The upgrade will consist of adding a 75HP Neuros turbo blower with VFD to supplement the existing 40 HP Neuros blower. The 75HP blower will generally be able to meet aeration demands at about 60% speed without the supplemental blower. The smaller blower will be able to handle lower low periods if needed. DO controls are not being added for this project. The existing aeration system uses coarse bubble diffusers, which are not being upgraded with the blowers.

2

Project Screening Form\_808\_1022

# Questions?

[sedac-info@illinois.edu](mailto:sedac-info@illinois.edu)  
800-214-7954

[smartenergy.illinois.edu/ water](http://smartenergy.illinois.edu/water)



Illinois Environmental  
Protection Agency



**I ILLINOIS**  
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center  
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE



**ILLINOIS EPA OFFICE OF ENERGY**

--

**ILLINOIS FINANCE AUTHORITY**

**ILLINOIS CLIMATE BANK**

Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund

07/25/2024

# Background



In May 2024, U.S. Department of Energy (US DOE) allocated \$15,963,220 to the Illinois Climate Bank through an agreement with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for purposes of establishing an Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund.



90% of the funds allocated (\$14,366,898) have been received by the Illinois Climate Bank and are available for project use.



The loan is intended to help finance energy efficiency projects throughout Illinois.

## Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund (EE RLF) Capitalization Grant Program

- The fund will provide Direct Bridge Loans to finance costs eligible for **federal IRA Tax Credits/Direct Pay provisions** for projects in Illinois that need financing for qualifying energy efficiency projects.
- Owners can use these loans to **bridge the gap between project installation and receiving their Direct Pay/Tax Credit**. The loan shall be repaid upon receipt of its refundable tax credit payment or incentive payment or maturity, whichever occurs first.
- For projects approved for the Illinois Solar For All (ILSFA) Program, the Bridge Loan will also finance the eligible ILSFA incentive.



# Eligibility Criteria



## Buildings Eligible for the EE RLF Bridge Loan include:

- Nonprofit- and publicly-owned commercial buildings,
- Privately- owned commercial buildings, and
- Multifamily buildings with **five or more units** located in Illinois.
- *Single-family residential projects are not eligible for financing for this program.*

### Units of local government\*



### Other Public & Non-Profit



### Commercial Buildings and Clean Energy Project Developers



Borrowers must be eligible for Direct Pay or Tax Credit provisions pursuant to Inflation Reduction Act **and/or** Illinois Solar For All Program Incentives

\*Public Acts [103-0187](#) and [103-1023](#) ease the ability of local government units to borrow directly from the Illinois Finance Authority/Climate Bank.

# Energy Efficiency Requirements



## To qualify, the project *must* address at least one of the following:

1. Energy efficiency of the building or facility
2. Physical comfort of the building or facility occupants
3. Quality of the air in the building or facility

**Solar + energy storage** or **solar + energy efficiency** (but not solar on its own) projects meet these requirements.

## Audits

- Each project **must be recommended by a qualifying Energy Audit** and demonstrate that anticipated lifetime energy savings will equal or exceed the total cost of such improvements.
- Department of Energy requires the use of software that uses **BuildingSync** for all commercial energy audits.
- Check with your utility – energy audits may be available for free or low cost.

# Bridge Loan Program Details



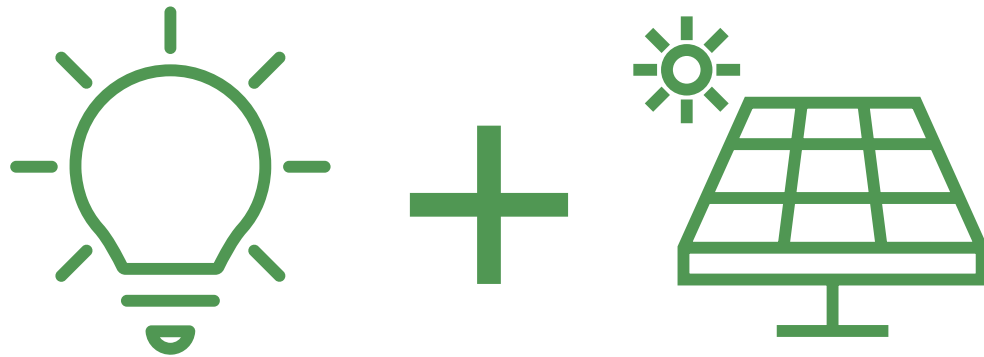
## Key Features

- **Loan Amounts:** Ranging from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000.
- **Term:** Up to 24 months.
- **Interest Rate:** Below market, low interest rate (6% per annum or less).
- **Fees:** Upfront origination fee capped at 2%.
- **Payments:**
  - Interest shall be due at time of the final payment of principal on the Bridge Loan or at maturity, whichever occurs first.
  - The Borrower shall be required to make payment on principal within 30 days of receipt of any refundable tax credit payment or Illinois Solar for All project incentive for the amount received or at maturity, whichever occurs first.

In certain cases, the fund can participate with Lenders to provide additional financing for project costs, to be repaid with the energy savings, Illinois Shines Solar Renewable Energy Credit payments, or other incentives not included in the Bridge Loan.

**\*All Eligible Projects must comply with laborer wage and benefit requirements and reporting under the Davis-Bacon Act.**

# Examples of Eligible Projects

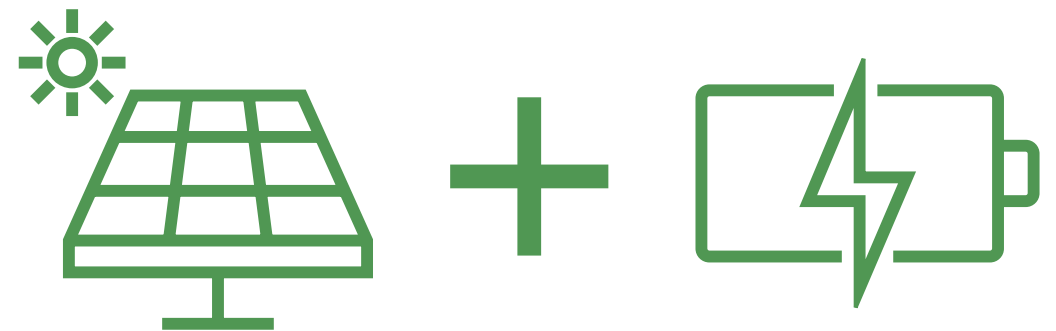


## Example 1: Energy Efficiency + Solar

- A City's Public Library conducts an energy audit that recommends HVAC and lighting upgrades as well as installing solar on their roof.
- The solar installation is eligible for the Investment Tax Credit. The HVAC/lighting upgrades make the project eligible for the EE RLF program.
- The public library applies for Direct Pay and receives an up-front EE RLF Bridge Loan covering the cost of the Tax Credits for the solar installation.

## Example 2: Solar + Energy Storage

- An affordable housing nonprofit conducts an energy audit that recommends installing solar and energy storage on their multifamily building.
- The solar installation and energy storage are eligible for the Investment Tax Credit and Illinois Solar for All project incentives. The use of energy storage makes the project eligible for the EE RLF program.
- The nonprofit applies for Direct Pay and Illinois Solar for All and receives an up-front EE RLF Bridge Loan covering the cost of the credits and incentives.



The IFA is currently looking for anyone who works in or with any of the three focus areas, Lenders, Installers/Developers, and/or Non-Profit/Government institutions, to join working groups for the EE RLF. If you're interested in participating in one of these groups, please fill out our form [here](#).



Pre-applications are now open, please submit your applications [here](#).

The Building Energy Resource Hub is screening and answering questions. If you need help filling out your pre-application or have any questions, please contact the Hub help desk [here](#).





## Private Activity Bonds

IFA issues tax-exempt qualified private activity bonds for 501(c)(3) organizations and other conduit borrowers. Borrowers work with banks, underwriters, or placement agents of their own choosing.



## State Small Business Credit Initiative

IFA provides low-cost financing to small businesses for eligible climate-related projects.



## Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Bonds

IFA has statewide authorization to issue bonds and notes to fund eligible building improvements in any PACE area. Eligible improvements include energy efficiency, renewable energy, water use, and EV charging stations. Projects located in Cook County are not currently eligible.



**We want to hear from you!**

**Maria Colangelo**  
**Senior Vice President**  
**[mcolangelo@il-fa.com](mailto:mcolangelo@il-fa.com)**  
**[www.il-fa.com](http://www.il-fa.com)**

**Claire Brinley**  
**Program Manager**  
**[cbrinley@il-fa.com](mailto:cbrinley@il-fa.com)**  
**[www.il-fa.com](http://www.il-fa.com)**

**[Click here to join our mailing list.](#)**

**Brooks Crawford**  
**Energy Grants Liaison**  
**[Brooks.Crawford2@illinois.gov](mailto:Brooks.Crawford2@illinois.gov)**  
**[www.epa.Illinois.gov](http://www.epa.Illinois.gov)**