

The General Assembly Can Save Illinois Renewable Energy Jobs

Illinois' renewable energy program has hit a funding cliff that is forcing layoffs and will cause businesses to shut down.

Without a legislative fix, Illinois will lose thousands more jobs.

The Illinois Power Agency (IPA) has approved new, money-saving solar projects in every legislative district. Illinois' solar and wind energy workforce grew to more than 14,000 women and men across the state. But the lack of funding for the state's renewable energy program is forcing layoffs statewide.

The Renewable Energy Cliff:

- In 2018 IPA stopped approving new utility-scale wind and solar projects
- In 2019 IPA stopped approving new community and commercial scale solar projects
- In December 2020, IPA stopped approving new residential solar projects
- Illinois' Solar industry lost an estimated 3,470 jobs in 2020 more companies will be forced out of business if we don't fix renewable funding.

The Path to 100 Act (HB2640 / SB1601) is a targeted fix for renewable energy policy that will immediately create new jobs, increase equity and save consumers money.

Path to 100 Act impacts:

- Allows hundreds of shovel-ready, essential, COVID-safe projects to move forward immediately, providing jobs and economic stimulus Illinois needs now.
- Creates 53,000 new construction jobs, \$8.7 billion in increased economic output and \$2.8 billion in new property revenues
- Phases in increased clean energy funding while maintaining consumer protections.
- Fixes technical issues in Illinois' RPS program in order to improve program efficiency and bring overall renewable energy costs down across Illinois.
- Ensures that all Illinois families and businesses have equal access to renewable projects.
- Includes a concrete plan to expand workforce development through existing programs, require businesses to meet hiring and contractor diversity goals, and expand access to solar for low-income customers

Illinois Jobs and Clean Energy are on the line.