

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 this year, Illinois will lose thousands <u>more</u> 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
- 4Q2020, the final category residential solar, will be out of funding in a few months
- 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 before the end of the year.

The Path to 100 Act (HB2966 / SB1781) 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:

- Allow hundreds of shovel-ready, essential, COVID safe projects to move forward immediately, providing jobs and economic stimulus Illinois needs now.
- Phase in increased clean energy funding while maintaining consumer protections.
- Fix technical issues in Illinois' RPS program in order to improve program efficiency and bring overall renewable energy costs down across Illinois.
- Ensure that all Illinois families and businesses have equal access to renewable projects.
- Will include 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
- Result in an estimated 21,000 new jobs, \$2.8 billion in new property taxes over 20 years, \$1.95 billion in landowner payments over 20 years

Please work with Leader Will Davis and Senator Bill Cunningham to make sure the General Assembly fixes the renewable energy program during the veto session

Illinois Jobs and Clean Energy are on the line.