

Governor Pritzker believes it is past time to combat climate change, hold utility companies accountable to the ratepayers they serve, and rapidly begin the transition to renewable energy. A clean energy future must be an equitable future built by a diverse workforce and good-paying jobs, a future with clean air and water, a future where utility bills no longer burden Illinoisans, and a future where utility companies deliver electricity without corrupt practices. Illinois can and must lead on clean energy, and it must lead in the light of day — ethically, honestly, and toward the collective goal of empowering Illinoisans to lead the United States in transitioning to a clean energy economy.

Governor Pritzker's energy bill includes the following proposals:

Ethics and accountability

- **Sunset formula rates immediately.** Utility companies do not need a special formula that allows them to load up their profits, increase delivery costs for customers, and face little cost control. Illinois should not double down on a ratemaking structure that is at the heart of an ongoing corruption investigation and that is used only by a handful of states.
- **Prohibit utility companies from using ratepayer funds for their charitable contributions,** which are often used to bolster their political power at ratepayers' expense.
- **Require an annual Exelon audit** to ensure any state support for the nuclear fleet is right-sized and offered only when necessary.
- Create comprehensive grid planning requirements at the ICC and implement **Performance Incentive Mechanisms** to better tie utility revenues to performance and hold utilities accountable to the public.
- **Require the ICC to initiate an investigation** as to whether ComEd used ratepayer funds in connection with Deferred Prosecution Agreement conduct.
- **Increase transparency around the Citizens Utility Board** and prohibit it from accepting funds from foundations affiliated with a public utility.

Consumer protections

- Increase ComEd's and Ameren's annual commitment to **low-income energy efficiency programs** to better support low-income households.
- **Prohibit natural gas companies from automatically imposing monthly surcharges** on consumers for infrastructure investments.
- **Eliminate customer deposits and late fees** for low-income utility residential customers and eliminate **online payment fees** for all customers.
- **Require utility companies to accurately report** to the ICC on the number of shutoffs and reconnections and to provide **low-income discount rates** for customers.
- **Expand LIHEAP eligibility.**

Renewable energy and labor standards

- **Put the State on a path toward 100% clean energy by 2050.**
- **Require project labor agreements on utility-scale wind and solar projects and prevailing wage on large distributed generation and large community solar projects.**
- Improve net electricity metering (NEM) to appropriately credit customers for the electricity they add to the grid.
- Make structural changes to the Illinois Power Agency's (IPA) programs and procurement processes, increasing the RPS to **40% renewable energy by 2030, doubling renewable energy funding,** and creating a new **indexed REC** pricing structure.
- Allow counties to establish standards for and **regulate the siting of wind and solar energy projects.**

Clean power and air

- **Phase out coal by 2030 and natural gas by 2045** through declining caps on greenhouse gas emissions and an \$8 per ton carbon price on carbon emissions from fossil fuel-fired plants.
- **Dedicate funds to programs that benefit equity investment eligible communities**—communities with a high poverty rate and disproportionate health impacts that are attributable at least in part to emissions from dirty power plants.
- Provide measured, short-term state support for the Byron and Dresden nuclear plants to ensure the viability of Illinois' largest source of zero-carbon power.
- **Require nuclear plants that accept state support to return it to the state if they close without making a good faith effort to sell the plant first.**

Transportation electrification

- **Increase the adoption of electric vehicles on the road to 1,000,000 by 2030.**
- Require IEPA to issue **EV charging rebates to organizations and companies** who build charging stations, up to 90% of the cost of the charging station, up to \$4,000 for Level 2 chargers and up to \$5,000 for Level 3 chargers.
- **Require electric utilities to file transportation electrification plans** with the ICC for programs to address investments and incentives to facilitate the deployment of charging equipment.
- **Appoint an EV Coordinator at IEPA** to oversee all electric vehicle-related policies and activities and reconvene the EV Advisory Council.
- **Offer \$4,000 rebates for consumers who buy an electric vehicle.**

Just transition and workforce development

- **Engage local governments in community energy and climate planning.** Create a displaced worker bill of rights, administered by DCEO and IDES, to **provide state support to transitioning energy sector workers.**
- Require plant owners to provide written notice of a plant closure to DCEO and community leaders and provide assistance to impacted communities through **displaced energy worker dependent transition scholarships**, an **energy transition barrier reduction program**, and **just transition grants** to promote economic development in eligible communities.
- Create a **Clean Jobs Workforce Network Hubs Program**, establishing 16 program delivery hub sites that leverage community-based organizations to **ensure members of equity-focused populations have dedicated and sustained support** to enter and complete the career pipeline for clean energy and related sector jobs.

Equity in the clean energy economy

- **Create an equity points system that rewards developers for meeting specified equity actions.**
- To increase diversity in the renewable energy industry, require IPA to award equity action points, based on **equity and labor standards**, for the evaluation of bids in competitive procurements for utility-scale wind and solar and for the scoring of distributed generation and community solar project applications through the Adjustable Block Program.
- Require utility companies and developers to submit **annual diversity reports** to the ICC outlining procurement goals, actual spending, and plans to increase goals and address challenges.

Energy efficiency

- Support **Combined Heat and Power** and other industrial decarbonization programs.
- Adopt **minimum appliance efficiency standards** for new products.
- Create **stretch building codes** that allow municipalities to achieve greater energy efficiency in buildings.
- Allow large, private energy companies that are making strides in energy efficiency efforts to opt out of state energy efficiency requirements.