

Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program: RFQ Preview for Suppliers

Introduction

Under the Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability Act (CRGA), Ameren Illinois will accelerate its efforts to reduce energy usage and demand across communities, businesses, and households through energy efficiency program offerings. Given that the electric program goals will increase by at least 60% and the budget will more than double by 2029, Ameren Illinois is developing a Request for Quote (RFQ) to engage qualified supplier partners to submit proposals for its 2027-2029 Energy Efficiency Program cycle. The purpose of this preview document is to provide prospective suppliers with an overview of the bid opportunities currently in draft form.

Note that all parts of this preview document are subject to change prior to release of the RFQ.

Program Goals and Evolution

Ameren Illinois will file the 2027-2029 Energy Efficiency Plan (The Plan) with the Illinois Commerce Commission no later than June 1, 2026. The Plan will include a ramp up in electric budget and savings goals from this year through 2029 and the portfolio will need to grow accordingly to not only meet, but exceed, the aggressive statutory energy savings and **new peak demand goals**. Desired outcomes of the upcoming RFQ process include identification and selection of partners who:

- Provide program designs optimized for results and scalability to achieve significant and increasing energy and demand savings targets
- Integrate innovation and processes improvement into operations
- Ensure cost effectiveness
- Minimize disruptions to customers and program momentum, ensuring stability

Draft Portfolio Structure: Transition to CRGA

The draft portfolio structure in the figure on the following page reflects strategic realignment of program elements to optimize energy and peak demand savings performance and customer value. The new proposed structure includes:

- 1) Portfolio Administrative Support and MDI¹, not included in RFQ;
- 2) Four Portfolio-wide Functions, competitively bid for direct contract;
- 3) Residential and Business Programs & Channel Groups, competitively bid.

¹ The Market Development Initiative (MDI) remains an important part of the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Portfolio and is expected to be bid in a future RFQ, likely in 2027.

Ameren - Portfolio Management and Oversight

Portfolio Administration

Not included in RFQ

- Administration and operations support
- Program management support
- Portfolio performance tracking and reporting
- Data system of record and data management
- Technical support (TRM, EM&V, TRC, regulatory reporting)
- Market Development Initiative (MDI)

Portfolio-wide Functions

Ameren will directly contract with suppliers. Suppliers can implement one or more functions.

- Portfolio marketing and outreach
- Portfolio program ally management and QA/QC inspections
- Call center, payment processing, and customer satisfaction
- Market Transformation

Program Channels and Channel Groups

Ameren will direct contract the Residential and Business program supplier(s) and may directly contract with channel group or channel suppliers. Each supplier must include the elements below, suppliers implementing more than one channel can combine these elements across multiple channels.

- Program design and management
- Performance tracking and reporting
- Program marketing and outreach
- Program ally management
- Energy advisors
- Application and project processing
- Technical support and reviews

Program	Channel Group	Channels
Residential	Income Qualified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appliance Recycling • Community Action Agency (CAA) • Community Kits • IQ Single Family • IQ Single Family Electrification • Manufactured Homes Weatherization and Air Sealing • School Kits • Smart Savers
	Multifamily	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Rate Multifamily • IQ Multifamily • Public Housing
	Retail Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point of Purchase (POP) Retail Products • Online Marketplace • IQ Retail Products
	Market Rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midstream HVAC
Business	Small Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Business Direct Install
	Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custom • New Construction
	Standard and Midstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Prescriptive • Midstream Lighting
	Facility Optimization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning Services • Strategic Energy Management (SEM)

The new structure is designed to allow both large and small suppliers to either partner and/or directly bid on the various elements of the portfolio. Ameren Illinois has developed this approach to encourage market participation, identify the best partners, and acquire competitive pricing and/or compensation models available in the marketplace. Ameren Illinois may award more than one function or channel group to a bidder as these various elements are not mutually exclusive.

RFQ Process Draft Timeline

The following timeline provides an estimated schedule for the RFQ process and subsequent transition to the 2027 program work:

- RFQ Release: No earlier than July 1, 2026;
- Supplier Q&A Period: Within 30 days after RFQ release
- Proposal Submission Deadline: TBD in Q3
- Evaluation & Selection: Q3/Q4
- Contract development: Q4/Q1
- Transition & Onboarding: Q2/Q3

Next Steps

- Interested suppliers are encouraged to begin preparing by reviewing their capabilities in program design and implementation for the areas shown in the graphic above. For suppliers less familiar with Ameren Illinois' programs, it may be helpful to review relevant information contained on the Illinois Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) website ([Illinois Energy Efficiency Stakeholder Advisory Group](#)) to find Ameren Illinois EE reports and filings.
- suppliers that are not yet registered with Ameren Corporation in Oracle and did not receive this notification through the Oracle portal should participate in a questionnaire at this link: [Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program: RFQ Preview Questionnaire – Fill out form](#)
- Encolor LLC will host a free educational [60-minute virtual Technical Workshop](#) on June 4 at 10am. This session is intended for new and emerging businesses - companies new to competitive bidding processes, and organizations seeking a refresher on engaging in utility solicitations. This webinar will review best practices for responding to utility solicitations including Request for Proposals and Request for Qualifications and how interested suppliers can participate in these projects. Attendees will gain a better understanding of how to identify projects that match a firm's capabilities and how to build relationships for new work as either a prime contractor or as a subcontractor. **Note:** *This workshop is general in nature, does not cover any specifics about Ameren Illinois' upcoming RFQ, and will not entertain questions or review specific details related to any solicitations.*

Questions

Ameren Illinois recognizes that this "RFQ Preview for Suppliers" document will stimulate many questions. At this time, there are likely not answers for most questions and suppliers will have to wait for the release of the RFQ. However, questions related to this document that are critical to a supplier's decision to consider participating in this RFQ event can be submitted through Ameren's Oracle Negotiations Tool. Ameren Illinois will make a good faith effort to respond to submitted questions; however, responses to all questions are not guaranteed.

Supplier Participation

This notice is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a solicitation or a call for proposals. Participation in this notice does not guarantee an invitation to participate in the RFQ process or selection for award.

Confidentiality & Reservation of Rights

Ameren Illinois reserves the right to modify, delay, or cancel this sourcing activity, in whole or in part, at its discretion. This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not commit Ameren Illinois to issue an RFQ or award any contract.