

Illinois Energy Efficiency Stakeholder Advisory Group

2020 SAG Portfolio Planning Process Proposed Energy Efficiency Ideas Template

Due Date: By 5:00 pm (CST) on Monday, April 27, 2020

Purpose: The [SAG Portfolio Planning Process](#) is an opportunity for SAG participants to understand current energy efficiency (EE) portfolios and provide feedback to Illinois utilities (Ameren Illinois, ComEd, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas) as they develop their 2022-2025 EE Plans. The objective of the SAG Portfolio Planning Process is to reach consensus on EE Portfolio Plans prior to utilities filing plans for approval with the Illinois Commerce Commission on or before March 1, 2021.

SAG participants are invited to submit:

1. Feedback on current portfolios, focused on suggested changes for the 2022-2025 EE Plans;
2. Stakeholder ideas/approaches for utility consideration, such as program approaches or new measures that have been successfully implemented in other jurisdictions; and
3. Innovative ideas that could be researched during the next EE Plan cycle by utilities, evaluators, SAG, or another advisory group (IL-TRM Technical Advisory Committee; Income Qualified EE Advisory Committee).

How to Submit an Energy Efficiency Idea:

- SAG participants are encouraged to make a good faith effort to fill out as much information as possible in this template by the due date. Templates submitted after the April 27th deadline may not be considered due to time constraints.
- If you need help filling out the Energy Efficiency Idea Template or researching required information, contact the SAG Facilitator for assistance: Celia Johnson (Celia@CeliaJohnsonConsulting.com).
- Ideas will be reviewed by a small group Review Committee, organized by the SAG Facilitator. The SAG Facilitator may follow-up and request additional information after ideas are submitted.
- SAG participants that submit an idea may be invited to present their idea at the May 12-13 SAG meetings. Utilities will respond to feedback and ideas during the June 16-17 SAG Meetings.
- Please email your idea, with any supplemental materials, to the SAG Facilitator via the email above. Questions may be directed to the SAG Facilitator by email (Celia@CeliaJohnsonConsulting.com) or by phone: (312) 659-6758.

Submitter Contact Information

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Energy Efficiency Idea Questions

Please check the boxes below to identify 1) the type of idea; 2) which Illinois utility or utilities will be impacted by the idea; and 3) which EE sector the idea impacts.

Check	Type of Energy Efficiency Idea
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New Measure or New Program Idea
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed Program Approach
<input type="checkbox"/>	Innovative Idea

Check	Illinois Utility Impacted by Energy Efficiency Idea
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ameren Illinois
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ComEd
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nicor Gas
<input type="checkbox"/>	Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
<input type="checkbox"/>	All Illinois Utilities

Check	Energy Efficiency Sector Targeted by Energy Efficiency Idea
<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential Customers – Single Family (non-income qualified/income eligible)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential Customers – Multifamily (non-income qualified/income eligible)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential Customers – Single Family Income Qualified/Income Eligible
<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential Customers – Multifamily Income Qualified/Income Eligible
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Small Business Customers (commercial & industrial sector)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium/Large Business Customers (commercial & industrial sector)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (research & development, emerging technologies, market transformation)

Additional Questions

1. **Description of Idea:** Describe the proposed idea, including the purpose of the suggested idea and rationale. Describe whether this is an idea that could be implemented in an existing EE program, or whether the idea involves establishing a new measure or program. Please indicate whether additional research may be required before implementation.

Questions to consider: What issue will this proposed change resolve? Will the proposed change increase participation and result in increased energy savings? Will this reduce costs? Will this increase customer satisfaction? Will this help achieve statutory goals? Will this help increase program penetration?

This proposed idea is intended to address a gap in the existing rule ComEd applies to wattage reduction calculations for their LED streetlight incentive offering when a relatively new streetlight technology, field adjustable lumen/wattage output, is utilized by the customer. To streamline their product lines and offer additional cost savings to their customers, manufacturers of streetlight fixtures have included an internal hardware mechanism to adjust the lumen/wattage output of an individual streetlight in many of their streetlight models. The fixture has a default setting when shipped from the manufacturer which the customer can then adjust prior to installing the streetlight. [higher/lower]

When a customer applies for the LED streetlight incentive with a field adjustable streetlight fixture that they plan to adjust to a lower lumen/wattage output, current ComEd rule uses the nameplate wattage in the wattage reduction calculation (and also for bill adjustment purposes in the case of unmetered streetlights) even though it is higher than the actual wattage output that the field adjusted fixture will incur. The basis for this rule is that the setting could be changed at a future date which could reduce future kWh savings for the affected streetlights. While this is fundamentally true, making these changes to a large number of fixtures after installation would be cost prohibitive for a municipality. As with any energy efficiency measures there is always the risk that the customer will make changes after receiving incentives that reduce or negate future kWh savings, field adjustable fixtures do not assume any greater risk than any other lighting measure.

This rule has been a point of contention for those municipalities that have planned or actually installed field adjusted streetlights, which has reduced satisfaction with the ComEd EE program for those customers. Therefore, our proposed idea to use the adjusted wattage for incentive calculations would align with technology trends and increase customer satisfaction. One condition for our proposal would be that the streetlights would need to be on a metered dusk-to-dawn account. Being on a metered account would enable ComEd to institute a procedure to monitor the monthly kWh usage to identify when a streetlight's setting has been adjusted to a higher wattage. If the streetlights a customer is planning to upgrade to LED are on an unmetered account, they would be required to have a meter installed on the controller(s) for those streetlights prior to installing the new lights. They would also be required to submit photographic proof of the field adjustable setting with their final incentive application.

2. **Implementation:** How will this idea be delivered to the target market? Describe marketing strategies used to reach the target market and minimize market confusion.

Delivery of the proposed field adjustable streetlight rule would be an additional detail provided during project scope discussions within existing LED streetlight incentive outreach and support strategies.

Outreach service providers engage with customers to promote understanding of the advantages of upgrading streetlights to LED, the details and eligibility requirements of the incentive offering, and the steps involved in an upgrade project including applying for the incentive. Upon a customer's decision to pursue a project, outreach service providers then work closely with the customer's project team to

guide them through the incentive process which would include the considerations of installing a field adjustable streetlight fixture.

- 3. Background:** Describe where the idea originated from, including whether this idea has been successfully implemented in other jurisdictions. Provide specific background information that will help utilities and SAG participants understand the proposed idea.

Questions to consider: In what jurisdiction has this idea been successfully implemented? Do you have information on eligible customers, participation achieved, and/or savings achieved? Do you have access to reports describing the successful idea / program approach?

The proposed idea resulted from actual municipal streetlight projects for which customers had applied to the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program for the LED streetlight incentive. Customers had selected field adjustable fixtures with the assumption that they would receive an incentive based on the wattage they set on the fixture, but upon ComEd's review of the incentive application they were told that they would receive a lower incentive due to the current ComEd rule. Additional background information could be provided about these projects including number of streetlights upgraded and incentive amount under the current and proposed policies.

- 4. Idea Impact:** Provide additional information on the customer segment that will be targeted with the program idea, including how and why this idea will have a positive impact on customers participating in Illinois EE programs.

Questions to consider: What level of impact will this idea have on current EE programs? How much additional market share do you estimate this change will impact?

The target customer segment for this program idea is any ComEd customer who owns streetlights on a public roadway which are billed under a ComEd dusk-to-dawn account. This is the same market segment as the existing LED streetlight incentive offering. The impact of this idea is that it allows customers to choose lighting options that best serve their needs while providing the maximum amount of financial assistance through energy efficiency incentives. This would increase customer satisfaction for current and potential participants who choose to install field adjustable streetlight fixtures with the field adjustable setting at a wattage lower than the nameplate wattage.

- 5. Duration:** Is this idea intended to be offered for the duration of the 4-year EE Plan or as a pilot measure or program?

The proposed idea could either be implemented as a pilot to determine its feasibility and impact on the program or as a permanent standard for the full 4-year plan.

- 6. Estimated Budget:** Provide the total estimated budget for each program year (2022 – 2025).

For applications to date in 2020, the average wattage reduction is 175 watts. Assuming a 25% increase in watts reduced from the new field adjustable rule (44 watts), the additional incentive per fixture would be \$30.80. Estimated number of field adjustable fixtures per year is 500, therefore the total impact on the streetlight incentive budget is an increase of \$15,400.

- 7. Estimated Participation:** Provide participation totals for each program year (i.e. number of measures installed, number of customer participants, etc.)

As the number of customers who utilize the LED streetlight incentive is typically 30 to 40 each year and the use of field adjustable settings is not yet widespread, participation for this rule adjustment is estimated at five customer participants but could expand as the technology becomes more universal.

Sources

If any sources will be useful to Illinois utilities in reviewing ideas, please either provide links within this template or send attachment(s) to the SAG Facilitator with the Energy Efficiency Idea submittal.