**Prohibited Expenses Policy**

**Final (Aug. 22, 2023)**

**Proposed Effective Date:** January 1, 2024

Energy Efficiency cost recovery is controlled by the Public Utilities Act, Commission rules and the Program Administrators’ tariffs on file with the ICC. Subject to the Act, the applicable rules and tariffs, Program Administrators shall explicitly incorporate expenses prohibitions in all vendor contracts executed after the effective date of this policy (including contracts for vendor subcontractors) that involve costs to be recovered through the Energy Efficiency cost recovery tariff mechanisms. Such expense prohibitions are applicable to utilities and their subcontractors. Prohibited expenses shall not be recoverable from Illinois ratepayers through the Energy Efficiency cost recovery tariff mechanisms.

The following list of prohibited expenses is not an all-inclusive record of prohibited expenses, and shall not be limited to the following:

* Direct payment for alcoholic beverages;
* Tickets to Sports Events;
* Marketing of the utility name which fails to relate to or reference either in writing, orally or visually, Energy Efficiency Programs, products or services; and
* Entertainment Event Tickets to concerts, festivals, exclusive events, and social activities. In the event the Program Administrator receives entertainment tickets as part of a sponsorship package, the Program Administrator shall not grant, transfer or assign those tickets to any individual or entity that is not solely participating in the event for education or outreach purposes.