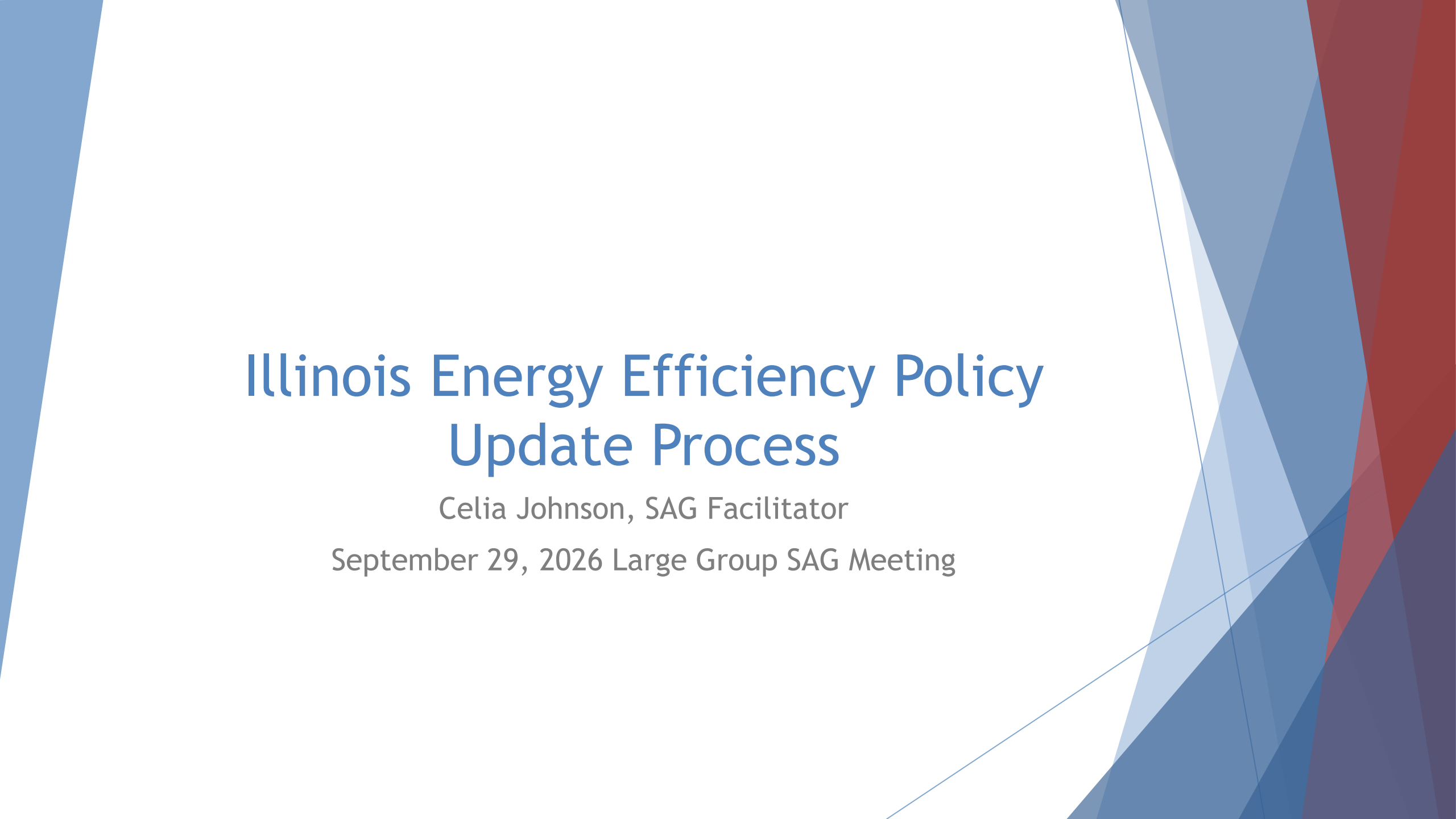




Illinois Energy Efficiency Policy Update Process

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator

September 29, 2026 Large Group SAG Meeting

Policy Manual Background

Creating an Illinois energy efficiency “policy manual” was a directive from the ICC to SAG in 2014

- Illinois Attorney General’s Office requested a Policy Manual be created in the ICC dockets to approve the 2014-2017 utility EE Plans
- The first Policy Manual was developed through SAG through a 1+ year Subcommittee process, and approved by the ICC in December 2015
- The Policy Manual “**provides guiding principles for procurement, oversight, evaluation and operation of the electric and gas Energy Efficiency Programs** authorized under Sections 8-103B and 8-104 of the Illinois Public Utilities Act. The principles and policies articulated in the Policy Manual were derived from Commission orders, policies and procedures developed by the SAG, as well as best practices from state Energy Efficiency Programs delivered throughout the nation.” *See Policy Manual Section 2.1, Background*

[Illinois Energy Efficiency Policy Manual Version 3.1 \(effective January 1, 2026\)](#)

Policy Manual Examples

Evaluation

- Defines responsibilities for independent evaluators
- Independence protocols for evaluators
- Process for annually submitting draft EM&V work plans; process for providing draft EM&V reports

SAG

- Describes role of SAG Facilitator
- Independence protocols for SAG Facilitator
- Options for consensus decision-making at SAG
- Describes recurring SAG activities

Utility EE Plans

- EE Portfolio objectives
- Budget allocations
- Flexibility and budgetary shift rules
- Defines cost categories, to standardize reporting among utilities and for transparency and consistency (examples: marketing costs, evaluation costs)
- Prohibited expenses for EE

Reporting

- Types of reports available for Illinois EE portfolios
- List of info required for utility quarterly reports
- List of info required for utility annual reports

IL-TRM Policy Document Background

The first IL-TRM Policy Document was developed and finalized through SAG in 2012, and approved by the ICC in 2013

- To establish an annual TRM update process and consistent policies in the applicability of the TRM by Illinois utilities
- “The purpose of the TRM Policy Document is to provide transparency of and consistency in the applicability of TRM values so that all stakeholders have a common reference document for measure, program and portfolio savings...” *see IL-TRM Policy Document, Section 1.1, Objectives and Purpose of the TRM Policy Document*

[IL-TRM Policy Document Version 4.0 \(Final\)](#)

Updating Illinois EE Policy Documents

The IL EE Policy Manual and IL-TRM Policy Document are updated as needed, through the SAG Policy Manual Subcommittee

- **Timing:** Typically updated every 3-4 years through the SAG Policy Manual Subcommittee; all interested participants have an opportunity to propose new policies or a change to an existing policy. SAG also has a process where policy issues can be reviewed and resolved outside of a formal policy document update.
- **Participation:** Open to all interested participants; final consensus may need occur between utilities and non-financially interested stakeholders.
- **Approval by the ICC:** A docket will be opened with the ICC to request approval of the updated IL EE Policy Manual and IL-TRM Policy Document; the goal is to submit both to the ICC as consensus updates.

See the Policy page of the SAG website for previous versions of Illinois EE policy documents and additional information: <https://www.ilsag.info/policy/>

Upcoming Policy Updates

2026: The Illinois EE Policy Manual will be updated in 2026 to correct errors due to the passage of the Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability (CRGA) Act in 2025; CRGA was effective on June 1, 2026

Next Steps:

- A redline IL EE Policy Manual was circulated to the SAG Policy Manual Subcommittee for review on September 28
 - Comments deadline: Friday, October 16
 - A follow-up discussion will be scheduled, if needed
- The goal is to submit a consensus update to the ICC in November, requesting a docket be opened for approval

2027: A comprehensive update process for both the IL EE Policy Manual and IL-TRM Policy Document will occur in 2027 through the **SAG Policy Manual Subcommittee** - including an opportunity for any interested SAG participant to propose a new policy or a change to an existing policy (if needed)

- Proposed Policy Deadline: Friday, February 19
- SAG Policy Manual Subcommittee Meetings: Anticipated to begin in March

Next Steps:

- A policy proposal template with guidelines for submittal will be circulated to SAG in early January

Contact Information

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