

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue, set against a white background. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a modern, dynamic feel.

Introduction to February 21, 2024 SAG Meeting

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator

Agenda

- ▶ Guidelines for Collaborative and Inclusive Participation
- ▶ Brief Overview of 2024 SAG Portfolio Planning Process
- ▶ Purpose of February SAG Meetings
- ▶ Policy Manual References
- ▶ Opportunity to Submit Energy Efficiency Ideas
- ▶ Negotiations
- ▶ SAG Facilitator Contact Information

Guidelines for Collaborative and Inclusive Participation

1. Give presenters your time and attention
2. Provide space for all participants to speak up
3. Be patient when others speak; avoid interrupting
4. Avoid using acronyms or phrases that may not be understood
5. Focus comments / questions on today's agenda - anything raised outside of the meeting agenda will be tabled

Options to participate:

- ❖ Speak up or raise your hand with a comment or question - state your name and organization
- ❖ Share a comment or question in the chat

If time runs short, questions will be captured for follow-up

2024 SAG Portfolio Planning Process

▶ In 2024, SAG will focus on the Portfolio Planning Process

- ❖ This is a consensus-seeking process to discuss foundational issues to EE Portfolio Plan development with IL utilities
 - Utilities are responsible for planning, developing and implementing EE portfolios
 - Utilities are working on EE Plans for the next 4-year cycle -> 2026-2029
 - Each utility is required by statute to file a 2026-2029 EE Plan with the ICC for approval by March 1, 2025
- ❖ SAG Planning Process occurs once every 4 years
 - SAG has an advisory role, including an opportunity for participants to share feedback and ideas with IL utilities
 - Large Group SAG meetings will focus on Planning Process
- ❖ Dedicated page on SAG website: <https://www.ilsag.info/meetings/portfolio-planning-process/>
- ❖ [2024 SAG Schedule Flowchart](#)

February SAG Meetings

- ▶ To kick-off the SAG Planning Process with a common understanding of current EE Portfolios, and considerations for the utilities' development of 2026-2029 EE Plans
 - ❖ Utility presentations will also help inform the opportunity for SAG participants to submit “Energy Efficiency Ideas”
- ▶ Kick-off utility presentations:
 - ❖ Tuesday, February 13
 - ❖ ComEd EE Portfolio Presentation
 - ❖ Nicor Gas EE Portfolio Presentation
 - ❖ Wednesday, February 14
 - ❖ Ameren Illinois EE Portfolio Presentation
 - ❖ Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas EE Portfolio Presentation
 - ❖ Wednesday, February 21
 - ❖ All utilities present overview of Income Eligible/Income Qualified EE Programs

Policy Manual Describes the Planning Process

*Program Administrators shall work in a cooperative and iterative manner with SAG participants to develop the next multi-year Plan. Such cooperation includes discussion of foundational issues to Plan development; including budgets, Portfolio objectives, Program ideas, and Program design. Program Administrators and SAG shall seek to develop and communicate such foundational assumptions in a manner that supports efficient and timely modeling of proposals for a comprehensive Plan. **A primary purpose of these cooperative and iterative discussions is to reduce the number of non-consensus issues and litigation associated with the applicable Plan dockets.***

See Section 3.9, SAG Review, Draft Portfolio Outlines:

[Illinois Energy Efficiency Policy Manual Version 3.0 \(Final\)](#)

Policy Manual References

SAG Advisory Role: *The SAG is an advisory body, not a decision-making body. It is a forum that allows parties to express different opinions, better understand the opinions of others, and foster collaboration and consensus, where possible and appropriate.*

SAG Disclaimer: *Illinois Energy Efficiency Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) discussions are intended to be in the nature of settlement discussions. As a matter of general agreement, written and/or oral positions or statements made during SAG meetings shall not be used by any party to contradict or impeach another party's position, or prove a party's position, in a Commission proceeding.*

See Section 3.3, Advisory Role and Section 3.1, Disclaimer:

[Illinois Energy Efficiency Policy Manual Version 3.0 \(Final\)](#)

Energy Efficiency Ideas

- ▶ **Opportunity for interested SAG participants to submit:**
 1. Feedback on current EE portfolios, suggesting changes for the 2026-2029 EE Plans; and / or
 2. Energy efficiency ideas for utility consideration, such as program approaches or new measures that have been successfully implemented in another jurisdiction

- ▶ **Deadline for [EE Idea Submittals](#) - Friday, March 15, 2024**
 - ❖ This is not a formal RFP process
 - ❖ EE Ideas will be presented to SAG in April
 - ❖ IL utilities will respond to EE ideas at SAG in May

- ▶ **SAG participants encouraged to:**
 1. Focus on the highest priority EE ideas
 2. Work together to submit joint EE ideas, when possible
 3. Review the latest [utility EE reports](#) and participate in February SAG meetings to avoid proposing an EE idea already offered by a utility

Energy Efficiency Ideas (cont.)

▶ Submitting EE Ideas:

- ❖ [Use the Electronic EE Ideas Template](#)
- ❖ Participants may use the [EE Ideas Word template](#) to collaborate on EE Idea submittals

▶ Coordination on EE Ideas:

- ❖ Several participants submitted initial EE Idea topics to SAG through an optional survey (due February 1)
- ❖ Purpose of survey - to identify topics of mutual interest and encourage joint submittals
 - ❖ [Click here to view survey results](#)
 - ❖ Please reach out to the contact listed in the spreadsheet if you are interested in jointly submitting one of the ideas listed

Energy Efficiency Ideas (cont.)

▶ Additional Guidance

- ❖ Focus on ideas utilities should consider as they develop 2026-2029 EE Plans
- ❖ Proposed ideas may be challenging to evaluate without enough information - please submit fully developed ideas and make a good faith effort to fill out as much information as possible in the template
 - See Policy Manual Section 3.10, Proposal Support:
 - *SAG participants that propose to discuss a policy change, Program design, or other topic relevant for discussion at SAG shall demonstrate fact-based support of their recommendation prior to discussion at SAG. Support includes, but is not limited to, background, research, and data analysis.*
- ❖ Compromise and understanding will be needed to reach consensus - it is likely that not all EE Ideas can be incorporated into the utilities' 2026-2029 EE Plans

Energy Efficiency Ideas (cont.)

- ▶ **How does the EE Ideas process interact with the annual IL Technical Reference Manual (TRM) update?**
 - ❖ If your EE Idea involves a new measure, or a change to an existing measure, please also submit a measure request to the IL-TRM Administrator (VEIC)
 - ❖ Information on how to submit IL-TRM measure requests will be shared with SAG soon
 - ❖ Contact iltrmadministrator@veic.org to be added to the IL-TRM distribution list

Negotiations

- ▶ Negotiations on 2026-2029 EE Plans will take place at the end of the process - October 2024 to January 2025
 - ❖ Negotiations will be held between individual utilities and non-financially interested stakeholders, organized by the SAG Facilitator
 - The final SAG Conflict of Interest Policy will be presented at the March 5th meeting
 - ❖ A utility may require negotiating stakeholders to sign a Non-Disclosure / Confidentiality Agreement
 - ❖ Goal is to finalize a stipulated agreement with each utility, summarizing agreement on the utility's EE Plan
 - ❖ Compromise and understanding by all parties will be needed to reach consensus

Contact Information

- ▶ **SAG Facilitator - Celia Johnson ([Celia Johnson Consulting](#))**
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 - ❖ *SAG Website:* www.ILSAG.info

- ▶ **Reminder - EE Idea submittals due Friday, March 15**