### Energy Academy

Session #6: Energy Transition with Renewable Energy

Metropolitan Mayors Caucus | The Power Bureau

April 6, 2023



### AGENDA

HOUSEKEEPING	■ Course-related items
RESOURCES	<ul><li>Readings</li><li>Website of the Week</li></ul>
LECTURE	<ul> <li>Technology Review</li> <li>Past Deployments and the Outlook</li> <li>Renewable Options in Illinois</li> </ul>
DISCUSSION	■ Open



### HOUSEKEEPING

#### HOUSEKEEPING

# Announcements from MMC Requests for **Specific Course Items**

### Cheryl and Edith

We've had a few suggestions: ■ Smart Grids

- Microgrids
- Franchise Account management/conversion
- New federal energy incentives

### Recommendations

As always, please feel free to share any ideas and recommendations for improvements to the course and its content!



### RESOURCES

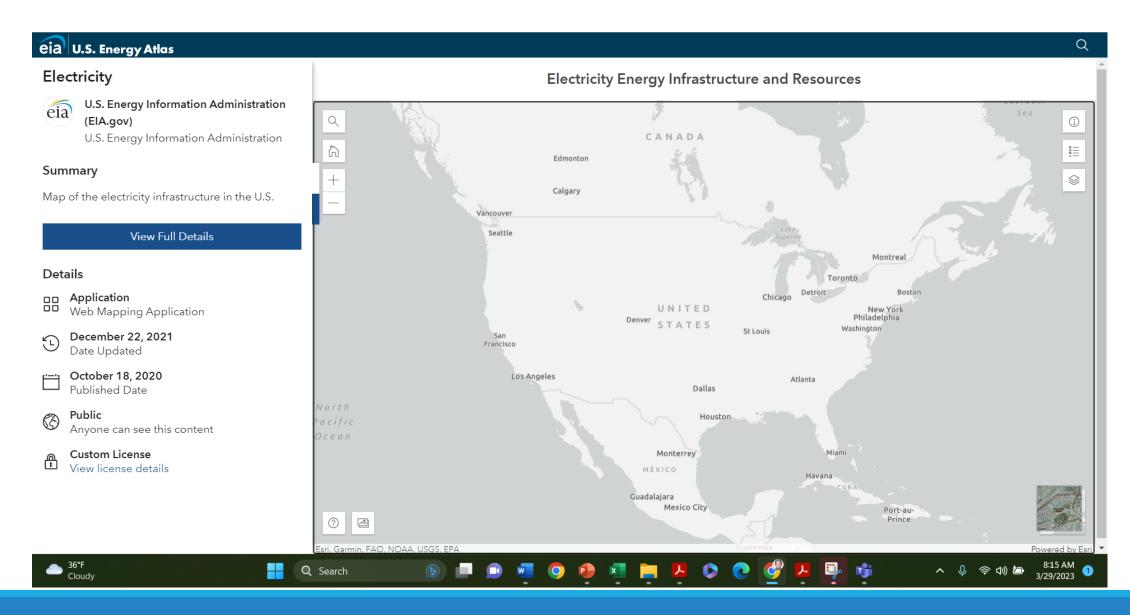
#### RESOURCES

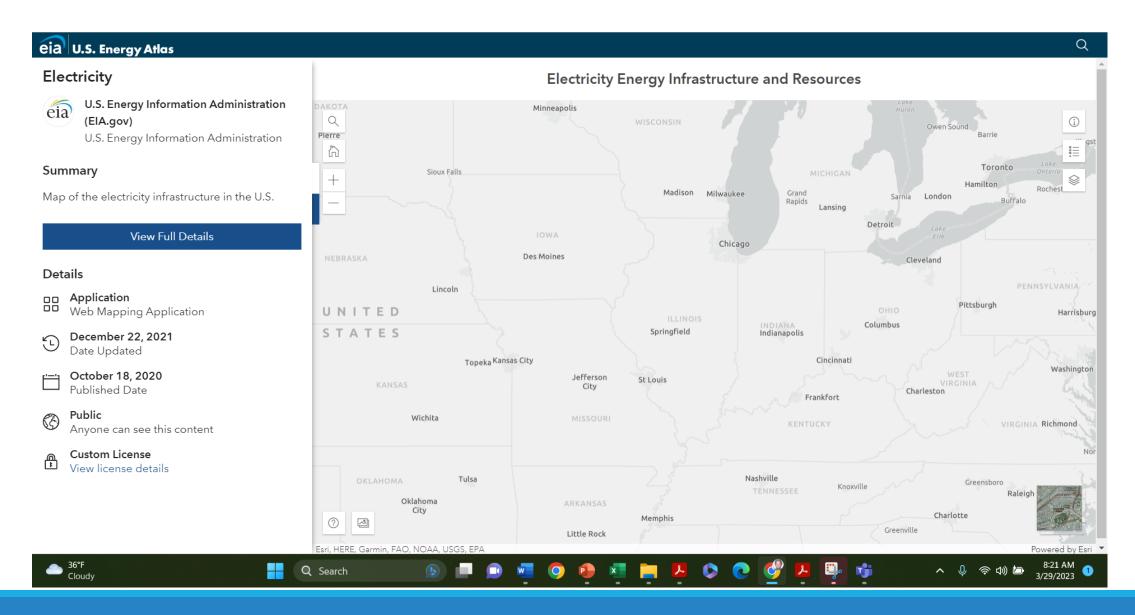
Weekly Readings

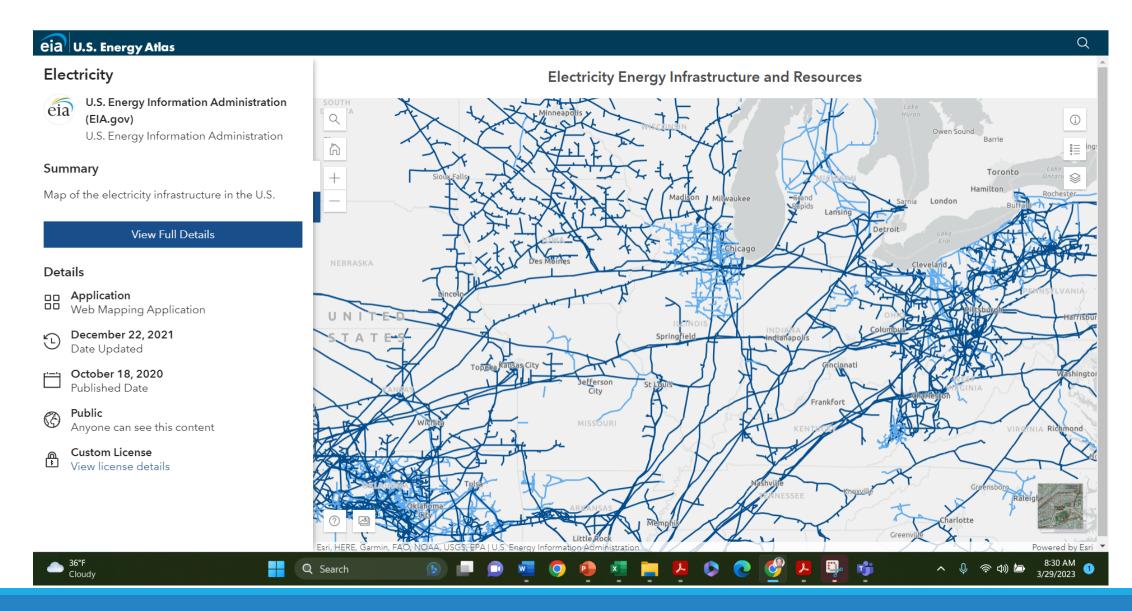
Link: REAP Webpage Renewable **Source:** Illinois Commerce Commission **Energy Access Description:** Process that outlines the path to an equitable, Plan reliable, and affordable path to meeting Illinois' policy requirements for a clean electricity system. Link: Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution **Source:** Metropolitan Mayors Caucus CS<sup>2</sup> Program **Description:** Ready-made community solar program that allows municipalities to offer community solar subscriptions to their residents and small businesses Link: GeoMicroDistrict Feasibility Report Conversion **Source:** Home Energy Efficiency Team (HEET) from Natural **Description:** Feasibility study by a Boston-based non-profit that

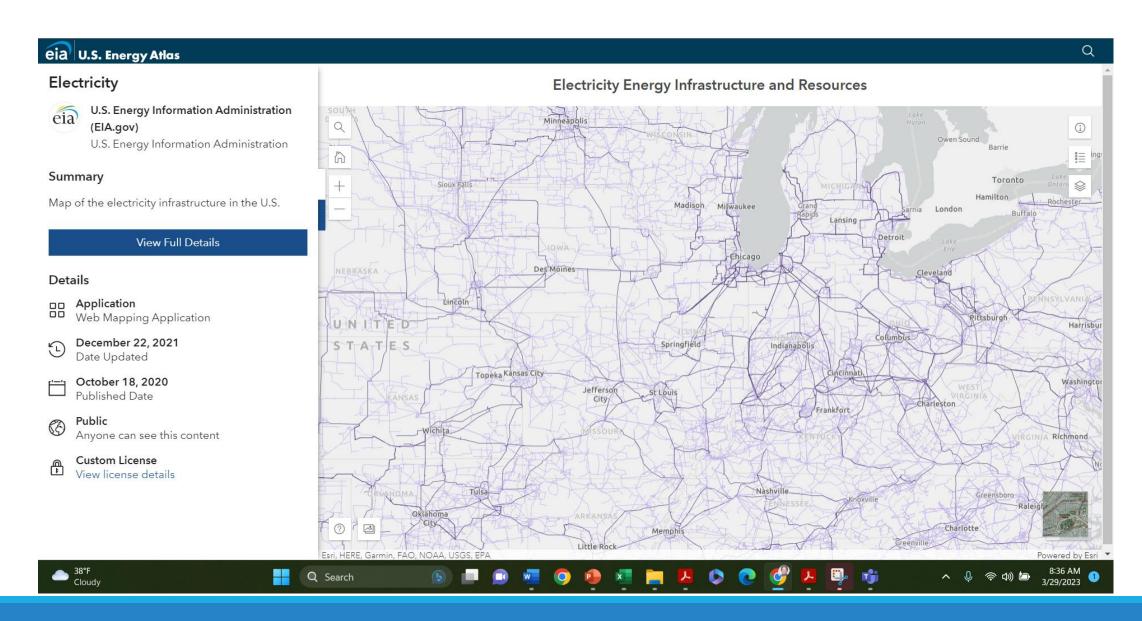
Gas to Electric

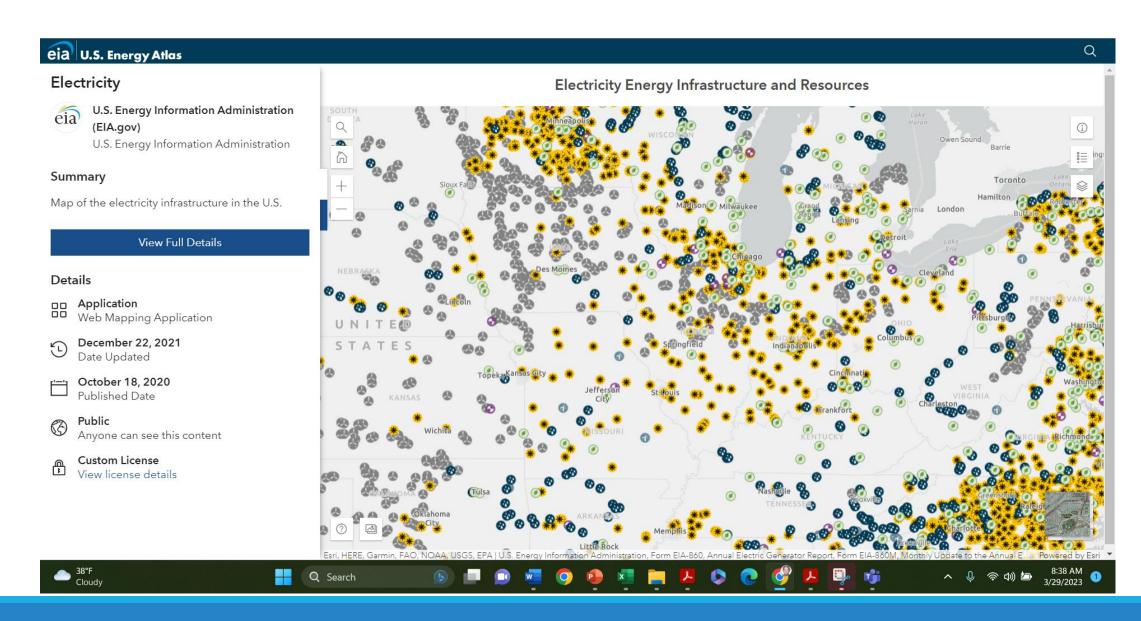
identifies an approach to using shared ground source heat pumps to replace natural gas fueled appliances in residences

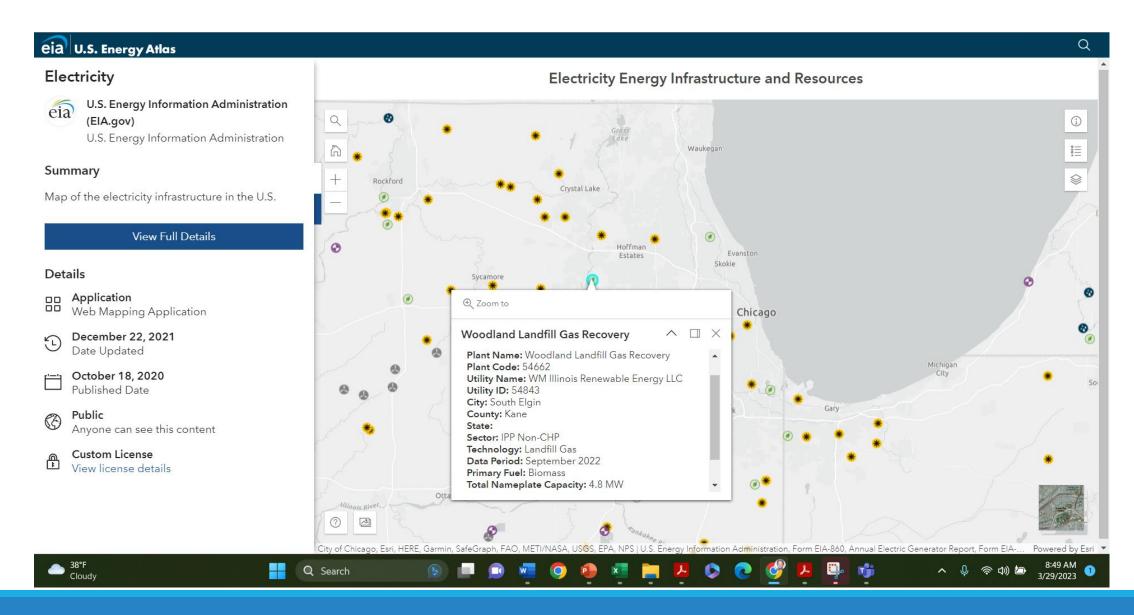












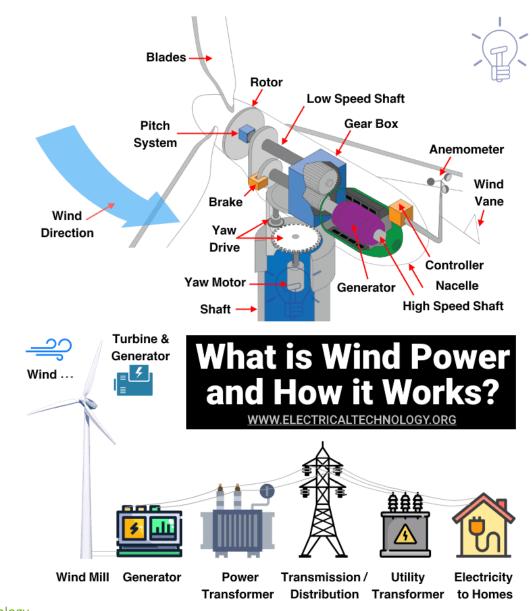


### LECTURE

### Technology Overview

- Wind
- Solar
- Biomass
- Landfill Gas
- Hydroelectric
- Geothermal
- Hydrogen

### Wind Energy captures air movement (blades/rotor/gearbox) to turn a generator

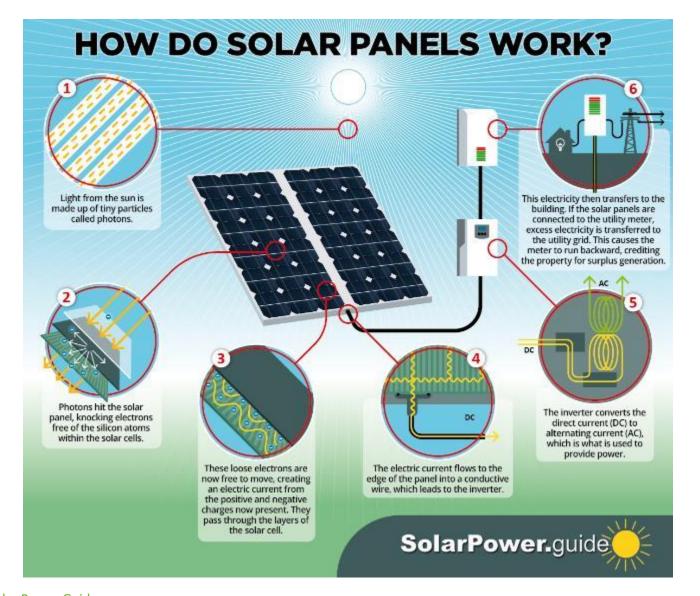


Source: Electrical Technology

### Technology Overview

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Solar panels allow sunlight (photons) to decouple electrons from silicon wafers to create a current (electricity)



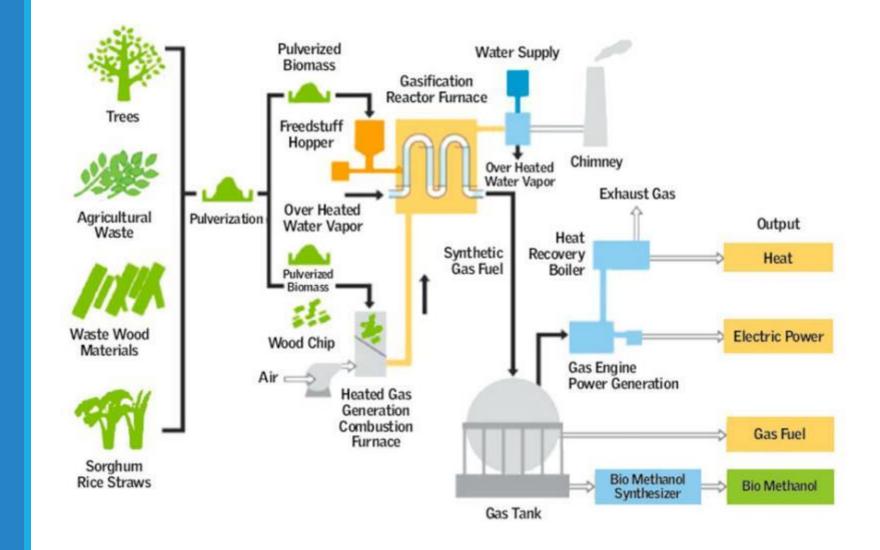
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Source: Solar Power Guide

### **Technology Overview**

- Wind
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Biomass replaces coal and natural gas with organic materials which are directly combusted or gasified to produce heat or fuels



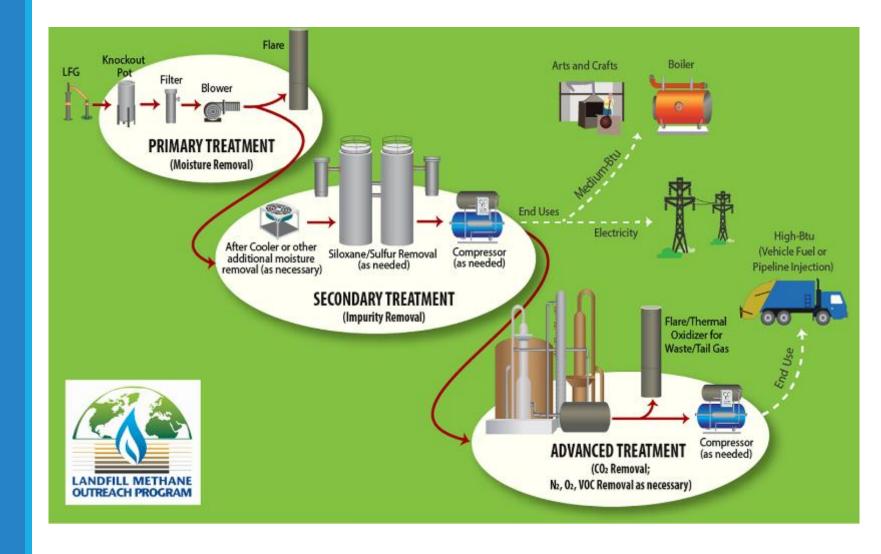
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Source: The Worldfolio

### Technology Overview

- Wind
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Landfill Gas is captured methane from decomposing materials in covered landfills that is collected, cleaned, dried and then pressurized for use as a fuel



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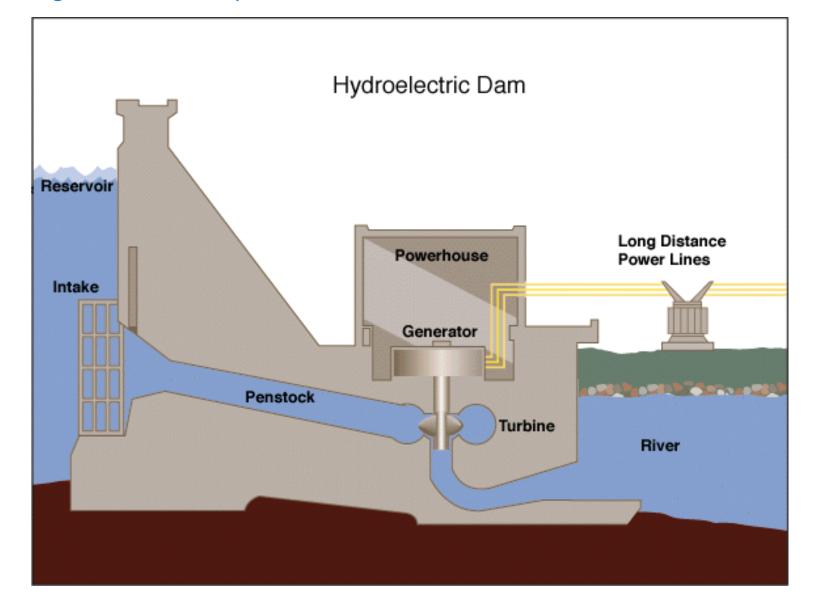
Source: <u>US Environmental Protection Agency</u>

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### **Technology Overview**

- Wind
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Hydroelectric generation converts the pressure of falling water to move a turbine that generates electricity



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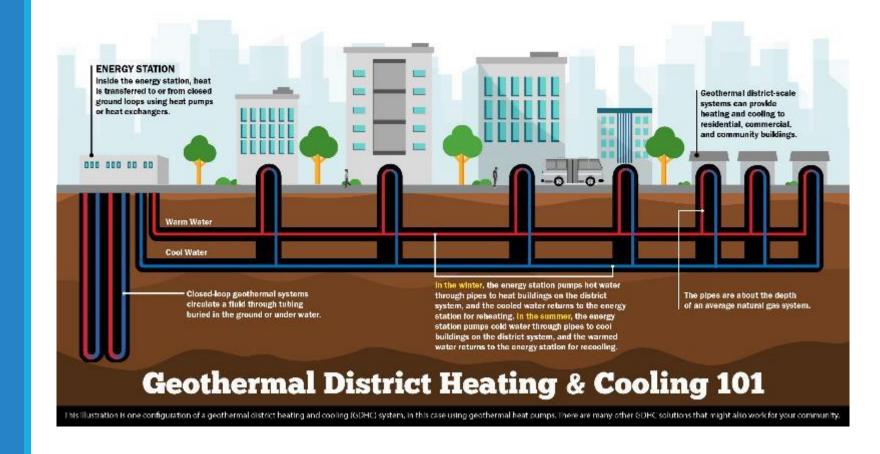
Source: <u>US Energy Information Administration</u>

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### Technology Overview

- Wind
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Geothermal energy captures the constant temperature of the earth and converts that energy into heating and cooling through the use of heat exchangers



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Source: <u>US Department of Energy</u>

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### Technology Overview

- Wind
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Hydrogen can be produced through electrolysis using excess renewable energy, stored, and then used to produce electricity through fuel cells or combustion

### How does green hydrogen work?

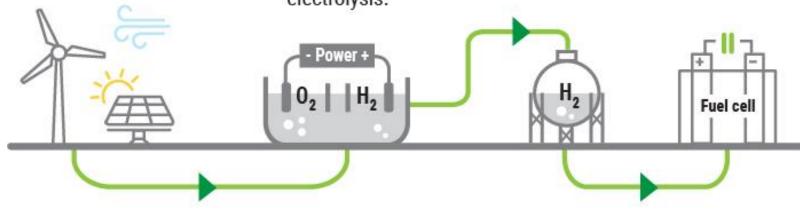


Using the excess energy produced by renewables like wind or solar...

...green electricity could produce hydrogen through electrolysis.

Hydrogen is stored safely for when needed.

Green hydrogen could be used for clean power generation.



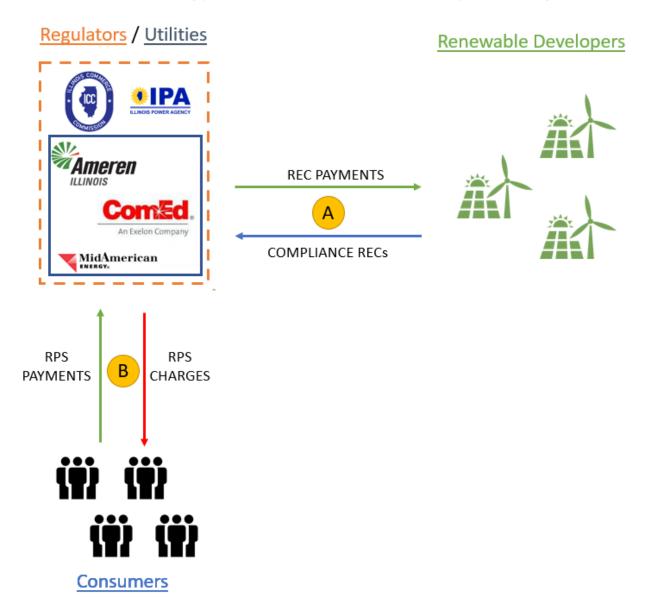
Source: New York ISO

Source: New York Independent System Operator METROPOLITAN MAYORS CAUCUS | THE POWER BUREAU 20

Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)

- Illinois RPS Structure
- Illinois RPS Status
- Illinois RPS Outlook

The Illinois RPS requires the ComEd, Ameren Illinois and MidAmerican Energy to purchase Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) to match a percentage of their loads



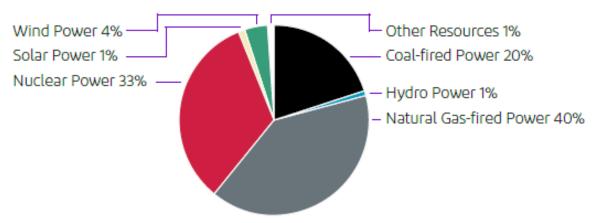
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### The Illinois RPS <u>is not</u> what the utilities report on their Environmental Disclosure Statements to the Illinois Commerce Commission

#### Sources of Electricity for the 12 months ending December 31, 2022



Sources <sup>1</sup> of Electricity Supplied for the 12 Months Ending December 31, 2022	% of Total
BIOMASS POWER	0%
COAL-FIRED POWER	20%
HYDRO POWER	1%
NATURAL GAS-FIRED POWER	40%
NUCLEAR POWER	33%
OIL-FIRED POWER	0%
SOLAR POWER	1%
WIND POWER	4%
OTHER RESOURCES	1%
UNKNOWN RESOURCES PURCHASED FROM OTHER COMPANIES	0%
TOTAL	100%

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Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)

- Illinois RPS Structure
- Illinois RPS Status
- Illinois RPS Outlook

The Illinois RPS requires ComEd, Ameren Illinois and MidAmerican Energy to purchase Renewable Energy Credits to match increasing percentages of utility loads

Delivery Year	IRPS Goals		RPS Deliveries/Shortfall		Illinois RPS Performance	
	Goal %	Goal RECs	REC Deliveries	REC Shortfall	Effective RPS %	Shortfall %
2020- 2021	18.0%	21,149,182	3,302,605	17,846,578	2.7%	-15.3%
2021- 2022	19.0%	22,785,453	5,938,635	16,846,818	5.0%	-14.0%
2022- 2023	21.0%	24,661,977	7,880,864	16,781,113	6.6%	-14.4%

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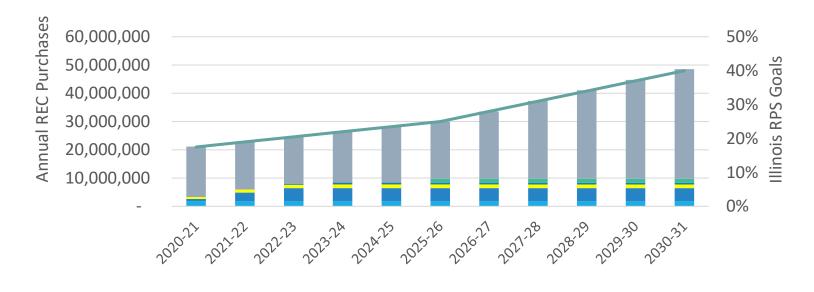
Source: Illinois Power Agency, Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan (2022), Appendix B

Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)

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The Illinois RPS sets a goal of 40% by the 2030-31 program year, and the Illinois Power Agency projects the need to fill a REC Gap of ~32%







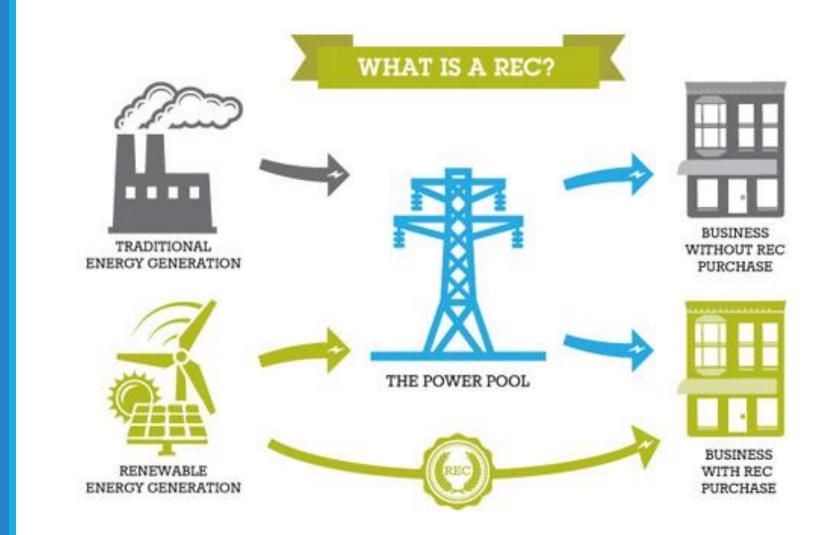
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Source: Illinois Power Agency, Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan (2022), Appendix B

#### Options in Illinois

- Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)
  - RECs can be sold separately from renewable energy
  - Combining RECs with regular grid energy is considered "renewable"
  - Most RECs sold to Illinois consumers are produced in other states
  - Only long-term REC purchases can cause new renewable energy assets to be built
- Distributed Generation (DG)
- Community Solar (DG)
- Self-Direct (SD)
- Virtual Power Purchase Agreement (VPPA)

A REC is a receipt that proves that 1,000 kWh of electricity was generated by a renewable energy resource at some time in some place and represents the "environmental attributes" of that energy (the "renewableness")



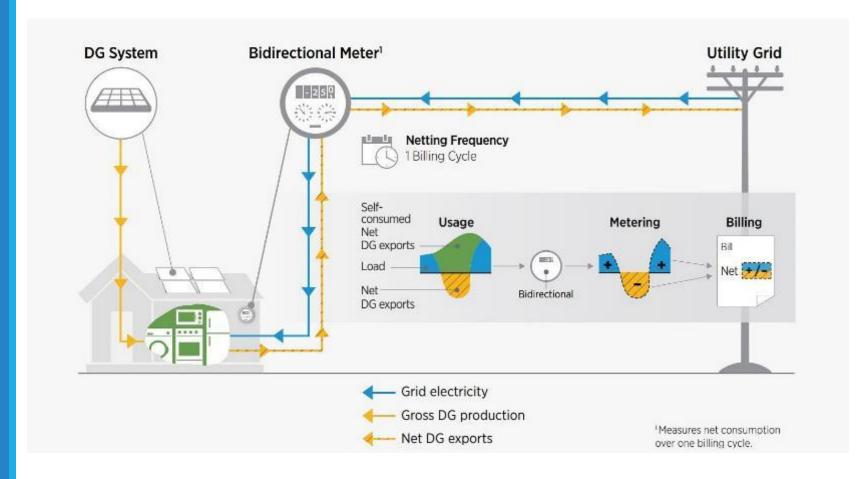
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Source: Renewable Energy World

#### Options in Illinois

- Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)
- Distributed Generation (DG)
  - Energy from a renewable asset can be produced at buildings where the energy is used (behind-the-meter)
  - Excess DG flows back to the grid, and grid energy is delivered when DG is insufficient (net metering)
  - ComEd will purchase the RECs from DG at a fixed price for 20 years to support project financing, so the DG energy used by the consumer is not "renewable"
- Community Solar (CS)
- Self-Direct (SD)
- Virtual Power Purchase Agreement (VPPA)

Distributed Generation produces energy where it's used.



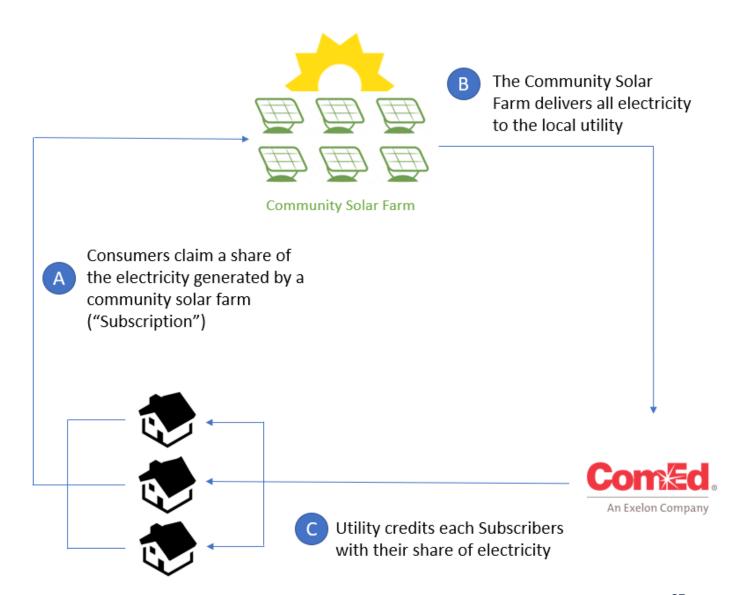
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Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory

#### Options in Illinois

- Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)
- Distributed Generation (DG)
- Community Solar (CS)
  - Also called "Shared Solar" or "Virtual Net Metering"
  - Credits consumers ("Subscribers") with a portion of the electricity generated by a large solar farm
  - In Illinois there is no upfront cost, so always a savings for the consumer
  - In Illinois, the utility purchases the RECs, so it's not "renewable energy", but it does support the financing of new solar assets in Illinois
- Self-Direct (SD)
- Virtual Power Purchase Agreement (VPPA)

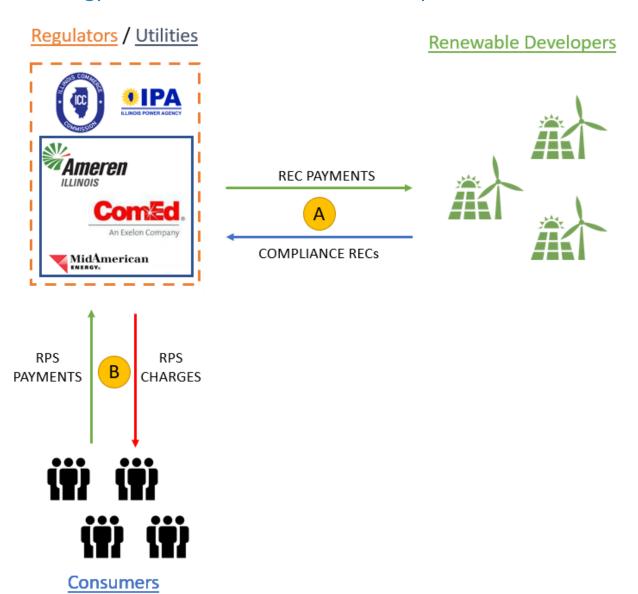
Community Solar allows multiple consumers to receive a share of the energy generated from a single large solar farm



#### Options in Illinois

- Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)
- Distributed Generation (DG)
- Community Solar (CS)
- Self-Direct (SD)
  - The Illinois RPS directs the utilities to purchase RECs from qualified renewable energy assets under long term contracts with funds collected from consumers (A + B)
  - The Self-Direct option allows large consumer (>10MW) to purchase and keep their own RECs under long term contracts and receive a rebate for a portion of their RPS charges (C + D)
- Virtual Power Purchase Agreement (VPPA)

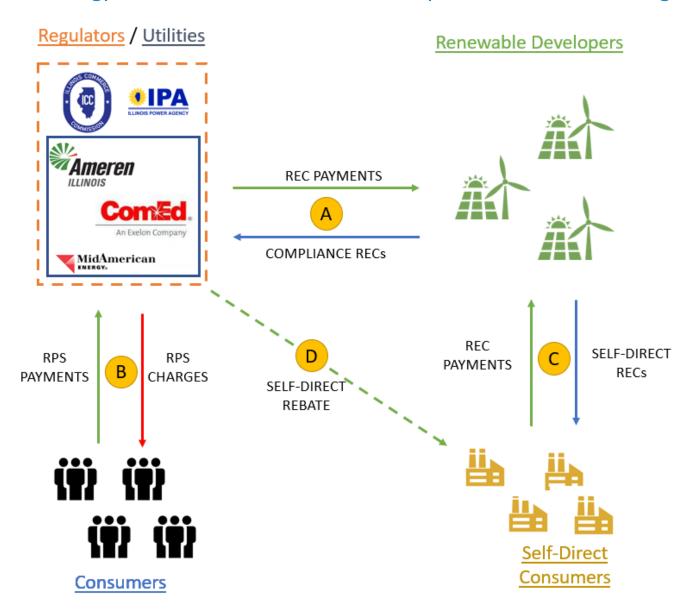
The Self-Direct RPS allows qualified energy users to purchase RECs from new renewable energy assets and receive a rebate for a portion of their RPS charges



#### Options in Illinois

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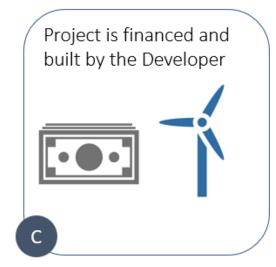
#### Options in Illinois

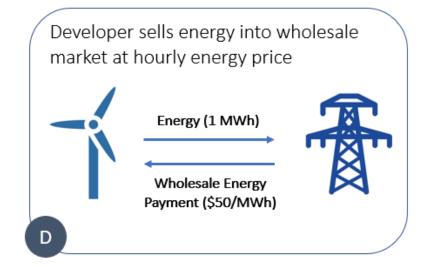
- Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)
- Distributed Generation (DG)
- Community Solar (CS)
- Self-Direct (SD)
- Virtual Power Purchase Agreement (VPPA)
  - Long term power purchase agreement with a new renewable energy asset
  - Instead of delivering energy to the buyer, the energy from the renewable energy asset is sold into the wholesale market by the developer
  - The developer then trades the wholesale market revenue plus the RECs to the buyer for the VPPA price
  - Example: \$55 \$50 = \$5/REC

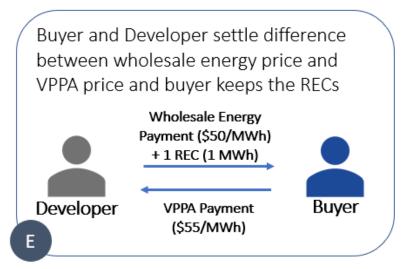
A Virtual Power Purchase Agreement (VPPA) is a long-term agreement to support financing the development of new utility-scale renewable assets



A buyer agrees to a fixed price for Energy + RECs from the project (Virtual PPA) for 15-25 years





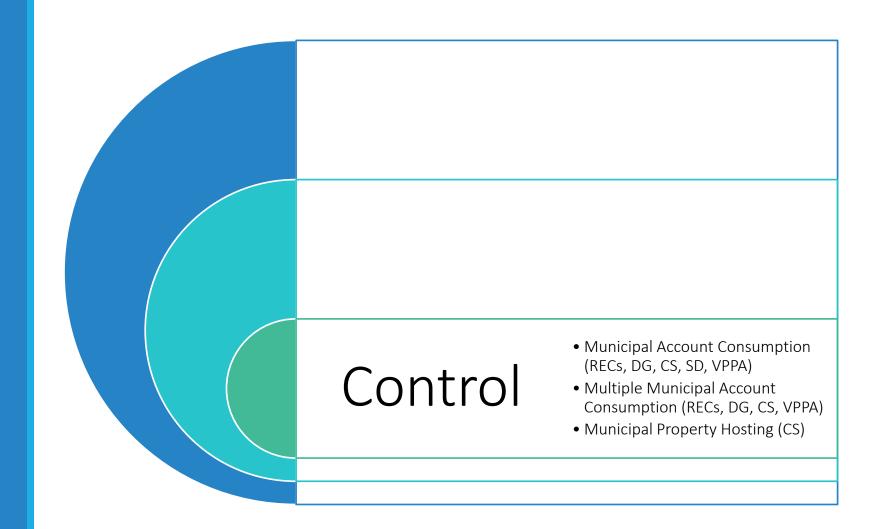


#### **ENERGY TRANSITION**

#### ROLE FOR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

- Control
- Sponsor
- Influence

Municipalities have the authority to regulate certain aspects of development, operations and reporting from private sector entities that can support sustainability policies and programs

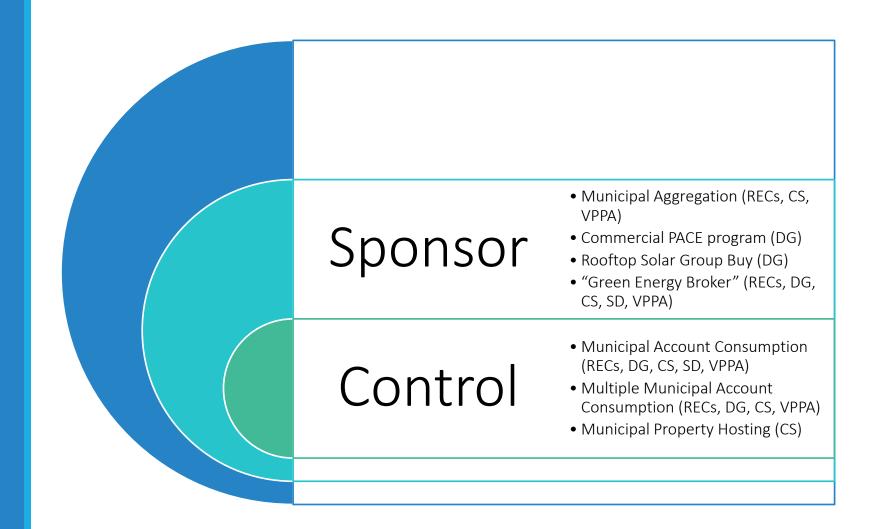


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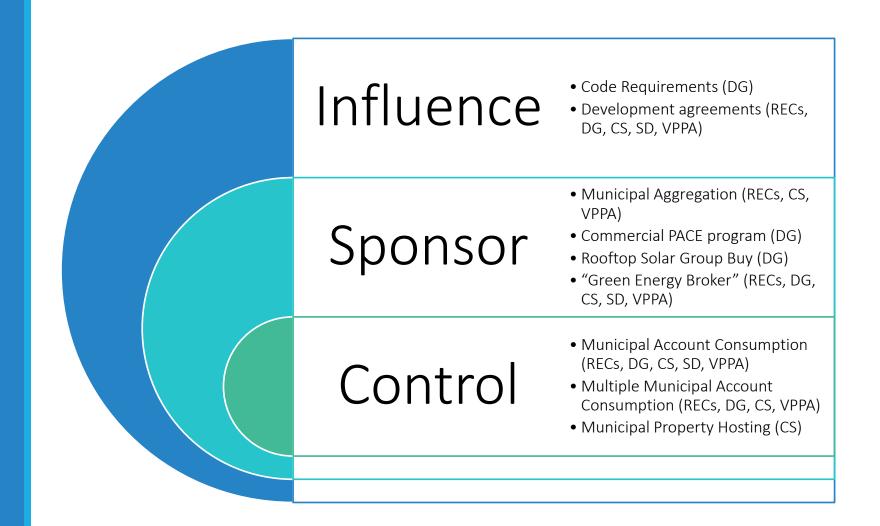
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### DISCUSSION

#### **DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS**

### **Key Points**

- Municipalities could rely on the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to meet renewable energy goals
  - Current goal of 40% renewables by 2040; but,
  - Past RPS goals have not been met
- Municipalities have options for pursuing their own renewable energy goals:
  - "Renewable" means different things to different people
  - Are RECs from an existing wind farm in Texas really "renewable"?
  - Municipalities should think strategically about how they define "Renewable" before adopting any goals
    - RECs
    - "Additionality"
    - "Clean Sources"

### THANK YOU

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