

Illinois DEA Case Study Work Group
Meeting #8: Final Meeting
June 18, 2025
Meeting Notes

Attendee List

Agnes Mrozowski, Ameren Illinois
Bill Reany, Ameren Illinois
Mark Minden, Ameren Illinois
Peter Millburg, Ameren Illinois
Celia Johnson, Celia Johnson Consulting
Camille Minns, Clean Energy Works
Bobbie Tolson, ComEd
Nick Bafaloukos, ComEd
Kenyatta Parker, Community Investment Corp (CIC) Chicago
Pastor Booker Vance, Elevate
Roopa Krithivasan, Elevate
Cheryl Watson, Equitable Resilience Sustainability
Selena Worster Walde, Erthe Energy Solutions
Mark Mandolini, Honeywell
Kit White, Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA)
Shelby Smith, Office of the Illinois Attorney General
Hannah Howard, Opinion Dynamics
Julia Friedman, Opower
Christopher Vaughn, Nicor Gas
Jonathan Skarzynski, Nicor Gas

Meeting Recording

[IL DEA Case Study - Work Group Meeting #8 - Zoom](#)

WG = work group; the Illinois DEA Case Study Work Group

ICC = Illinois Commerce Commission

Welcome, Introductions, Background (Slides 2-6)

Stage 1: Community & Stakeholder Involvement (Slides 7-10)

- **WG member:** Culture got better as the presentations went on - grew stronger and the presentations became more open, hope that this will allow for more feedback/considerations for the outcome.
- **WG member:** In the final report, will there be clear acknowledgement of what was changed or reconsidered or modified based on stakeholder feedback? Thanks.
 - **Project Team:** Yes, we will make sure that is clearly indicated.
- **WG member:** Apart from stipends and advertising, is there anything else that would help increase CBO participation? Are there other barriers to participation that are worth considering? (Curious to hear from CBO participants and others who work closely with them)
 - **Project Team:** We do have additional recommendations collected in 1-1s with CBOs. Great questions!

Stage 2: Articulate the DEA Context (Slides 11-12)

Stage 3: Priority Populations (Slides 13-17)

Stage 4: Identify DEA Metrics (Slides 18-22)

Metrics not analyzed for this case study

- **WG member:** My question is, we need to set a time to see how we can solve some of the problems you are raising, and how to approve the process to get this going, critical stuff we need. We need a session to say to figure out what to do differently. Critical data that we need. Is there any way to talk about what that means and what we could do differently.
 - **Project Team:** Absolutely, we don't have another work group meeting for this, we talk about this at the end of this with recommendations and next steps. We will come back to that at the end.
 - **ICC Staff representative:** As a follow up to the concern raised by [the previous WG member] perhaps the DEA Report could highlight the need for other entities (e.g.,

State legislature, Federal Government, National Laboratories) to address the data limitations which go beyond what could be reasonably provided by electric utilities.

- **Project Team:** Excellent point, we will be sure to mention that in our final report.
- **WG member:** Re: data availability- In certain cases, the cost of capturing additional data fields can increase significantly as the volume and complexity of required information grow. This is particularly evident when comparing rebate program types. Upstream and midstream rebate programs typically require less granular data than downstream programs. This difference is expected, as upstream and midstream programs generally incur lower administrative costs. In contrast, downstream programs often involve more direct customer engagement and verification, necessitating more detailed data collection. I believe the program type was one of the key factors determining availability of data.
 - **Project Team:** Thanks for this comment, [WG member]! I agree. We will address this in the final report.

Stage 5 & 6: Apply DEA metrics to priority populations & Present and interpret DEA results (Slides 23-32)

Anything we missed that you think is important and want to raise here? Note that we will also have plenty of time later on today to discuss the specifics of our case study recommendations, this is just high-level things we heard.

- **WG member:** Electrification is still an innovation, it is still new in challenged and disenfranchised communities, I want to see more consideration and hear more about investing in education in diverse communities on electrification and more serious concern about implementation and what is involved with education and resource. Even I am learning, don't want to make the assumption that everyone understands.

Stage 7: Making resource decisions using BCA and DEA results (Slides 33-42)

Case-Study Specific Recommendations (Slides 43-49)

Ameren

ICC Staff representative: Would the Ameren DEA recommendation be conducted quicker and cost effective if the new study leverage the results of the current work?

ICC Staff representative: There are a number of opportunities for partnership utilizing the results from this study, especially given the fact that there may be a limitation on what we are currently doing by a single utility or a single plan. But one thing which the ICC emphasized is the need for partnership, at the state and also maybe at the national labs given their technical expertise and their ability to bring in lessons learned from other technical organizations and jurisdictions. That

was the essence of my comment. You made a recommendation, one of the key things we have to consider is what are benefits to ratepayers in terms of improving the outcomes. There is always a tendency to do more studies, but need to make sure we achieve CEJA goals. Do we think a 2026 study will be fruitful and whether it would improve effectiveness of ongoing efforts? It's a good recommendation, but utility would have to weigh in to see if there are some efficiencies that would be achieved in terms of what the plan is. BE and EE are implemented by the utility. But I think it is worthwhile as a recommendation to see if there is anything to leverage going forward.

- **Project Team:** That is a really great question, and brings up the point that additional data tracking has costs. Funding for these efforts could be from other sources to take on that heavy lifting.
- **Project Team:** Could it be done quicker? Definitely. I think a lot of the contacts and the knowledge transfer, which we will document, a lot of that information takes time to build, I think that the next DEA could be done sooner because folks are more used to questions being asked. Might also be if the utility wanted to weigh in.
- **Ameren representative:** Echoing what has been said today, the context is that these are recommendations that this group has about how equity investments need to be evaluated. We have already metrics approved and ordered by ICC for equity in the multi-year integrated grid plan (MYIGP) and programs we have put into place as designed addressed those metrics. As you correctly noted, it is expensive to gather data, and we are operating under our first MYIGP, and I don't know any stakeholder who got involved that said this will be perfect the first time around. In terms of these recommendations, this is foundational, it will be driven by how the ICC wants to adjust its understanding of what is equitable. And there is some data we simply don't have, not realistic for us to have. Utilities are the only entities that are regulated. We might not have access to what type of EVs customers have, other groups like state and federal governments have more access to EV data. And we recognize that if it matters, you measure it. If this DEA is desired, that needs to be advocated for in MYIGP dockets, getting ready to file another one in a year. Taking public comment now on that. Customer money has to be spent on things that ICC orders and are important to our customers.
- **Project Team:** We haven't focused on MYIGP, just BE and EE, but understanding it is all connected.
- **Ameren representative:** Equity isn't just about costs but about access to programs. Agree and appreciate these. These concerns are now top of mind for us.

WG member: I agree these processes shouldn't happen in a vacuum, these all come from the same legislation. Just wondering to bring in some of the findings of this analysis into MYIGP conversations, is there a link that could be shared on how to provide those comments, how can we thread that needle since it is so timely.

- **Ameren representative:** We have had and I have to look at the schedule, we want to gather this input, after this call, we could circle back on what next venues are to introduce these

into those comments. The MYIGP is premised on exactly what you are requesting and we can get something to everyone on this call if you want to provide input here's the link.

- **WG member:** I know Ameren and ComEd have had many Grid Plan working group meetings and I'm glad we can bring these two efforts together!
- **ICC Staff representative:** We are the point of completing those workshops and meetings. We want to get feedback from organizations and groups that have an interest in the grid planning process. We will issue a final report on those workshop meetings later this summer. Ameren has workshops they are planning to hold as required by the Commission. And ComEd will be doing similar things for their service territory which will stretch into September and October. And the last thing I will say is that this is all intended to be an integrated, coordinated effort
- **WG member:** Here is the website for the ICC Grid Plan Workshops in case it's useful, meetings have been recorded: <https://icc.illinois.gov/informal-processes/Performance-Metrics-and-Grid-Plan-Workshops>
- **Ameren representative:** Thank you for the interest in the Grid Plan workshops. Ameren Illinois will be sending out workshop invites after July 4th. If you are interested in the workshops, please share your contact information.
 - Agnes Mrozowski, Ameren Illinois amrozowski@ameren.com
- **ComEd representative:** ComEd Grid Planning workshops will conclude next week. There will be ComEd led Multi Year Integrated Grid Plan workshops later this year. Reach out to jessica.miley@exeloncorp.com or [Celia Johnson](#) if you would like to be added to that future distribution list.

Recommendations for Improving DEA (Slides 50-53)

Project schedule recap and next steps (Slides 54-57)

- Please reach out to the team with any questions/comments following this meeting.