

FROM: Cary Shepherd, Policy Director at the Illinois Environmental Council  
TO: Adjustable Block Program Administrator  
DATE: October 19, 2018  
RE: Approved Vendor Hiring Policies

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Dear Adjustable Block Program Administrator,

Thank you for taking a moment to review this letter, as well as for your work in building the clean energy market in Illinois. I am the Policy Director at the Illinois Environmental Council, an organization that works with a number of environmental organizations to advocate for the common interests in environmental protection. One goal of the IEC and our affiliate organizations is to ensure that the benefits of a clean energy economy reach all residents of Illinois; this is also a goal of the Future Energy Jobs Act.

I'm writing today to address an issue regarding this pillar of the Future Energy Jobs Act ("FEJA"). It has come to our attention that companies which may be applying for status as "approved vendors" have policies in place which conflict with the requirements of approved vendor status. Specifically, some vendors have corporate hiring policies in place which do not allow for the hiring of individuals who have been convicted of a crime. This directly conflicts with the larger administration of FEJA, which includes jobs training programs designed to create "2,000 jobs... for persons who are or were foster children and persons with a record." See [220 ILCS 5/16-108.12](#).

According to the Illinois Power Agency's Long Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan, approved vendors must agree to abide by the terms of FEJA, and as the administrator of the Adjustable Block Program, you will assist in deciding whether an applicant is certified as an approved vendor. *Based on the proposal outlined, it looks as though you have decided to take this into consideration, and we are thankful for your vigilance and dedication to the mission of Illinois Solar for All.*

Please feel free to reach out with any questions and I hope to be in touch soon. Thank you again for helping Illinois to pursue a clean energy economy. I look forward to seeing your progress in the coming years.

Sincerely,

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