

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency/Illinois Commission on Environmental Justice

While qualification for Solar for All depends on household income, this 25 percent is earmarked to give environmental justice communities an intentional advantage when the program administrator selects approved projects, and awards incentives, through the Solar for All program. And if the principle of environmental justice require that no segment of the population regardless of race, national origin, age, or income, should bear disproportionately high or adverse effects of environmental pollution,” then it stands to reason that the most important factor for designation of this 25 percent of the Solar for All program in this area would be first and foremost those areas defined as EJ areas, followed by low income, and not the reverse of this designation. Conceivably, a community can be designated low income and not be an EJ community. However, an EJ designated community that may or may not be designated low income would be the mark this 25 percent is set aside to address. The webinar appeared to hold the low income community as a marker to consider before the EJ community marker.