Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (Public Act [102-0662](102-0662))
Municipal-run Electric Utility and Rural Electric Cooperative Fact Sheet

Context: Illinois has three types of electric utilities, investor-owned, municipal-run, and rural electric cooperatives. Investor-owned utilities (IOUs) (e.g. Ameren and ComEd), are private, for-profit companies (and, in most cases, part of publicly traded corporations) that are regulated by the Illinois Commerce Commission. **Municipal-run electric utilities** (munis) are owned and operated by the local municipal government and governed by the city council or utility board. **Rural electric cooperatives** (co-ops) are non-profits, consumer-owned utilities serving primarily rural areas and communities. Co-ops are governed by a board who are elected by fellow member-owners.

Munis and co-ops are not regulated by the Illinois Commerce Commission and therefore are not subject to many of the provisions outlined in old and new state energy policy. This fact sheet explores the implications of the new Climate and Equitable Jobs Act on munis and co-ops and their customers.

Prairie State Energy Campus (PSEC) and Springfield's City Water Light and Power Dallman Plant
Wins

- Requires municipal coal, including Prairie State and CWLP Dallman, to be 100% carbon-free by December 31, 2045, with an interim emissions reductions goal of 45% from existing emissions by no later than June 30, 2038.

Losses/Continued Barriers

- The confidentiality agreement signed by the PSEC owners shields them from divulging operational cost components, details of power procurement contracts, and lobbying expenditures. The aggressive use of Open Meetings Act and FOIA exemptions violate the spirit of "public" power.
- If PSEC opts to retrofit units with carbon capture technology in order to meet emissions reduction standards, the cost burden may fall on customers. Money spent on CCS is also money NOT spent transitioning to clean energy.

Clean Energy Future
Wins

- CEJA continues and expands the Illinois' Adjustable Block Program. The program buys the Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) that are automatically produced by rooftop and community solar systems, effectively providing an incentive for building solar. This program is funded by IOU customers, but the funds are still available to be used as solar incentives for muni and co-op customers (as confirmed by a 2019 Illinois Appellate Court ruling).
    - REC Incentives are available for homeowners and other building owners that go solar.
    - The Illinois Solar for All program makes solar accessible to low-income customers, including in muni/co-ops.
    - Community Solar is REC based, and the Adjustable Block Program would provide REC funding to a community solar facility in muni/co-ops if the muni or co-op utility sets up a system for providing community solar credits on customer's bills. However, community solar bill crediting to subscribers isn't legally mandated for muni/co-ops, as it is for IOUs. As a result most munis and co-ops do not offer it, making it impossible for community solar projects to work in their territory. Additionally, coops/munis may be unlikely to support a private CS development, rather than one owned by the muni/co-op.