



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity

Pat Quinn, Governor

Illinois Energy & Recycling Office

**State Renewable Energy
Programs**

Solar Powering Illinois Conference

April 8, 2014

Renewable Energy Resources Program

- ▶ The Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Coal Resources Development Law (20 ILCS 687, “the Law”) of 1997
- ▶ Funding comes from utility surcharge:
 - Example: \$0.05/mo. for residential electric and natural gas utility customers
- ▶ Provides \$5-\$7 million for DCEO incentive programs per year
- ▶ Law and funding source set to expire on December 15, 2015



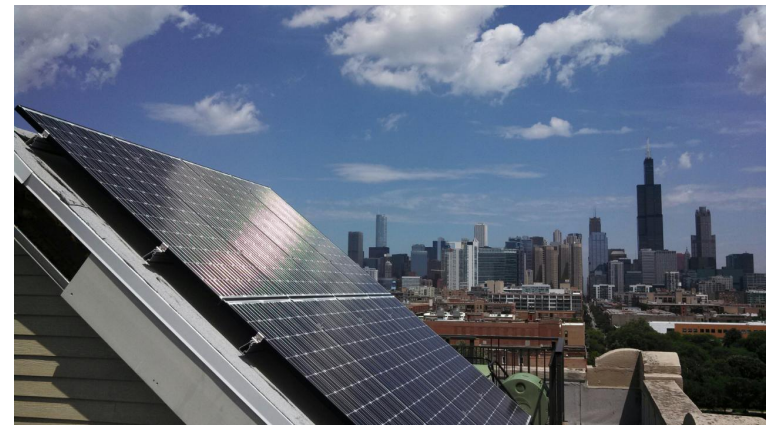
RERP Programs

- ▶ Solar and Wind Rebate Program
- ▶ Large-Distributed Solar and Wind Grant Program
- ▶ Biogas and Biomass to Energy Grant Program
- ▶ Renewable Energy Business Development

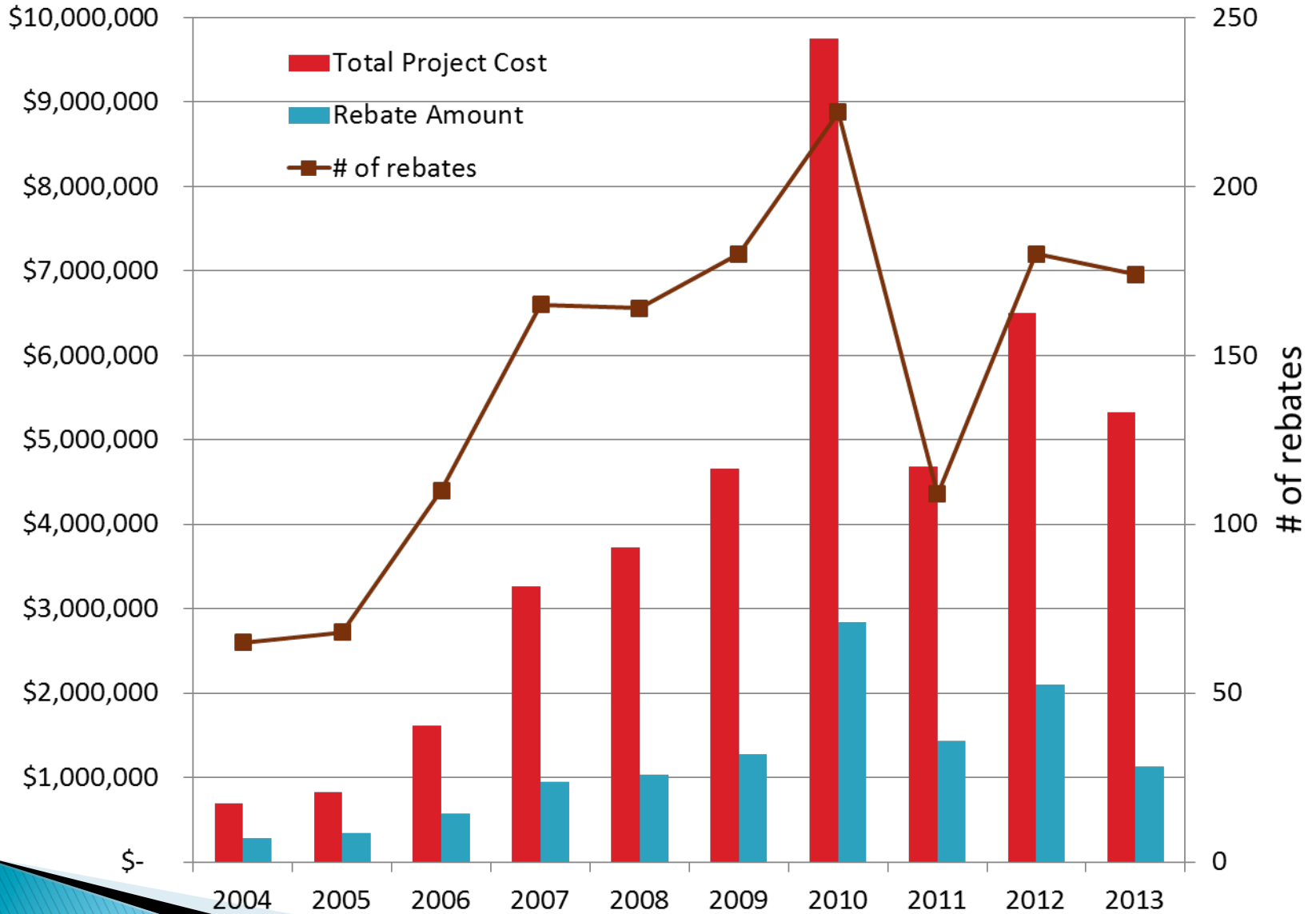


Success of RERP Program

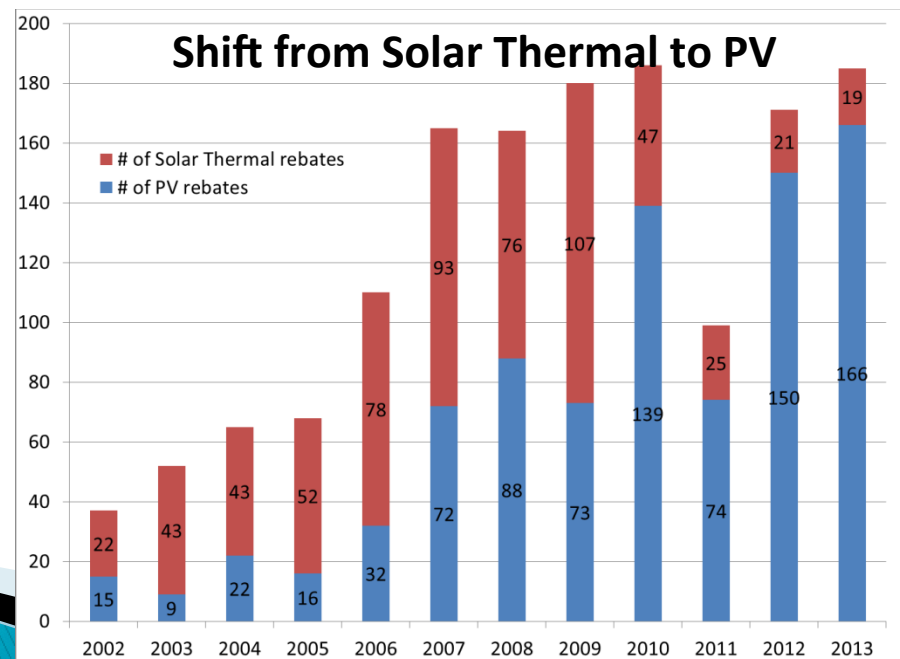
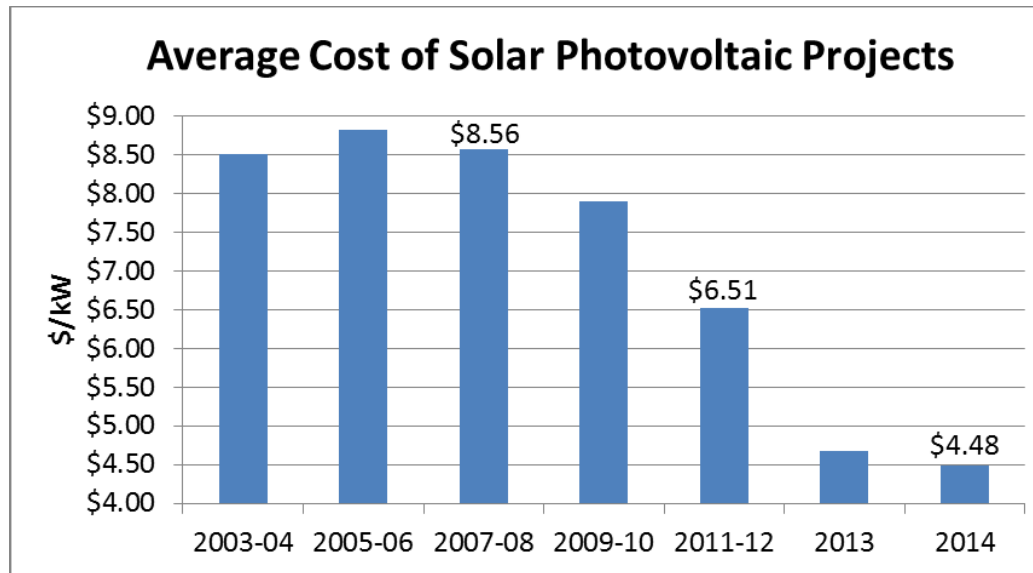
- ▶ Through FY2013, RERP has provided over \$53 million supporting over 1,800 renewable energy projects with total project cost over \$365 million
 - Over 1600 rebates for distributed solar and wind energy projects
 - Over 165 grants for distributed solar and wind energy projects
 - 16 MW of small and large-distributed scale solar PV, and over \$15 million in solar thermal projects (5 MW of wind energy projects)
- ▶ In FY2014, about 275 solar rebate applications have been approved (\$2.4 M) and 12 solar grants have been approved (\$2 M); will add 4.5 MW of new solar PV



Solar and Wind Rebate Program



Changes in Solar Market in Illinois



RERP Grant Program Results

- ✓ In last 3 years, DCEO has supported 46 renewable energy projects with \$6M in grant funds
 - ✓ 40 are solar PV project
 - ✓ 5.8 MW of solar PV and wind energy with total Project cost of \$22.7M



- ✓ Examples:
 - ✓ 500 kW solar farm for electric cooperative
 - ✓ 187 kW rooftop solar PV at affordable housing complex
 - ✓ 200 kW solar rooftop at Illinois Toll Highway Authority facility
 - ✓ 50 kW solar PV and wind energy at Operating Engineers Local 150
 - ✓ 265 kW at Shedd Aquarium in Chicago

FY 2015 Solar and Wind Rebate Program

- ▶ Program Budget – expect to be same as last year?
- ▶ Application Period – 6-8 weeks sometime between August 15 and October 15
- ▶ Selection of application for review based on lottery system
- ▶ Information required:
 - (1) Complete application – address, system details, installer information, project cost, and rebate amount; (2) invoice or bid document, (3) spec sheets for equipment, (4) recent utility bill
- ▶ When approved, applicant receives a Notice to proceed letter
- ▶ Have 120 days from date application is approved to complete project (will consider limited extension)
- ▶ Must be installed by ICC certified Distributed Generated installer (except for self-installs)

FY 2015 Solar and Wind Rebate Program

▶ Incentives:

Solar PV

- Residential - \$1.50 per watt or 25% of cost (whichever is less); rebate maximum is \$10,000
- Business - \$1.25 per watt or 25% of cost (whichever is less); rebate maximum is \$20,000
- Public Sector/Non-profit - \$2.50 per watt or 40% of cost (whichever is less); rebate maximum is \$30,000

Solar Thermal

- 30% of project cost for residential and business
- 40% of project cost for public sector/non profit
- Same maximum rebate as for solar PV

FY 2015 Large-Distributed Solar and Wind Grant Program

- ▶ Program Budget – expect to be same as last year?
- ▶ Competitive Request for Application - 8 week period sometime in September-October
- ▶ All applications are scored and funding decisions made in 6 weeks
- ▶ Project Costs must be over \$100,000
- ▶ Same incentive levels as rebate program, maximum grant is \$250,000
- ▶ Key criteria: capabilities of applicant/partners, feasibility, project benefits, preference if part of LEED-certified building

Contact Information

Wayne Hartel
Energy Program Specialist
Illinois Energy & Recycling Office
217-785-3420

wayne.hartel@illinois.gov



www.illinoisenergy.org