

Position Summary

The Illinois Power Agency is seeking a Legislative Counsel to work out of its Chicago office.

The IPA's Legislative Counsel position offers unmatched opportunities to work on cutting edge legal and policy issues in a rapidly evolving field, with a specific focus on monitoring legislative developments at the Illinois General Assembly for potential impacts on the Agency's work. Additional activities include developing an annual legislative agenda for the Agency, providing testimony to the Illinois General Assembly, participating in negotiations concerning pending legislation, monitoring non-Illinois state and federal legislative developments impacting the Agency, and providing ongoing legal and policy support to the Agency's solar incentive programs, renewable energy procurements, and energy procurements.

The Legislative Counsel reports to the Chief Legal Counsel, but is also expected to work closely with the Agency Director, the Deputy Legal Counsel, the Planning & Procurement Bureau Chief, and other key Agency staff. This position offers the flexibility of a remote work environment, however travel to Springfield to cover Illinois General Assembly session days in-person is required. While legislative affairs is a primary responsibility of the position, opportunities will be provided for additional areas of legal and energy policy work to support the Agency.

Job requirements include a J.D. degree and active license to practice law in Illinois, with prior experience in energy law, energy policy, and legislative matters strongly preferred.

The duties of the Legislative Counsel include:

- Building out a strategic plan for the Illinois Power Agency's legislative affairs and responsibilities, including an annual calendar, deadlines, and assignments for individual Agency staff.
- Developing an annual Illinois Power Agency legislative agenda, including drafts of any legislation introduced on behalf of the Agency and review schedules for legislation impacting the Agency.
- Serving as the lead for the management of the Agency's annual appropriations request before the General Assembly, and the development of materials to support the Agency's appropriations request in coordination with the Agency's Director, Chief Financial Officer and other key staff.
- Developing and maintaining relationships with Illinois General Assembly members and staffers, including serving as the lead on communications with General Assembly members and serving as the Agency's appointed legislative liaison.
- Monitoring and providing legal analysis of legislation potentially impacting the Agency, including developing alternative language where appropriate and conducting associated research and analysis of alternative proposals.
- Preparing internal and external communications regarding legislative proposals, including analysis informing the Agency's position on pending legislation and assessing how proposals would impact the Agency's activities.
- Participating in legislative negotiations, stakeholder discussions, workshop processes, and other forums through which legislation and other energy policy ideas are developed or refined.
- Conducting legal analysis of Illinois law, other state law, federal law, and constitutional jurisprudence in assessing potential legislative proposals or impacts resultant from energy policy changes.
- Representing the Agency at meetings, conferences, and other gatherings, as needed.
- Participating in agency-level policy discussions; work directly with Agency management; gather and provide information to the Director for review; coordinate with staff and consultants in review and analysis of agency programs to ensure policy objectives are met.
- Performing other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties enumerated above, including ongoing legal work in support of the Agency's programs, procurements, and other operations.

Skills and Qualifications

- A Juris Doctor degree from an accredited law school and membership in good standing with the Illinois Bar (or membership in another state bar and willingness to apply for the Illinois bar within six (6) months).
- At least two (2) years of experience in the practice of law is required.

Preferred Qualifications

- At least two (2) years of experience in the energy, environmental, legislative, or administrative law fields.

- Experience in legislative affairs or in the development and analysis of energy legislation.
- Illinois-specific experience working in or around the Illinois General Assembly.
- Background or familiarity with key areas of Illinois energy law, including the Illinois Power Agency Act and the Illinois Public Utilities Act.
- Ability to adapt to changing priorities and work effectively within a fast-paced, dynamic, and creative environment.

The Legislative Counsel is prohibited from: (i) owning, directly or indirectly, 5% or more of the voting capital stock of an electric utility, independent power producer, power marketer, or alternative retail electric supplier; (ii) being in any chain of successive ownership of 5% or more of the voting capital stock of any electric utility, independent power producer, power marketer, or alternative retail electric supplier; (iii) receiving any form of compensation, fee, payment, or other consideration from an electric utility, independent power producer, power marketer, or alternative retail electric supplier, including legal fees, consulting fees, bonuses, or other sums. These limitations do not apply to any compensation received pursuant to a defined benefit plan or other form of deferred compensation, provided that the individual has otherwise severed all ties to the utility, power producer, power marketer, or alternative retail electric supplier.

For more information on the Illinois Power Agency, please see: www.illinois.gov/ipa

To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume and three professional references along with your online application to: <https://illinois.jobs2web.com/job-invite/16115/>

A cover letter is required in order to be considered for the position.

No phone calls please.

The Illinois Power Agency is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer