



Resilient Energy at Wastewater Infrastructure (REWI) Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions • March 2026

Applicant and Facility Eligibility

Q: Are federally operated facilities considered publicly owned?

A: Yes. However, federal funds cannot be used as match, as the funding opportunity is administered using federal pass-through dollars.

Q: Are private trailer park facilities eligible to apply?

A: No. Only publicly owned wastewater treatment plants are eligible for funding.

Match Requirements

Q: Does the applicant need to meet both conditions—population under 10,000 and EJ area—to qualify for a 25% match?

A: No. Applicants serving a population under 10,000 people and/or an environmental justice area of concern must provide a 25% match. Applicants serving more than 10,000 people and not serving an EJ area must provide a 50% match.

Existing or Planned Projects

Q: We have an existing battery project underway. Is it eligible for funding?

A: Items that have already been purchased or ordered are not eligible. Components not yet paid for or initiated may be included in the funding request or used as match.

Q: What would an application look like for a client already exporting PV to the grid?

A: Projects that include new PV receive scoring consideration. Review the scoring criteria found in the Euna Grants application to determine the strongest approach for systems with existing solar.

Q: A client is negotiating a PV contract and considering battery options. How can the grant help?

A: Battery systems are eligible project components. Scoring is based on the combined solar + battery system as outlined in the application scoring criteria.



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Scoring Criteria and Evaluation

Q: Is a smaller or lower-cost battery system more likely to receive funding?

A: This is a competitive opportunity. Applicants should rely on the scoring criteria provided in the Notice of Funding Opportunity; the Agency cannot advise on maximizing scores.

Q: Is the decision-making process binary, or can partial funding be awarded?

A: Partial funding may be awarded. Partial awards are based on the submitted project as proposed, not a revised project, as revisions could affect scoring.

Q: Does an EnergySense (SEDAC) Net-Zero report qualify under scoring criteria?

A: Yes. EnergySense net-zero reports are acceptable.

Q: Does a ComEd or Ameren energy-efficiency assessment qualify under scoring criteria?

A: Yes. Utility provided energy efficiency assessments are acceptable.

Q: Do completed upgrades such as automation or LED lighting qualify under scoring criteria?

A: Yes.

Q: What is the measurement period used to determine the percentage of facility energy offset by solar?

A: The calculation uses the facility's average energy use over a 12-month period for critical operations.

Eligible Costs and Technical Requirements

Q: Are facility upgrades to support BESS—such as microgrid components or critical-loads panels—eligible for reimbursement?

A: Yes. Necessary upgrades to support battery energy storage are eligible project costs.

Q: Are construction installers and the cost of solar panels eligible?

A: Yes. Both are eligible. Review the scoring criteria to ensure your budget aligns with point opportunities.



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Q: Where can I find details about required power output, system sizing, or minimum system duration?

A: These requirements are detailed on the REWI Program webpage and within the Euna Grants application details and scoring criteria.

Q: Are guidelines available on solar + battery system design capacity?

A: The scoring criteria for the funding opportunity is provided with the application materials.

Q: Is solar required to be on-site, or can community/off-site solar charge the batteries?

A: This question is currently under review by the Illinois EPA Division of Legal Counsel.

Application Process

Q: Where do we submit the application?

A: Applications must be submitted online via Euna Grants (formerly Amplifund):
<https://il.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/6b8fc98e-58ed-42c2-8eac-b292cf9db8a9>

Q: I created an Euna Grants account, but the system logs me in as “administrator.” What should I do?

A: This typically occurs when the account creation or registration process was incomplete. Try re-registering or logging in again. If issues continue, we can request assistance from the GATA unit.

Q: The link for Program Resources was asking for a login. What is the correct link?

A: The corrected link is now available:
<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/energy/energy-resiliency/resilient-energy-for-wastewater-infrastructure-grant-program.html>

Q: What should the Narrative Project Plan include?

A: Once you create a Euna Grants login, you can access the Narrative Project Plan form directly. It is viewable without submitting the full application.



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General Guidance

Q: What can a municipality do to position itself for the highest possible grant award?

A: Review the REWI Program webpage and the scoring criteria in Euna Grants to understand how applications are evaluated. The Agency cannot provide guidance or recommendation on maximizing application scoring or increasing the likelihood of receiving funding.

Q: Where can I find information about eligible project components?

A: All guidance is available on the program webpage and within Euna Grants.

Q: We want to apply for a portable generator. Would that be eligible?

A: The program's scoring criteria focus on solar and battery storage installations. A generator-only project would not align with the scoring framework.