
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

November 18, 2021



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IOWA ENERGY CENTER BOARD MEETING — NOVEMBER 2021

Board Meeting. The [Iowa Energy Center Board](#) met on November 18, 2021, and took the following actions:

Fiscal Update. Terry Roberson from the [Iowa Economic Development Authority \(IEDA\)](#) explained to the Board that the IEDA is still closing the Alternative Energy Revolving Loan Fund from FY 2021, which is due to be transferred to the new Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund. The final amount may be altered, but the amount of the transfer will be approximately \$14.0 million to the new Fund, according to Iowa Code section 476.46A. During the 2021 Legislative Session, [SF 619](#) (Taxation and Other Provisions Act) created the [Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program](#), which took effect July 1, 2021, and replaced the [Alternate Energy Revolving Loan Program](#). Senate File 619 also stated that the [Iowa Energy Center](#) will not initiate any new loans after June 30, 2021. Loan payments received and any other moneys in the Alternate Energy Revolving Loan Fund on or after July 1, 2021, will be deposited in the Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund. At the meeting, a representative from the IEDA indicated that the Authority may pursue a repeal of the sunset provision in order for the Board to continue to administer existing loans from the Alternate Energy Revolving Loan Program.

Legislative Update. Deanna Triplett from the IEDA explained to the Board that the IEDA may pursue a five-year Board extension during the upcoming legislative session. The Iowa Energy Center was established in Iowa Code section [15.120](#). In 2017 Iowa Acts, [chapter 169](#), the Center and the Board are required to sunset on July 1, 2022.

Competitive Grant Program. Amber Buckingham from the IEDA spoke to the Board regarding the competitive grant programs. All grants awarded so far this year are under contract, except the University of Iowa contract, due to issues that have been worked out with a subcontractor. The Board approved the [Iowa Energy Center Grant Program](#) Policies & Procedures Handbook and also approved two grant modifications from Baldrige Environmental Services for a mobile power project for wastewater treatment and community resilience that will incorporate the Iowa State University (ISU) microgrid into its testing and will simplify budget categories.

Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program (EIRLP). IEDA staff presented to the Board and explained there are multiple [opportunities](#) to apply for this Program, the first of which closed on October 22, 2021. The first window did not see any completed grant applications, but staff expects applications moving forward.

Decorah Solar and Battery Storage Project. Sarah Martz and Derek Wagner from Alliant Energy presented to the Board regarding this project to increase battery capacity with circuit-level energy storage along with integration with solar and wind power. The project has support from state, federal, and private parties, and the IEDA helped fund the project with a \$200,000 grant.

More Information. Information on the Iowa Energy Center Board meeting can be found [here](#). The next quarterly Board meeting will take place on February 17, 2022, in Des Moines.

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Doc ID 1231587