

# SUBMIT YOUR RECORD OF APPEARANCE BY MARCH 29

On Tuesday, March 30, the Illinois Senate will hold a virtual hearing on the **Illinois Coal to Solar and Energy Storage Act**.

**Vistra and your local union leadership ask for your support.**

Last week, **hundreds of activists filed opposition** to the plan for Vistra to retain some plants through 2025 and invest over \$550 million at current or former plant sites, **using union labor** to build utility-scale solar and battery energy storage.

You can **add your name to the Official Meeting Record** using the Illinois General Assembly website at: <http://bit.ly/3soXLIq>

**To make sure your name is added to the meeting record, take action by 10 p.m. on March 29.**

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Go to <http://bit.ly/3soXLIq>
2. Enter your contact information as requested by the General Assembly
3. Select SB529 from the drop-down and click the "Proponent" button
4. Check the "Record of Appearance Only" and agree to the terms.
5. Click on "Create (Slip)" and your entry will be submitted

The screenshot shows a web form titled "RECORD OF COMMITTEE WITNESS - STATE SENATE". At the top, it specifies the committee as "Energy and Public Utilities Committee" and the date/time as "Tuesday, March 30, 2021 9:00 AM". The subject matter is identified as "SB529, SB 529".

The form is divided into four sections:

- I. IDENTIFICATION:** Contains fields for Name, Address, City, State (dropdown set to IL), Zip, Firm/Business Or Agency, Title, Email, Phone, and Fax. Red text provides examples: "Your Name", "Your Address", "Your Community", "Your Zip", "(Ex: Local Union Membership / Self)", "(Ex: Position, community member, self or leave blank)", and "Personal or work email address".
- II. REPRESENTATION:** Includes a text field for "Persons, groups firms represented in this appearance:" with the example "(Ex: Local Union Membership / Community / Self)".
- III. POSITION:** Features a "Subject Matter" dropdown menu with "SB529" selected, and radio buttons for "Proponent", "Opponent", and "No Position On Merits". A "Remove Position" button is also present.
- IV. TESTIMONY (Check all that apply):** Includes checkboxes for "Oral", "Written Statement Filed", and "Record Of Appearance Only" (which is checked). There is also a checkbox for "I Agree to the ILGA Terms of Agreement".

At the bottom right, there is a "Create(Slip)" button and a reCAPTCHA widget.

Red arrows from the instructions point to the following elements in the form:

- Arrow 1: Points to the "Your Name" field.
- Arrow 2: Points to the "Your Address" field.
- Arrow 3: Points to the "Subject Matter" dropdown menu.
- Arrow 4: Points to the "Record Of Appearance Only" checkbox.
- Arrow 5: Points to the "Create(Slip)" button.




# ACTION ALERT: YOUR SUPPORT IS *IMMEDIATELY* NEEDED

Vistra and your local union leadership support the **Illinois Coal to Solar & Energy Storage Act (HB 3446 / SB 529)** to help the state responsibly transition its sources of electricity toward zero-emission generation and retain some at-risk generation through May 2025.

Vistra is ready to immediately invest \$550 million in communities across central and southern Illinois. The plan reuses and repurposes existing or former power plant sites, transmission lines, and inter-connects in central and southern Illinois by transforming legacy coal power plants into zero-emission, renewable energy centers.

## THE ACTIONABLE AND AFFORDABLE PLAN WILL:

**Build Renewable Energy Centers The Right Way:** Vistra believes that its \$550 million investment in utility-scale solar and battery energy storage can help build up Illinois' renewable energy economy and support business growth. For the renewable energy developments, Vistra has made the following commitments:

 **Built With Union Labor:** Vistra has committed to construct and operate the renewable energy centers with union labor and will enter into Project Labor Agreements or other relevant contracts. As part of this commitment, Vistra expects that labor entities will facilitate opportunities for a diverse workforce and make apprenticeships available at job sites to provide opportunities for individuals to learn, earn and participate in this renewable energy jobs program. Vistra will encourage the use of workers impacted by plant closures with its labor partners, vendors and suppliers.

 **Utilize A Diverse, Inclusive Supply Chain and Workforce:** Vistra has established a 25% minimum diverse contracting target for the construction phase and identified approximately \$225 million worth of eligible expected contracting opportunities. This commitment is part of Vistra's effort to increase its direct and indirect spend with diverse-owned businesses across the country.

**Responsibly Retain At-Risk Generation Through 2025:** A market-based transition assistance program will help some at-risk power plants stay open and retain in-state generation capacity until May 2025. If a plant receives transition assistance, workers and the community will have the certainty that it will remain open through May 2025.

**Provide A Just Transition For Workers & Communities:** Energy workers and communities relied on power plants for jobs and local tax revenue for decades. Transforming retired or to-be-retired plants into renewable energy centers provides union construction jobs, and communities will be able to count on new property tax revenue from the new development.

**Develop Utility-Scale Solar & Battery Energy Storage:** Vistra will invest approximately \$550 million to build 300 MW of utility-scale solar and 175 MW of battery energy storage facilities at plant sites across central and southern Illinois. The solar and battery energy storage sites will begin entering commercial service as early as 2023. Vistra has made the projects construction-ready. Work can begin in 2022 if the Act passes.

[renewillinoispower.com](http://renewillinoispower.com)

## PROPOSED NEW BUILD FACTS:

- Vistra Will Invest **~\$550 Million** at Plant Sites in Central and Southern Illinois
- **~300 MW** of Utility-Scale Solar
- **~175 MW** of Battery Energy Storage
- **9 Retired or Existing Power Plant Sites Repurposed** Into Renewable Energy Centers
- **6 Co-located** Utility-Scale Solar and Battery Energy Storage Sites
- **3 Stand-alone** Battery Energy Storage Sites
- Renewed Plants Provide a **350 – 400% Increase in Local Property Tax Base** Compared to Closed Plants
- An Estimated **750,000 Solar Panels** Will Be Installed
- **Increases Illinois' Utility-Scale (2MW+) Solar Generation** Capacity By 325% From 2020 Levels
- **Increases Illinois' Battery Energy Storage** Capacity By 132% From 2020 Levels

## PROJECTED ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF RENEWABLE CONSTRUCTION:

- Creates **2,192 Full-time Jobs** During Construction Phase
- Generates over **\$183 Million in Earnings During Construction Phase for Workers**
- **Adds Over \$300 Million to the State's Total Economic Output** During Construction Phase

Analysis of Dr. David Loomis of Strategic Economic Research, LLC, March 2021

**VISTRA**