

Commercial Program: Making Your Building Better

Helping commercial building owners make their properties more energy efficient and linking businesses with the resources they need to take advantage of energy saving programs

Commercial buildings are the world’s largest contributor to carbon emissions, adding more carbon to the atmosphere every year than all of transportation combined. Energy Impact Illinois is focused on providing commercial building owners and managers with the tools, resources and financing needed to make impactful energy improvements to their buildings. These improvements will help increase the desirability of leased space, while meeting energy savings goals and reducing operating costs.

In addition, Energy Impact Illinois is linking business owners and managers to the tools and resources – largely from the region’s utility partners – to make improvements that help make a business more successful by reducing energy costs.

The screenshot displays the Energy Impact Illinois web application interface, organized into three main columns:

- Survey:** Features a location pin icon. Text: "Take a simple survey to create your property's energy profile. Enter the basic information to get started, or provide more details to get a more accurate energy score." Below this, it lists questions about heating, cooling, ventilation, lighting, and façade. A radio button selection is shown for "Heating": "Onsite (eg. using boilers)" and "District heating".
- Compare:** Features a bar chart icon. Text: "Compare your usage with standards such as ENERGY STAR™ and CBECS. View the recommended actions you can take and their impact on your energy usage." It mentions the Chicago energy engineering firm **Positive Energy Practice** and a state-of-the-art energy model. A bar chart shows a value of **58.7** with a change of **-0.2** and **-0.3**.
- Act:** Features a right-pointing arrow icon. Text: "Find management firms, financing, and utility rebates that would be a good fit for your project. Contact them through the site and get started." It also mentions exploring services of the Energy Impact Illinois commercial finance partner, **Transcend Equity**. A section titled "Explore incentives you may qualify" lists tax and financial incentives and ComEd Compressed Air Retro-Commissioning.

The program will offer a personalized energy calculator for commercial building owners to accurately determine the energy savings that will result from energy efficiency projects and link them to the resources to take action.

Energy Impact Illinois is led by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), in partnership with the City of Chicago, City of Rockford, ComEd, the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Science & Technology Coalition, Nicor Gas, North Shore Gas, Peoples Gas and The Northern Illinois Energy Project. Energy Impact Illinois seeks to create a long-term energy efficiency market in the region, which will make the Chicago region a better place to live and do business. Energy Impact Illinois was formed as the result of an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant through the U.S. Department of Energy’s Better Buildings Neighborhood Program to spur energy efficiency upgrades and create a long-term energy efficiency market in the region.