



THE ILLINOIS
ENERGY
CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY NFP

NEWS RELEASE

www.iecaPACE.org

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Contact: AnnaMaria.Kowalik@iecaPACE.org
(888) 874-4322

Lee and Ogle Counties Launch Energy Efficient Improvement PACE Program for Commercial Property Owners

Oak Brook, Ill. – The Illinois Energy Conservation Authority NFP (“IECA”), an Illinois tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is pleased to announce that it has been selected by Lee and Ogle Counties as the program administrator for each County’s respective Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (“C-PACE”) financing program for commercial real estate owners. The Counties are the latest to join a growing list of counties that have passed a C-PACE ordinance in Illinois.

“When Blackhawk Hills Regional Council learned of the potential impacts of C-PACE, we decided to find the path to make it available in our region, and now have four of our six counties with C-PACE programs in effect,” said Andy Shaw, administrator of the Lee-Ogle Enterprise Zone at Blackhawk Hills Regional Council. “The features of the C-PACE program are compelling, and we see the availability of this financing being a key factor in getting great energy saving projects completed for businesses in our region. Businesses are welcome to get in touch with us to learn more, but we do encourage them to also work with their local economic development organizations to plan projects, since C-PACE can complement other incentives and funding opportunities they may be able to bring to the table.”

Introduced in Illinois in 2019, C-PACE provides long-term, fixed-rate funding to private building owners for energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, electric vehicle charging and resiliency projects to be installed in both existing or new commercial properties. C-PACE financing is currently available in 37 states, including the District of Columbia, and stimulates local economies by funding the upfront capital for PACE projects that may lower operating costs, generate clean energy, instill resiliency and promote water use conservation in commercial properties. From 2009 to 2020, C-PACE programs have funded more than 2,500 qualifying projects nationwide for a total of \$2 billion, while also creating over 24,000 jobs.*

“The C-PACE program provides a convenient, cost-effective way for Lee and Ogle County commercial real estate owners to attain up to 100 percent financing for clean energy and sustainability improvements that can be repaid through the property tax bill,” said Mark Pikus, president of the IECA. “We encourage local businesses to take advantage of clean energy improvements because they benefit the environment and individual businesses, strengthening the local economy.”

The IECA is the leading C-PACE program administrator in the state and continues to expand adoption of the IECA PACE program to participating communities throughout Illinois.

For more information on the Blackhawk Hills C-PACE program, visit <https://vimeo.com/714531464>.

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About The Illinois Energy Conservation Authority

The Illinois Energy Conservation Authority, NFP (IECA), is an Illinois tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation that was formed to bring innovative PACE program administration to Illinois and currently administers programs in most of northern Illinois, along with other urban centers across the State. The IECA has compiled a team of collaborators, advisors and consultants with deep ties to the region and years of experience in PACE around the country. The IECA is uniquely positioned to assist in establishing successful commercial PACE programs that will support greater economic development activity, as well as contribute to developing high performing buildings through installation of energy efficiency and clean energy technologies. For more information on IECA, visit www.iecaPACE.org

*Source: PACE Nation