ECICEES is a partnership of industry representatives, educational institutions, governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to promote economic and energy security in central Illinois, the State of Illinois, and United States.

Illinois’ energy horizon is full of new opportunities and potential pitfalls. This partnership of stakeholders is intended to foster local innovation for the future of our economy and our communities by:

- Providing inclusive leadership for beneficial adoption of energy technologies;
- Ensuring reliable, affordable energy supply for current and future development;
- Maximizing educational, job creation opportunities;
- Preparing for diversification of energy resources;
- Promoting economic vitality and long-term sustainability;
- Establishing East Central Illinois as a center for resilient collaboration and innovation that profits from change.

The consortium is promoting the demonstration of a microgrid project, an essential step for linking distribution systems with distributed energy resources, storage, and flexible loads. Starting as a proof of concept project at EIU’s CENCERE, the goal is to scale up in stages to provide reliable and cost effective power to the region.