

Presented by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Economic

Development Association





The EDIES

Economic Development in Illinois



Sponsored by

May 7, 2018

Dear Economic Development Leaders in Illinois:



We are pleased to announce the Illinois Chamber of Commerce is again teaming up with the Illinois Economic Development Association (IEDA) to present our 10th annual Economic Development in Illinois awards – the Edies! We are very excited to have Nicor sponsor the Edie Awards. Nicor has long been a leader in economic development and their work has had a sustained impact on helping the state attract businesses and investment.

For a decade, the Edies have honored those who imagine, design, invest, build and bring jobs, growth and prosperity to Illinois communities. We believe it is important to take a moment and showcase recent accomplishments – especially when they translate into more jobs and economic vitality in our state. This is also a great opportunity to obtain positive exposure for local businesses and communities who achieved great things last year.

In order to again showcase great projects in 2018, we need your help.

We have a general idea of what's been created throughout Illinois, but business and economic development leaders like you know best what's happening on the ground.

The awards recognize outstanding economic development projects completed in calendar year 2017 and will be given out in the following categories:

- Manufacturing
- Distribution/Logistics
- Commercial
- Energy
- Technology
- Other

We may recognize up to three winners within each category to award projects located in the City of Chicago, suburban Cook County/collar counties, and statewide. The "other" category encompasses those projects that helped transform the local economy, but simply don't fit into one category.

The awards will be presented during the Illinois Chamber's annual meeting on Thursday, September 20th in Chicago. Winners will be notified in July and invited (as a guest of the Chamber and IEDA) to the awards banquet to receive the award in-person.

Please fill out the nomination form and email it by 5 p.m. CST on Friday, June 29th to:

Katie Stonewater Illinois Chamber of Commerce kstonewater@ilchamber.org

The nomination form and other information on the Edies (including past winners) can be found at the <u>Edie</u> <u>homepage here</u>. We have tried hard to make the nomination form easy to fill out – asking for information that should be readily at hand.

All submissions will be reviewed by a subcommittee of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Economic Development Association.

The submissions will be judged based on a mix of quantitative (total private investment, jobs created/retained, average wages) and qualitative (unique contribution, creative public/private partnership, low environmental impact) criteria. To be clear, this is not just about the biggest projects with the most state incentives. It is an opportunity to recognize projects that have a large impact on the community. I think we can all agree that those kinds of projects come in different shapes and sizes.

If you have any questions regarding this awards program or process, please call Katie Stonewater (312.386.7795) at the Illinois Chamber of Commerce.

We appreciate your involvement in this event and your on-going efforts to grow the Illinois' economy and its communities.

Sincerely,

Todd Maisch

President and CEO

Illinois Chamber of Commerce

Todd C. Maisch

David Young

Chair, Illinois Economic Development Association