# *Thank you for your commitment to green initiatives at the University of Illinois. One of the ongoing requirements listed in the terms of the funding agreement for your project is the submission of semesterly reports with key information about your project. In addition to this form, please provide additional financial documentation and/or progress photos if available.*

# *Please be as accurate as possible in describing the project (including possible setbacks or challenges in meeting the initial goals of the project). Not fully meeting your project's goals will not disqualify you from making future funding requests as long as your reports are as complete and accurate as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee, at* *sustainability-committee@illinois.edu**.*

**Project Name:** Illini Lights Out

**Date of Report Submission:** 9/24/2021

**Project Purpose:**

Illini Lights Out is a program in which students can make a tangible impact on campus sustainability and see how easy it is to be more sustainable in their own lives. One Friday night each month, small groups of students are assigned to a building near or on the Main Quad and shut off lights that otherwise would have been left on all weekend. They tally their data, and it is totaled to see how much energy was cumulatively saved. It’s a fun and easy way for students to get involved in campus sustainability and it raises awareness about energy conservation. The awesome student volunteers save the University money on their energy bill, and they are rewarded for their work with a snack once they are done.

**Detailed Accounting of Expenditures to Date:**

September 2021

$113 – Snacks for ILO on 9/17/21

**Project Progress to Date:**

After a two-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Illini Lights Out was relaunched for the fall 2021 semester. The first event was Friday, September 17th and it was a great success! There are three more events scheduled for this semester and hopefully the program will grow and continue to be successful. In the past, it appears that Illini Lights Out was trying to expand to two Friday nights per month, but we wanted to gauge interest before immediately going back to that frequency. It seems that there is a lot of interest, so if that keeps up, we will discuss expanding it to two Fridays per month next semester.

**Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:**

At the first event, there was a great turnout of students. Over 75 students attended the event last Friday, and there are already over 100 students signed up for the October event (we have not started advertising specifically for the October event yet)! In addition, Illini Lights Out is primarily a student-run program, with iSEE student interns organizing and volunteering at the events.

**Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:**

For the September event, we limited our outreach to primarily iSEE social media, website, and newsletter outlets. The SSLC also posted a few days before the first event. In the future, we plan to expand our advertising efforts and focus more on getting volunteers from sustainability and environment-related organizations such as SECS and SSC.

**Additional Comments:**

We are very appreciative of the SSC funding to keep Illini Lights Out going and get students involved in energy conservation efforts on campus!