Thursday, January 31, 2008

Austin Energy RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 4

Subject: Approve issuance of a rebate in the amount of \$130,522.54 to HPI Real Estate Services for installation of high efficiency lighting, lighting controls, air conditioning, a cooling tower and reflective roof coating at their office building at 4417 Westlake Drive in Austin, Texas.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Fred Yebra, P.E., Director, Energy Efficiency Services, 482-5305 or Jerrel Gustafson, Unit Manager, 482-5387.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Resource Management Commission.

Austin Energy requests authorization to issue a rebate in the amount of \$130,522.54 for the installation of high efficiency lighting, lighting controls, air conditioning, cooling tower, and a reflective roof coating in accordance with the City of Austin's Commercial New Construction Rebate Program guidelines. This program is one element of Austin Energy's comprehensive Energy Resource Plan, approved in December 2003 by City Council, designed to reduce local air pollution through energy conservation, to reduce peak demand, and to assist customers in reducing electric consumption.

Within currently approved budget finding levels for commercial conservation rebates, this effort will provide Austin Energy with a constructive market transformation opportunity while adding a value-added service to encourage customer retention.

HPI Real Estate Services is located at 4417 Westlake Drive in Austin, Texas. The demand (kW) savings associated with this project is estimated at 279.31 kW at a program cost of \$467.30 per kW. This energy efficiency project is estimated to provide yearly energy (kWh) savings of 439,636 kWh. These savings are equivalent to an estimated 499,250 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 62 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 9,750 trees or 487 acres of forest in Austin's parks. These improvements likewise will prevent 284 tons of CO2 from being emitted into the environment.

The City will not exceed the rebate offer of \$130,522.54 should the final installed measures be eligible for a higher rebate at the time of the final inspection due to changes in quantity or the efficiency of equipment.