Thursday, August 28, 2008

Austin Energy RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 3

Subject: Approve issuance of a rebate in the amount of \$99,277.30 to Austin Independent School District for the installation of energy efficient equipment including high efficiency lighting and lighting controls, chillers, Variable Frequency Drives, CO2 Sensors and a reflective roof coating at Gus Garcia Middle School, 7414 Johnny Morris Road, Austin, Texas.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$99,277.30 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of Austin Energy in the Conservation Rebates and Incentives Fund.

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, at 482-5305 or Jerrel Gustafson, Unit Manager, at 482-5387.

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

Austin Energy requests authorization to issue a rebate in the amount of \$99,277.30 for the installation of high efficiency lighting and lighting controls, chillers, Variable Frequency Drives, CO2 Sensors 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 funding 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.

Gus Garcia Middle School is located at 7414 Johnny Morris Road in Austin, Texas. The demand (kW) savings associated with the high efficiency equipment installed in this project is estimated at 353.61 kW, at a program cost of \$280.75 per kilowatt saved. The avoided kWh, estimated at 833,368 kWh per year, represents a major benefit to the local environment. These savings are equivalent to an estimated 946,371 vehicle miles traveled, or the removal of 118.1 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 18,481 trees or 924.1 acres of forest in Austin's parks. These improvements likewise will prevent 539.1 tons of CO2 from being emitted into the environment.

The City will not exceed the rebate offer of \$99,277.30 should the final installed measures be eligible for a higher rebate at the time of the final inspection due to changes in quantity or efficiency of equipment.