

AGENDA



Thursday, September 25, 2008

**Austin Energy
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 2**

Subject: Approve issuance of a rebate in the amount of \$51,216.37 to the Greater Austin Performing Arts Center, also known as the Long Center for the Performing Arts, for the installation of high efficiency lighting, chillers, cooling towers and NEMA premium motors at their newly renovated center at 701 W. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$51,216.37 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, 482-5305; Jerrel Gustafson, Unit Manager, 482-5387.

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

Austin Energy (AE) requests authorization to issue a rebate in the amount of \$51,216.37 for the installation of high efficiency lighting, chillers, cooling towers and NEMA premium motors, in accordance with the City of Austin's Commercial New Construction Rebate Program guidelines. This program is one element of AE's comprehensive Energy Resource Plan, approved in December 2003 by City Council, designed to reduce local air pollution through energy conservation, reduce peak demand, and assist customers in reducing electric consumption.

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

The Long Center is located at 701 W. Riverside Drive in Austin, Texas. The demand (kW) savings associated with the high efficiency equipment installed in this project is estimated at 169.67 kW, at a program cost of \$251.55 per kilowatt saved. The avoided kWh, estimated at 218,148 kWh per year, represents a major benefit to the local environment. These savings are equivalent to an estimated 247,728 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 30.9 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 4,838 trees or 241.9 acres of forest in Austin's parks. These improvements likewise will prevent 141.1 tons of CO₂ from being emitted into the environment.

The City will not exceed the rebate offer of \$51,216.37 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.