Thursday, February 12, 2009

Austin Energy RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 2

Subject: Approve issuance of a rebate to TPG Four Points, LC, also known as Four Points Centre Buildings I and II, for the installation of energy efficient equipment including chillers, lighting design, variable frequency drives and a reflective roof membrane at the newly built site at 11305 Four Points Drive, Austin, Texas, in an amount not to exceed \$60,496.71.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 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; Steve Saenz, Unit Manager, 482-5325.

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

Austin Energy (AE) requests authorization to issue a rebate in the amount of \$60,496.71 for the installation of energy efficient chillers, lighting design, variable frequency drives (VFD's), a reflective roof membrane, and custom technologies such as demand control ventilation (CO2 monitoring) and electronically commutated motors (ECM's) in the fan powered terminal boxes, 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 and peak demand through energy conservation, and to 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 Four Points Centre is located at 11305 Four Points Drive in Austin, Texas. The demand (kW) savings associated with the high efficiency equipment installed in this project is estimated at 223.4 kW, at a program cost of \$270.84 per kilowatt saved. The avoided kWh, estimated at 873,993 kWh per year, represents a major benefit to the local environment. This project will save 565.4 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO2), 0.36 tons of Sulfur Dioxide (SO2), 0.39 tons of Nitrogen Oxide (NOX), 0.27 tons of Carbon Monoxide (CO), 0.2432 ounces of Mercury (Hg) and 0.3600 ounces of Lead (Pb) from being emited into the atmosphere. The project savings are equivalent to an estimated 992,504 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 124 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 19,382 trees or 969 acres of forest in Austin's parks.

The City will not exceed the rebate offer of \$60,496.71 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.