

AGENDA



Thursday, March 5, 2009

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

Subject: Approve the issuance of a Letter of Intent for a rebate to the Austin Travis County Mental Health and Retardation (ATCMHMR) Center for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at the new facility located at 6222 N. Lamar, Austin, Texas, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of Austin Energy Conservation Rebates and Incentives Fund.

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

For More Information: Fred Yebra, Director, Demand Side Management, 482-5305; Leslie Libby, Solar Rebate Program Manager, 482-5390.

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

Austin Energy (AE) requests authorization to issue a Letter of Intent in the amount of \$100,000 to the Austin Travis County Mental Health and Retardation (ATCMHMR) Center for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at the new facility located at 6222 N. Lamar, Austin, Texas, 78752. The total installed cost is estimated to be \$166,495.31 and the rebate will cover approximately 60% of the cost. The rebate level for this project is \$4,452 per kW. The solar equipment, which meets AE program requirements, includes a total of 117 solar modules rated at 200 watts each, and associated inverter is rated at 96% efficiency. A total of 19.4 kW in demand savings is expected.

This energy improvement will save an estimated 30,346 kWh per year—enough to provide electricity to 3 average Austin homes for a year—and produce an estimated 30 Renewable Energy Credits per year. These savings are equivalent to the planting of 673 trees or 34 acres of forest in Austin's parks or the removal of 34,461 vehicle miles or 4 cars from Austin roadways. This project will save 19.6 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂); 24.7 pounds of Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂); 27.4 pounds of Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x), and 19 pounds of Carbon Monoxide (CO) from being emitted into the atmosphere.

The Commercial Energy Efficiency programs are elements of AE's comprehensive effort to reduce local air pollution through energy conservation, to reduce peak demand, and to assist customers in reducing electric consumption.

This effort will provide AE with a constructive market transformation opportunity while adding a value-added service to encourage customer retention.