

Thursday, August 6, 2009

Austin Energy RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 3

Subject: Approve the issuance of a rebate to CH Realty IV/Pecan Park L.P. for the installation of energy efficient equipment including high efficiency transformers, self-contained A/C units, cooling towers and variable frequency drives, in an amount not to exceed \$117,166.

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 fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Fred Yebra, P.E., Director, Demand Side Management, 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 \$117,165.59 for the installation of high efficiency transformers, DX (self-contained A/C units), cooling towers and Variable Frequency Drives on the cooling tower fans in accordance with the City of Austin's Commercial 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.

CH Realty IV/Pecan Park LP (aka Pecan Park) is located at 10700 Pecan Park Blvd. in Austin, Texas. The demand (kW) savings associated with the high efficiency mechanical equipment and transformers installed in this project is estimated at 300.5 kW, at a program cost of \$389.88 per kilowatt saved. The avoided kWh, estimated at 514,399 kWh per year, represents a major benefit to the local environment. The Pecan Park project will save the following air pollutants from being emitted: 332.8 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO2), 0.21 tons of Sulfur Dioxide (SO2), 0.23 tons of Nitrogen Oxides (NOX), 16 pounds of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), 57 pounds of Total Suspended Particulates (TSP), and 0.16 tons of Carbon Monoxide (CO). The project will also save the following toxic metals from being emitted: 0.1432 ounces of Mercury (Hg), 0.00651 ounces of Cadmium (Cd), and 0.2119 ounces of Lead (Pb).

In addition to the reduced air and toxic metals pollution, the project savings are also equivalent to an estimated 584,150 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 73 cars from our roadways, the planting of 11,408 trees or 570 acres of forest in Austin's parks.

The City will not exceed the rebate offer of \$117,165.59 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.