

AGENDA



Thursday, September 24, 2009

**Austin Energy
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 3**

Subject: Approve issuance of a rebate to HELIOVOLT for the installation of energy efficient equipment including new high efficiency cooling towers, chillers, variable frequency drives (VFDs) and lighting and light controls, in an amount not to exceed \$62,125.

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, Energy Efficiency Services, at 482-5305 or Steve Saenz, Unit Manager, at 482-5325.

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

Austin Energy's Energy Efficiency Services requests authorization to issue a rebate to HelioVolt in the amount of \$62,125 for the installation of new high efficiency cooling towers, chillers, AC DX equipment, air compressor dryers, variable frequency drives (VFDs), lighting and light controls, and motors, 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.

HelioVolt is located at 6301 E. Stassney, Building 8 in Austin, Texas. The demand (kW) savings associated with the high efficiency equipment installed in this project is estimated at 213.24 kW, at a program cost of \$291.34 per kilowatt saved. The avoided kWh, estimated at 773,972 kWh per year, represents a major benefit to the local environment. This project will prevent the following air pollutants from being emitted: 500.7 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), 0.32 tons of Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂), and 0.35 tons of Nitrogen Oxides (NOX).

In addition to the reduced air and toxic metals pollution, the project savings are also equivalent to an estimated 878,921 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 109 cars from our roadways, the planting of 17,164 trees or 858 acres of forest in Austin's parks.

The City will not exceed the rebate offer of \$62,125 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.