Thursday, November 19, 2009

Austin Energy RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 3

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Austin/Austin Energy and Travis County to implement a home weatherization program for low-income, elderly, and disabled residents, as provided for and funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding for is available from the Department of Energy (DOE) through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 for the grant period of October 1, 2009 to August 31, 2011. No match is required.

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

For More Information: Karl Rabago, Vice-President, Distributed Energy Services, 322-6098; Steve Saenz, Acting Program Delivery Manager, Energy Efficiency Services, 482-5325.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission and the Resource Management Commission. Related to Item #2.

This proposed cooperative agreement by which either the City (Austin Energy) or Travis County may solicit and purchase goods and services for the weatherization program will achieve cost savings and efficiencies by eliminating multiple government solicitations and reducing the administrative and overhead costs of both suppliers and participating governments.

The City and County will share expertise and resources in order to efficiently provide weatherization services. Both Austin Energy and Travis County received federal funding for the weatherization program. Coordination and cooperation may occur in the following areas of program implementation:

- Exchange of resources regarding eligibility and application
- Program resources
- Exchange of equipment
- Program training and certification
- Coordination of Davis Bacon Act (Federal Labor Standards Act) Implementation
- Lead safe work practices (lead abatement)
- Health and safety implementation