

Thursday, December 17, 2009

Austin Energy RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 2

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Austin Energy Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20090914-002 to add four full-time equivalent (FTE) positions to assist in implementation of a federally-funded weatherization program.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding 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: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Andy Perny, Assistant City Attorney, 322-6277

Boards and Commission Action: To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on December 14, 2009 and by the Resource Management Commission on December 15, 2009.

Prior Council Action: November 19, 2009 - Approved acceptance of \$2,900,000 grant from DOE amending the budget and approved related Interlocal Agreement with Travis County.

On November 19, 2009, Council approved the acceptance of \$2,900,000 in grant funds from the Department of Energy (DOE) through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to weatherize homes for low-income, elderly, and disabled customers within Austin Energy's service area.

Although language regarding the hiring of four FTEs was included in the RCA and the related Fiscal Note that was approved on November 19, 2009, the language was inadvertently omitted from the ordinance. This action will correct the language in the ordinance.

Austin Energy will receive \$2,900,000 a year for two years, of which a maximum of 20 percent will be allocated to health and safety related costs (carbon monoxide testing, installation of smoke detectors, ventilation, etc.) and five percent to administrative costs (hiring of four FTEs for the grant period) for this federally-funded home weatherization program. The grant period is from October 1, 2009 to August 31, 2011.