



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members
CC: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
FROM: Cheryl Mele, Chief Operating Officer
DATE: January 20, 2010
SUBJECT: Proposed Ratification of Solar Rebate Letters of Intent

Between July and December of 2009, Austin Energy issued 64 Letters of Intent for rebates, averaging approximately \$10,000 each, for installations of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at three multi-family construction projects in Austin. Upon subsequent review, Austin Energy determined that because the rebates are to be issued to common addresses at each of the three construction projects, that it could be considered three projects instead of 64 projects, with the total project amounts exceeding administrative authority. Therefore, Austin Energy seeks ratification of these Letters of Intent. The cumulative rebate amounts for the three construction projects are \$365,108, \$203,796 and \$102,408.

Each of the PV systems will be tied to an individual electric meter, so owners of each unit installing a PV system will enjoy the benefits of electricity generation through reductions in their electric bills. The RCAs detail the environmental benefits of these new solar electric generation systems, such as the equivalent to trees planted or the removal of cars from Austin roadways, and the reduction in emissions.

The Resource Management Commission recommended approval of the proposed ratifications at their January 19, 2010 meeting. The Electric Utility Commission is scheduled to review the ratifications at their January 25 meeting. Austin Energy plans to present the items for your approval on February 4, 2010.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 322-6062.

Cheryl Mele
Chief Operating Officer