

## AGENDA



Thursday, February 4, 2010

**Austin Energy  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 6**

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**Subject:** Approve ratification of the issuance of 12 letters of intent in the total amount of \$102,408 and authorize issuance of six additional letters of intent in the total amount of \$44,288 for rebates to PERRY EQUITY PARTNERS, Austin, TX, for the installation of solar energy systems designed to serve 18 new construction homes in the SOL subdivision located at 127 Perry Road, for a total amount not to exceed \$146,696.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 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:** Leslie Libby, Solar Program Manager, 482-5390; Fred Yebra, Director of Energy Efficiency Services, 482-5305.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Recommended by the Resource Management Commission and the Electric Utility Commission.

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Between July 27, 2009 and December 4, 2009, Austin Energy issued 12 Letters of Intent for rebates, averaging \$8,534 each, for the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at a new subdivision located at 127 Perry Road, Austin, Texas. Each of the 12 PV systems will be tied to an individual residential electric revenue meter. Upon review, Austin Energy determined that because the rebates are to be issued to a common address, the group of rebates could also be considered a single project. The ratification for these Letters of Intent is requested because, as a whole, the total rebate amount for the 12 projects is \$102,408, above the level at which Council approval is required. In addition, Austin Energy has received and is processing applications for six additional solar installations at this address, averaging \$7380 each, for a total additional rebate amount of about \$44,288. Austin Energy also requests approval to issue Letters of Intent for these additional six applications.

The total installed cost for solar systems at the address is estimated to be \$231,117; the total rebate amount of \$146,696 will cover approximately 44% of the total cost. The rebate level for this project is \$3,750 per kW for the installations approved prior to November 1, 2009, and \$2,500 per kW for the installations approved after November 1, 2009. The solar equipment, which meets Austin Energy program requirements, includes a total of 200 solar modules rated at 175 watts and associated inverters rated at 95.5% efficiency. Austin Energy expects the systems to generate a total of 29.1 kW of power.

This energy improvement will generate an estimated 46,248 kWh per year—enough to provide electricity to four average Austin homes for a year—and produce an estimated 46 Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) per year. These savings are equivalent to the planting of 1,049 trees or 52 acres of forest in Austin's parks or the removal of 53,739 vehicle miles or seven cars from Austin roadways. This project will avoid 31 tons of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>); 39 pounds of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>); 43 pounds of nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>), and 30 pounds of carbon monoxide (CO) emissions, based on Austin Energy emissions estimates.