Thursday, April 29, 2010

Austin Energy RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 2

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the construction of the 138 kV Gilleland to Techridge Transmission Line Project to acquire a 1.449 acre electric easement out of the William Caldwell Survey Number 66, Abstract Number 162, Travis County, Texas in the amount of \$38,359. The owner of the needed property interest is Willie Mae Burns. The property is located at 15712 Cameron Road, in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of Austin, Travis County, Texas.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the 2009-2010 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: David Wood, VP, Electric Service Delivery; Sonny Poole, Acting Manager, Public Involvement and Real Estate, 322-6442

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission. Related to Items #3, 4, 5, & 6.

Prior Council Action: February 4, 2010 - Authorized purchases of two permanent electric easements for construction of the transmission line project.

Austin Energy must acquire 100-foot wide electrical easements for the construction of a 138 kV transmission circuit for the "Gilleland to Techridge Transmission Line." The new transmission line is needed to deliver reliable electric service to meet a growing demand. This new transmission line will relieve the overburden on the Austrop Substation by sharing load with the Gilleland and Techridge Substations.

The new Transmission Line requires the acquisition of a permanent electric easement on the property listed above. Austin Energy has attempted to purchase the needed permanent electric easement, but has been unable to agree with the owner on the damages. Therefore, the Law Department is requesting authorization to file an action in eminent domain on behalf of the City of Austin.