

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	19153	Agenda Number	4.
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Meeting Date:	10/11/2012	Department:	Austin Energy
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## Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a 36-month agreement between the City of Austin and AutoGrid for the implementation of a Demand Response Optimization and Management Server platform to evaluate the potential for consolidating Austin Energy's demand response strategies under a single automated platform.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Energy to AutoGrid, the recipient of the grant. Austin Energy will provide staff time equivalent to \$124,000 over the 36-month project term. Funding in the form of staff time in the amount of \$62,015 is available in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining years of the project is contingent upon available funds in future budgets.

## Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Scott Jarman, P.E., Acting Director, Energy Efficiency Services, at 482-5307; Karen Poff, P.E., Engineer, Energy Efficiency Services, at 322-6464; Sarah Talkington, P.E., Engineer, Energy Efficiency Services, at 482-5393.
Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission and the Resource Management Commission.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

## Additional Backup Information

Austin Energy's Energy Efficiency Services requests authorization to enter into an agreement with AutoGrid of Dover, Delaware, the fiduciary agent and recipient of a grant from the Department of Energy (DOE), to deploy next-generation demand response projects.

AutoGrid, an Internet technology service provider, received a grant from the Advanced Research Project Agency for Energy (ARPA-E), a unit of the DOE, to design and demonstrate automated control software that helps manage real-time demand for energy across the electrical grid. As part of this effort, AutoGrid developed a Demand Response Optimization and Management Server (DROMS) platform. The DROMS is an open-standard, cloud-based demand response platform that supports all communication channels to integrate a variety of end-user loads (e.g., thermostats, energy management systems, EV charging stations, etc.) across all customer segments, providing utilities with a single system for monitoring and controlling all demand side resources.

AutoGrid selected Austin Energy to assist in the deployment of its DROMS platform for use in pilot demand response projects over a 36-month period. During this period Austin Energy will provide staff time to collaborate with AutoGrid to determine potential customer service, business and financial benefits that next-generation demand side management might deliver. Under Phase 1, Austin Energy will use the DROMS as part of a pilot program to design new automated demand response capabilities and associated programs for trial and evaluation, including smart electric vehicle charging and the monitoring and forecasting of selected residential loads.

Based on the results of Phase 1, AutoGrid and Austin Energy may expand the pilot to include Open Automated Demand Response for commercial and industrial facilities. ADR or AutoDR is a bi-direction Internet-based communication system to connect utilities directly to its customers. Through this effort, Austin Energy will evaluate the participation of these facilities in peak capacity management.

This collaboration with AutoGrid will support Austin Energy in developing an efficient demand response program that facilitates demand response across multiple vendors and customer sectors, enabling Austin Energy to exceed its desired demand response goal of 50 MW by 2020.

The agreement period is October 1, 2012 to October 1, 2015. The administration of this pilot project will not require hiring new employees.