

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	65091	Agenda Number	5.
Meeting Date:	12/1/2016		Department:	Austin Energy
Subject				
<p>Authorize recurring expenditures for electronic subscriptions and professional dues and memberships with multiple agencies and vendors in an amount not to exceed \$619,000.</p>				
Amount and Source of Funding				
<p>Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.</p>				
Fiscal Note				
<p>A fiscal note is not required.</p>				
Purchasing Language:	Exempt, Sole Source Purchases.			
Prior Council Action:				
For More Information:	Jeff Vice, Director, Local Government Issues (512) 322-6450; Mark Dreyfus, VP, Communications and Regulatory Affairs (512) 322-6544.			
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	November 14, 2016 - Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a 9-0 vote with Commissioner Mahmood absent and one vacancy.			
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				

The table below identifies the anticipated vendor or agency and provides a description of each exempted or sole source expenditure and estimated amount to be expended in Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

VENDOR	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
E-Source	Electronic Subscription Service	E-Source provides member organizations with unbiased, independent analysis of retail energy markets, services and technologies. Clients include electric and gas utilities and other energy service providers, large corporate and institutional energy users, government agencies, energy service companies, manufacturers, consultants, research institutions, and other organizations in nearly two dozen countries worldwide. The professional services provided include training, research, strategic consulting, industry surveys, and access to industry experts. Specifically, E-Source provides Austin Energy a number of proprietary items not provided by other companies: in-depth research and analysis in the areas of energy efficiency, emerging technology, customer experience and engagement, product and service evaluation, and utility benchmarking. E Source also provides a number of proprietary databases with information on demand response programs and customer enhancement modalities.	\$152,000
Large Public Power Council (LPPC)	Professional Dues and Memberships	Created in 1987, LPPC consists of 25 of the nation's largest public power systems, including AE, CPS Energy and LCRA. LPPC provides forums where public power electric utility professionals exchange information and best practices. LPPC has four Task Forces—Governmental Relations, Environmental, Tax and Finance and Energy Regulation—that deal with federal legislation, environmental rules and regulations, tax implications, and electric and energy policy. LPPC hires professional consultants in each of these areas to assist the organization and its individual members. LPPC is extremely valuable in lobbying the Congress and federal agencies on public policies related to the industry.	\$132,000
American Public Power Association (APPA)	Professional Dues and Memberships	APPA is the national trade association for the more than 2,000 public power electric utilities. Created in 1940, the Washington, DC based association's mission is to advance the interests of its members and consumers. APPA provides an array of services to assist Austin Energy in fulfilling its mission to provide clean, affordable and reliable service. APPA provides detailed analyses of federal legislation related to the electric utility industry, and a full array of advocacy, education and information services and programs. APPA's policy positions emphasize the importance of hometown decision making.	\$120,000

VENDOR	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Texas Public Power Association (TPPA)	Professional Dues and Memberships	TPPA is the state trade association representing the interests of 72 public power providers located throughout Texas, including Austin Energy, CPS Energy and LCRA. TPPA is a central vehicle through which members can extend their influence on policy matters affecting the public power industry, especially at the Texas Legislature. TPPA provides forums for the transfer of information, technology and training in the public power arena.	\$110,000
M.J. Bradley & Associates -Clean Energy Group (MJB&A and CEG)	Professional Dues and Memberships	MJB&A coordinates national coalitions to advance clean energy policy, protect air and water, reduce methane emissions, and support safe, reliable and cost-effective natural gas service. AE is a member of the CEG, a coalition made up of public and private electric utilities to promote clean energy initiatives. The CEG provides AE with a forum to have influence at the federal level to further the goals of the Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from power plants to 20 percent of 2005 levels by 2020 and to promote clean energy and energy efficiency. The CEG and its individual electric utilities, including Calpine, Nextera, PG&E, PSEG, Exelon, National Grid, Seattle City Light, SMUD, Entergy, NYPA and LADWP, are vocal advocates of progressive environmental policies and AE benefits from belonging to a coalition that promotes like-minded environmental policies. The CEG also provides its members with technical information and analyses that address federal environmental policies. It provides AE with detailed and technical information to respond to environmental rules and regulations proposed and administered by the EPA including rules and regulations dealing with the Clean Power Plan to reduce GHGs, replacement rules for NOx and SO2 cap and trade programs, ozone and new particulate matter standards, rules for disposal and processing of coal combustion products, wastewater effluent standards at utilities and cooling water intake structure standards among others.	\$105,000
		Total	\$619,000