



Thursday, November 16, 2006

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Austin Energy
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

ITEM No 2

Subject Approve the issuance of a Letter of Intent for a rebate in the amount of \$100,000 to 90 RAINEY STREET, Austin, TX, for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at their facility located at 90 Rainey Street

Amount and Source of Funding Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Operating Budget of Austin Energy in the Conservation Rebates and Incentives Fund

Fiscal Note There is no unanticipated fiscal impact A fiscal note is not required

Additional Backup Material
(click to open)
 RMC Recommends

For More Information Fred Yebra, Director, Demand Side Management / 482-5305, Leslie Libby, Solar Rebate Program Manager / 482-5390

Boards and Commission Action Recommended by the Resource Management Commission

Austin Energy requests authorization to issue a Letter of Intent in the amount of \$100,000 to 90 Rainey Street for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system, in accordance with the City of Austin's Solar Rebate Program guidelines. The program is one element of Austin Energy's comprehensive Strategic Plan approved in December 2003.

90 Rainey Street is a high-rise mixed-use redevelopment project located downtown at 90 Rainey Street. The solar equipment, which meets all Austin Energy program requirements, includes 180 solar modules rated at 150 watts each, and its associated inverter rated at 90 percent efficiency. The solar photovoltaic equipment installed is estimated to provide yearly energy savings of 35,376 kWh.

The City will not exceed the rebate offer of \$100,000 should the final installed measures be eligible for a higher rebate at the time of the final inspection due to changes in quantity or efficiency of equipment.



Resource Management Commission
Request for Letter of Intent for 90 Rainey Street
October 17, 2006
Vote 8-0-0-0-1

Motion by: K. Strnad

Second by: A. Donoho

For: R. Amato, C. Herbert, A. Martinez, J. Beckage, C. Barron, G. Hsieh

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Vacant: J. Hoffner

Motion Passed

The Resource Management Commission supports the City's Commercial Energy Efficiency Programs and recommends that the City Council approve the issuance of a Letter of Intent in the amount of \$100,000 for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system for 90 Rainey Street, L.P. located at 90 Rainey Street in Austin, Texas. The total installed cost is estimated to be \$189,000. The rebate will cover approximately 51% of the installed cost. The rebate level for this project is \$4,500/kW. The solar equipment, which meets all Austin Energy program requirements, includes a total of 180 solar modules rated at 150 watts each, and the associated inverter is rated at 90% efficiency. A total of 20.8 kW in demand savings is expected.

This energy improvement will save an estimated 35,376 kWh per year and produce an estimated 35 Renewable Energy Credits per year. These savings are equivalent to an estimated 39,523 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 5 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 772 trees.

The Commercial Energy Efficiency programs are elements of Austin Energy's comprehensive effort to reduce local air pollution through energy conservation, to reduce peak demand, and to assist customers in reducing electric consumption. This effort will provide Austin Energy with a constructive market transformation opportunity while adding a value-added service to encourage customer retention. This project will be funded within currently approved budget funding levels for commercial conservation rebate budget, therefore there is no anticipated fiscal impact.

Approved,  Adam Martinez, Chair

October 17, 2006
Date