



Austin Energy's Strategic Plan and Monthly Performance Dashboard: Financial Health

November 2016

#### Monthly Performance Dashboard



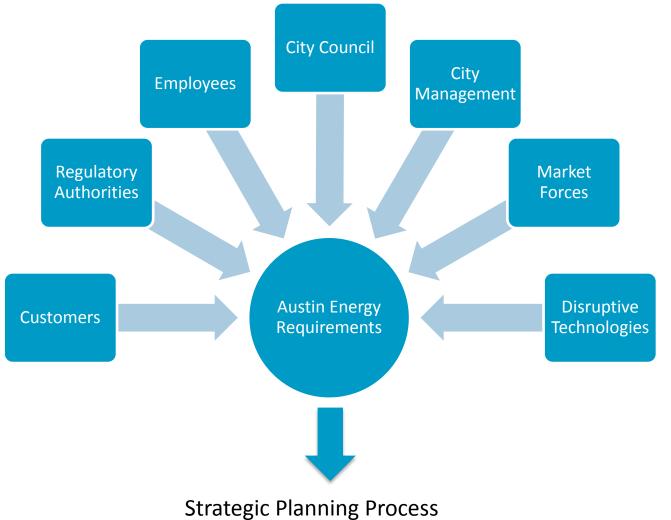
 Austin Energy's Monthly Performance Dashboard communicates the utility's performance across a broad array of key operational metrics linked to our strategic plan

 Performance is measured against targets and goals established by policy, industry best practices and management expectations

Intent is to publicly present the progress of Austin Energy in becoming a *Best Managed Utility* and to improve accountability and transparency

### Strategic Planning Environment





Executive Workshops

**Analysis** 

**Draft Plan** 

**Focus Groups** 

**Final Plan** 

**Implement** 

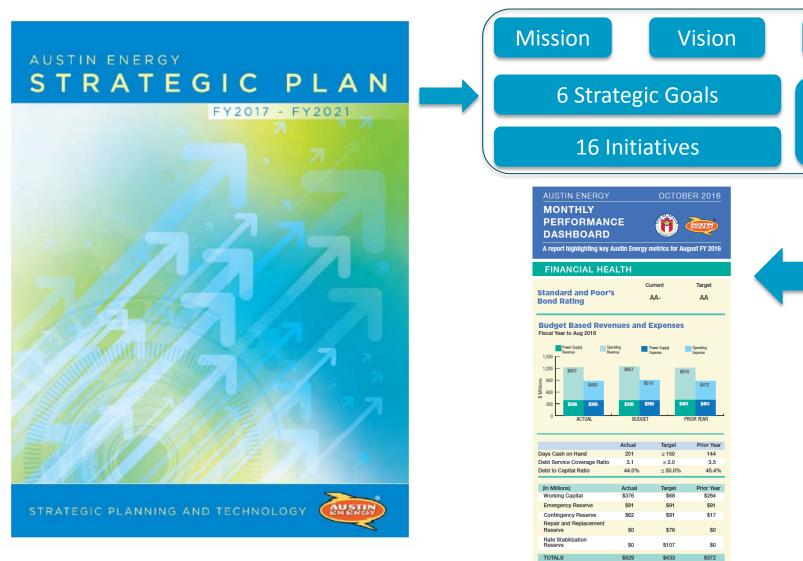
## Strategic Plan and the Performance Dashboard



Values

51

Performance Metrics

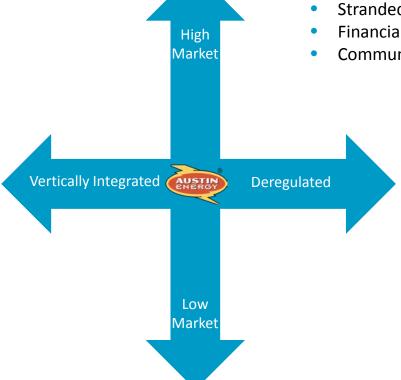


#### **Future Worlds Environment**



Austin Energy's future world will be largely influenced by the power market price environment and the structure of Austin Energy's operations. Austin Energy's strategic planning is focused on addressing the impacts of the future world on the following:

- Rate pressure on Austin Energy
- Rate impact to customer
- Stranded asset risk
- Financial effectiveness
- Community benefits



#### Austin Energy's Strategic Goals



**Financial Health:** Long-term financial resiliency that ensures cost recovery, provides market competitiveness, delivers operational excellence and creates value for customers and the Austin community

**Customer Collaboration:** New heights in customer satisfaction through increased collaboration, varied and high quality services, programs, and delivery methods and competitive pricing that strengthen customer loyalty

**Environment:** Minimized environmental footprint throughout Austin Energy's value chain

**Employee Engagement:** Employees are safe, healthy and engaged, and equipped with tools and training to effectively perform their work

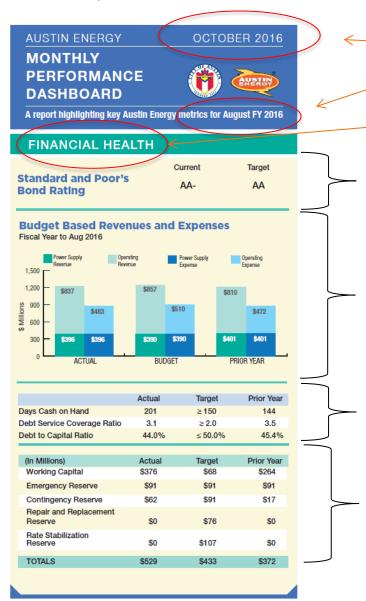
**Business Excellence:** Best Managed Utility culture where customer needs are thoroughly and efficiently achieved through optimal use of resources

**Grid Modernization:** Innovative two-way grid utilizing customer and company infrastructure to deliver superior reliability and customer experience at the lowest reasonable cost



#### Monthly Performance Dashboard





Month the dashboard is published

Month the data is effective

Strategic goal panel

Key performance indicator

Target set by management expectation

Budget to actual metrics

Targets set by Council's approved budget

Cash flow, liquidity and capital structure metrics Targets set according to best practices

Working capital and reserve metrics

Targets set according to Council's approved policies

#### Bond Ratings as an Indicator of Financial Health



Credit Risk	Moody's	Standard and Poor's	Fitch Ratings
Investment Grade			
Highest Quality	Aaa	AAA	AAA
High Quality	Aa	AA	AA
Upper Medium Utility Industry No	orm A	A	A
Medium	Baa	BBB	ВВВ
Not Investment Grade			
Lower Medium	Ва	ВВ	ВВ
Lower Grade	В	В	В
Poor Grade	Caa	CCC	CCC
Speculative	Ca	CC	CC
No Payments / Bankruptcy	С	D	C
In Default	C	D	D

Moody's uses a modifier of 1, 2, or 3 to show relative standing in a category. Standard and Poor's and Fitch Ratings use a modifier of + or - .

Rating agencies consider governance, management, market forces, service territory, cost recovery, generation risk, rate competitiveness and financial strength when assigning a bond rating. As a result, a bond rating serves as an indicator of overall financial health of the utility. The benefits of having high quality bond ratings include:

- Lower interest costs for the utility resulting in lower rates for our customers
- Greater attention from investors thus assuring lowest rates
- Enhanced credit from counter parties in the power market where Austin Energy trades more than \$600 million per year
- Better terms and conditions when Austin Energy negotiates contracts
- Favorable relationships with regulatory agencies
- Improved ability to attract top leadership talent when recruiting

#### **Bond Rating Agency Observations**



- Standard and Poor's upgraded Austin Energy from AA- to AA on November 11, 2016
  - ✓ Strong fixed-charge coverage metrics, liquidity levels and cash reserves
  - ☑ Competitive rates with separate cost-recovery component
  - ✓ Steady customer growth
  - ☑ Diversified generation mix
  - Potential for future consumer choice (deregulation)
- Moody's upgraded Austin Energy from A1 to Aa3 on November 9, 2016
  - ☑ Improvement in debt service coverage and liquidity
  - ☑ Benefits from unregulated rate setting
  - Challenges from deregulated Texas retail electric market
  - Political involvement in power resource decisions and rate setting
  - Historically higher than public sector norms for transfers to General Fund
- Fitch reaffirmed Austin Energy's AA- on November 9, 2016

#### Benchmarking for Best Practices



# **Fitch**Ratings

U.S. Public Power Peer Study



## Peer Utilities Grouped by Bond Rating



#### Retail Systems

June 13, 2016

		Outlook/		Total Operating Revenue	Service Coverage	Coverage of Full Obligations	Debt/	Adjusted Debt/ Adjusted		Pay Days Liquidity O	Transfer yment as % of perating			Debt/Electric
lesuer	Rating	Watch	Region	(\$ 000)	(x)	(X)	FADS (X)	FADS (x)	Hand	on Hand	Revs	D&A (%)	(%) C	ustomers (\$)
AA+ Rated Senior Debt				/	<b>^</b>			/	<b>^</b>			1		
Chattanooga Electric Power Board, TN	AA+	Stable	SERC	671,041	4.88	1.40			51	67	2.9	139.6	49.6	1,723
Chelan County Public Utility District No. 1, WA	AA+	Stable	WECC	370,487	2.97	2.60			45F	AEE	2.0	o/ c	50.7	12.402
Memphis Light, Gas & Water, TN	AA+	Stable	SERC	1,332,599	1.97	1.19			60	Rating	E	auitv/(	Cap Range	AE
Nashville Electric Service, TN	AA+	Stable	SERC	1,246,632	2.96	1.23			103			-1//		
San Antonio City Public Service (CPS Energy), TX AA+ Rafed Median	AA+	Stable	ERCOT	2,629,677 1,246,632	2.47 2.96	1.61 1.40			8: 8:	AA+		67.5	to 38.2	
AA Rated Senior Debt										Λ Λ		02.0	to 21.0	
Colorado Springs Utilities, CO	AA	Stable	WECC	830,821	2.00	1.81	7.3	7.3	136	AA		82.9	10 21.0	
Concord Utility Funds, NC	AA	Stable	SERC	118.804	2.81	1.72	2.6	4.4	421					
Fayetteville Public Works Commission, NC	AA	Stable	SERC	300,484	2.91	1.47			179	AA-		89.3	to 19.5	54.9
Grant County Public Utility District No. 2, WA	AA	Stable	WECC	313,169	2.20	2.08			475	719	0.0	00.0	79.7	
JEA. FL	AA	Stable	FRCC	1.241.737	2.49	1.77			252	394	12.3	56.3	21.0	5,982
Lincoln Electric System, NE	AA	Stable	SPP	300.453	2.09	1.47	7.5	7.6	266	458	6.5	115.5	29.5	5.687
New Braunfels Utilities. TX	AA	Stable	ERCOT	131,223	7.21	1.56			265	265	4.9	356.7	82.9	1.985
Orlando Utilities Commission, FL	AA	Stable	FRCC	859.452	2.27	1.45			341	341	11.9	103.2	44.1	8,101
Pasadena Water & Power, CA	AA	Stable	WECC	203,748	4.04	1.70	3.4	4.8	442	442	7.9	422.8	71.8	3,108
Springfield City Utilities, MO	AA	Stable	SPP	431,482	2.31	1.82							59.0	6.205
AA Rated Median	7.	0.000		306,827	2.40	1.71		ting	DO	OH Ran	ge	AE	51.5	5,835
AA- Rated Senior Debt														
Anaheim Public Utilities Department, CA — Electric Fund	AA-	Stable	WECC	453.697	2.36	1.41	Α	Α+	4	56 to 5	1		30.2	6.514
Austin Electric, TX	AA-	Stable	ERCOT	1.351.436	3.41	2.35							54.9	3.206
Bountiful Light and Power, UT	AA-	Stable	WECC	25.861	4.02	1.29	,	AA 442 to 136			82.8	757		
CoServ Electric, TX	AA-	Stable	ERCOT	455,777	2.10	1.32	,			+2 (0 13	10 130		45.0	2.894
Dover Electric Revenue Fund, DE	AA-	Stable	RFC	79,763	5.54	1.27							83.9	922
Floresville Electric Light & Power System, TX	AA-	Negative	ERCOT	36.584	1.88	1.12	Δ	AA-		614 to 0		148	52.3	1.934
Gainesville Regional Utilities. FL	AA-	Stable	FRCC	425.941	1.90	1.62	0.0	0.0	413	431	0.2	07.0	19.5	20.822
Garland Electric Fund, TX	AA-	Stable	ERCOT	339,179	1.70	0.99	8.3		288	332	6.3	198.3	48.5	6.071
Greenville Utilities Commission, NC	AA-	Stable	SERC	271,987	2.69	1.29			90	90	2.4	134.5	77.2	1,542
Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative, TX	AA-	Stable	ERCOT	223,352	3.19	1.58	4.0	5.9	72	375	0.1	201.5	55.8	2.555
Hydro-Quebec	AA-			0.000.004	0.50			5.7	305	438	7.1	123.1	29.8	10.912
Jacksonville Beach, FL	AA-	Doti	m.c	De	C Bange		AE	4.4	382	382	3.9	89.7	89.3	648
Kissimmee Utility Authority, FL	AA-	Rati	ug _	D3	C Range		AL	4.6	257	257	8.4	243.9	63.0	1,769
Lakeland Electric Utility, FL	AA-							4.3	181	181	12.1	83.9	42.0	3,477
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, CA — Power System		AA	+	4.88	3 to 1.9	7		8.0	252	252	8.0	236.9	38.1	5.893
Ocala Combined Utility Funds, FL	AA-							5.9	216	216	5.6	116.0	63.7	2.833
FADS – Funds available for debt service, D&A – Depreciation a FRCC – Florida Reliability Coordinating Council, SPP – Southw	and amort vest Powe	AA	4	7.21	to 2.0	0		em Electric ordinating (	Coordinat	ing Council. E RO – Midwest	RCOT – E Reliability	ectric Reil Organizati	ability Council of on. Note: Fiscal 2	Texas. 014 audit —
Anchorage Electric Utility Fund; Batavia Electric Fund; Grays H Source: Fitch Ratings.	arbor CO	AA	<b>.</b> -	45.6	4 to 1.0	66	3.41 as & Water Division; Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority. Continued on next		next page.					

#### Financial Policies Establish Metrics and Targets



Austin Energy has 22 adopted financial policies. These policies are memorialized and adopted by ordinance each year during the budgeting process. They are published in Volume II of the City of Austin's budget. They cover a variety of financial issues, including:

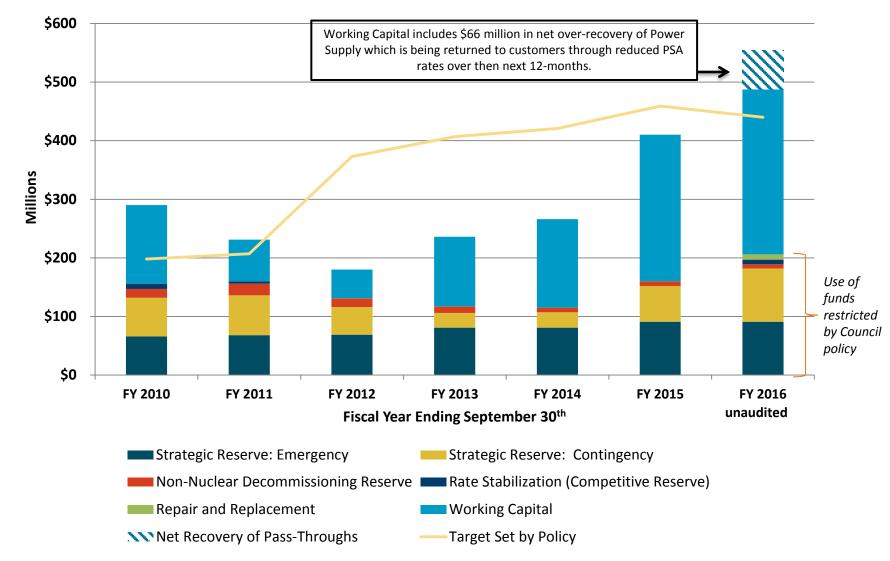
- Use and limitations on long-term debt funding
- Debt service coverage ratios
- Use and limitations on Commercial Paper
- Cash balance requirements
- General fund transfer
- Debt to equity financing of capital projects
- Reserve funding, balances and uses
- Electric rate levels
- Nuclear and non-nuclear decommissioning funds

Austin Energy financial policies includes more than simply the adopted policies. We also look to numerous other sources for guidance and instruction related to financial matters, including:

- Credit rating agencies
- Bond covenants
- Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
- City budgeting
- City procurement
- City Council instructions, resolutions and ordinances
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Texas Public Utility Commission
- Contractual requirements
- Business and government best practices
- ERCOT Protocol and credit standards

#### **Working Capital and Reserves**





## Working Capital and Reserves Restructuring



FY 2016 Reserve	Balance at September 30, 2016
Working Capital	\$348 M
Strategic Reserve: Emergency	\$91 M
Strategic Reserve: Contingency	\$91 M
Rate Stabilization	\$8 M
Non-Nuclear Decommissioning	\$7 M
Repair and Replacement	\$9 M
Total	\$554 M

FY 2017 Reserve	Transferred Balance October 2016				
Working Capital	\$348 M				
Contingency Reserve <sup>(1)</sup>	\$98 M				
Power Supply Stabilization	\$89 M				
Non-Nuclear Decommissioning	\$7 M				
V Capital	\$12 M				
Total	\$554 M				

<sup>(1) \$5</sup> million is dedicated to the potential defeasement of the debt associated with the Fayette Power Plant, if required.