



**AUSTIN ENERGY UTILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 14, 2019**

**The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Kathie Tovo called the committee meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.**

**Committee Members in attendance:**

Council Member Kathie Tovo, Chair  
Council Member Leslie Pool, Vice Chair  
Council Member Alison Alter  
Council Member Gregorio Casar  
Council Member Paige Ellis  
Council Member Jimmy Flannigan  
Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria

**Committee Members absent:**

Mayor Steve Adler  
Mayor Pro Tem Delia Garza  
Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison  
Council Member Ann Kitchen

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1. Approve the minutes of the June 19, 2019 Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee meeting.**

The minutes of the June 19, 2019 meeting were approved on Vice Chair Pool's motion, and Council Member Ellis' second, on a 7-0 vote. Mayor Adler, Mayor Pro Tem Garza, and Council Members Harper-Madison and Kitchen were off the dais.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

- 2. A maximum of five speakers signed up before the meeting is called to order will each be allowed three minutes to address topics not posted for committee action. Speakers may also sign up for specific items that the committee may take action on.**

There were six speakers:

- Janine Luz shared her great experience with the Austin Energy energy efficiency rebate program and stated AE employees do a great job managing the project. She said it is very beneficial for residents living in properties built in the 1970s and 1980s.
- Gus Pena stated his concerns with the heat and for those that need help paying their utility bills. He said anything that can be done to help is appreciated.

- Paul Robbins said Austin Energy is returning the surplus in Customer Assistance Program funds to ratepayers, but he believes it should go to the customers who need help. He said his evaluation showed the surplus lasts 4 years even with program expansion, and changes should be made during the budget.
- Al Braden thanked the cosponsors of the climate emergency Resolution, expressed appreciation for professional staff and their work on the resource plan, and said Austin Energy is ahead on many of the goals outlined five years ago.
- Kaiba White called attention to the \$2 million decrease in the solar budget and said the budget should stay the same as the program is promoted. She said solar provides more local jobs and local generation, and there are still a large number of buildings eligible for solar.
- Victor Reed stated Austin Energy should be leading in renewables and the education of children. He said more outreach in schools is needed to become a Type 1 civilization on the Kardashev scale.

## **BRIEFINGS**

### **3. General Manager's report:**

- **Upcoming recommendations for Council action: contractor for planned pole attachment inventory; construction of Austin Community College Highland Campus chilled water plant.**
- **Recent awards.**

**(Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)**

Jackie Sargent, General Manager, provided the report.

### **4. Decker Creek Power Station decommissioning and workforce planning update.**

**(Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)**

Charles Dickerson, Deputy General Manager and Chief Operations Officer, provided the update.

### **5. Third quarter Fiscal Year 2019 operations report highlights.**

**(Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)**

Charles Dickerson provided the report highlights. Discussion included working on reliability issues in neighborhoods, other circumstances affecting reliability, and where key performance indicators can be found.

### **6. Third quarter Fiscal Year 2019 financial report highlights.**

**(Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)**

Mark Dombroski, Deputy General Manager and Chief Financial and Risk Officer, provided the report highlights. Discussion included the dynamics of setting the power supply adjustment (PSA) rate, timing of setting the PSA and possibly shifting the timing, credit ratings of other utilities, operating margins, and meter installation timing for some multifamily properties.

### **7. Fayette Power Project update.**

**(Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)**

Pat Sweeney, Vice President of Power Production, provided the update.

## **FUTURE ITEMS**

### **8. Identify items to discuss at future meetings.**

This item was not addressed.

## **ADJOURN**

Chair Tovo adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m. without objection.

**The minutes were approved on this the 25th day of September 2019 on Council Member Ellis' motion, and Council Member Casar's second, on a 6-0 vote. Mayor Adler, and Council Members Alter, Harper-Madison, Kitchen, and Renteria were off the dais.**