



**ELECTRIC UTILITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 19, 2010**

The Electric Utility Commission (EUC) convened in a regular meeting on April 19, 2010 in the Shudde Fath Conference Room at 721 Barton Springs Road in Austin, Texas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Phillip Schmandt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners in attendance: Chair Phillip Schmandt, Vice Chair Linda Shaw, Gary 'Bernie' Bernfeld, Shudde Fath, Steve Smaha, Steven Taylor, and Michael Webber.

Staff in attendance: Robert Goode, Cheryl Mele, Kerry Overton, Elaine Hart, Andy Perny, Mark Dreyfus, David Wood, Chris Smith, Jeff Vice, Karl Rabago, Ester Matthews, Pat Sweeney, Ann Little, Drusilla Saenz, Jim Collins, John Wester, Shawn Harris, Clyde Canady, Jawana J.J. Gutierrez, David Kutach, Kathleen Garrett, Rose San Miguel, Steve Machicek, Pat Alba, Sonny Poole, Fred Yebra, Leslie Libby, Rosemary Ledesma, Laura Lee Franks, Toye Goodson Collins.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the regular meeting of March 22, 2010 were approved on Commissioner Fath's motion and Vice Chair Shaw's second, on a 7-0 vote.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: GENERAL

Chris Searles – Competitive Matters review process

Paul Robbins – Green Choice

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and possible action on City Council agenda items related to Austin Energy – The following Recommendations for Council Action (RCAs) were recommended for approval on consent, on Commissioner Webber's motion and Commissioner Taylor's second, on a 7-0 vote:

RCA 1 – Resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the construction of the 138 kV Gilleland to Techridge Transmission Line Project to acquire a 1.449 acre electric easement in the amount of \$38,359 from owner Willie Mae Burns.

RCA 2 – Resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the construction of the 138 kV Gilleland to Techridge Transmission Line Project to acquire a 1.44 acre electric easement in the amount of \$43,760 from owners Edna Killian and Earl Brackett.

RCA 3 – Resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the construction of the 138 kV Gilleland to Techridge Transmission Line Project to acquire a 7.53 acre electric easement in the amount of \$186,017 from owner HM Pfluger Ltd.

RCA 4 – Resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the construction of the 138 kV Gilleland to Techridge Transmission Line Project to acquire a 2.69 acre electric easement in the amount of \$69,220 from owner Mark A. Szygenda.

RCA 5 – Resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the construction of the 138 kV Gilleland to Techridge Transmission Line Project to acquire a 3.36 acre electric easement in the amount of \$109,266 from owners known collectively as the Whitehead By-Pass Trust.

RCA 6 - Approve acceptance of \$450,000 in grant funds from the U.S. DOE and amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Austin Energy Budget to appropriate \$450,000 to promote the use of solar energy as part of a special project in partnership with the Department of Energy's Solar America Cities program.

RCA 7 – Authorize a 24-month Interlocal Agreement with AISD for work associated with the DOE's Solar America Cities Special Project, "Solar Curriculum Development and Demonstration Projects," including the installation of solar photovoltaic systems at 21 schools.

RCA 8 – Authorize a supplemental amendment to the professional services agreement with WESTON SOLUTIONS, INC., Austin, TX for construction phase services for the Holly Street Power Plant Decommissioning Project in an amount not to exceed \$4,255,497.99 for a total contract amount of \$7,007,347.39.

RCA 10 – Authorize a 12-month contract with POWER SUPPLY INC., Austin, TX, for 115kV and 138kV transformer bushings in an estimated amount not to exceed \$258,150, with four 12-month extension options at \$258,150 per option, for an estimated total contract amount of \$1,290,750.

RCA 11 – Authorize a 36-month contract with PRIESTER-MELL & NICHOLSON, Austin, TX, for the purchase of Sulfur Hexafluoride gas (SF6) padmount switchgear in an estimated amount not to exceed \$7,177,179 with three 12-month extension options at \$2,392,393 per option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$14,354,358.

RCA 12 – Authorize a contract with KBS ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS INC., Austin, TX, for the purchase of 20,000 feet each of four-sizes of wire in an amount not to exceed \$136,200.

RCA 13 – Approve the ratification of a contract with SOLAR TURBINE INC., Houston, TX, for inspection and repair services on a gas turbine at Austin Energy's Mueller Energy Center in an amount not to exceed \$278,994.

RCA 14 – Authorize a contract with OLYMPUS NDT, INC., Waltham, MA, for the purchase of a video borescope for use on gas turbines in an amount not to exceed \$68,715.

RCA 15 – Authorize a 24-month requirements service contract with SIMGENICS, CORP., Grand Junction, CO, for operator simulator training services in an estimated amount not to exceed \$236,800, with two 12-month extension options at \$118,400 per option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$473,600.

The following RCAs were pulled from the Consent Agenda, discussed and recommended for approval on Chair Schmandt's motion and Commissioner Fath's second, on a 7-0 vote:

RCA 9 – Authorize amendments as required for construction phase services with DPR Construction, Inc., Austin, TX (Construction Manager at Risk) for Austin Energy's System Control Center for an estimated construction budget not to exceed \$67,000,000.

RCA 16 - Authorize two contracts through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments Cooperative Purchasing Program (HGAC) with CALDWELL

COUNTRY CHEVROLET, Caldwell, TX, for the purchase of 16 light-duty vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$454,767, and DALLAS DODGE, Dallas, TX, for the purchase of three light-duty vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$58,478.

RCA 17 – Authorize a contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with PHILPOTT MOTORS, LTD, Nederland, TX, for the purchase of 86 light-duty vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$2,242,025.81.

Agenda Item 5d, the Staff Briefing on policies related to disconnection of electric service, was moved up to accommodate speakers. The briefing was presented by J.J. Gutierrez, Customer Care Vice President. A proposed ordinance amendment will be brought forward for review by the Commission next month prior to Council consideration.

Carol Biedrzycki of Texas ROSE, Linnea Nasman of the MS Society, and Lanetta Cooper of the Gray Panthers made comments regarding proposed changes to the disconnection policies.

5. STAFF REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS

- a. The Upcoming Procurements Report was presented by Rosemary Ledesma, Purchasing Manager.
- b. The Financial Report was presented by Steve Machicek, Corporate Accounting Director.
- c. The Quarterly Report on the Austin Climate Protection Program was presented by Ester Matthews, Climate Protection Program Director, and Karl Rabago, Distributed Energy Services Vice President.

The following item was postponed earlier in the meeting. The number reflects the order as it appeared on the agenda.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- b. Discussion and possible action on the proposed Austin Energy Resource, Generation, and Climate Protection Plan
Interim General Manager Robert Goode presented the most recent version of the plan. Mike Sloan offered comments to the Commission as did Matt Johnson of Public Citizen. The Commission voted to recommend approval of the plan on November 16, 2009 and concluded that it was unnecessary to vote again to support the plan.

The following item was postponed earlier in the meeting. The number reflects the order as it appeared on the agenda.

5. STAFF REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS

- e. Interim General Manager's Report: An update on the review of the Competitive Matters Resolution – Robert Goode provided an update on plans to present responses to questions posed at last month's meeting.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioners requested that they receive a written update on the biomass plant in May.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Schmandt adjourned the regular meeting of the Electric Utility Commission at 8:45 p.m. without objection.