

**CITY OF AUSTIN – AUSTIN ENERGY  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA DATE: 04/28/2011**

**SUBJECT:** Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$561,871 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant funds from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) through a Federal Assistance Sub-Recipient Agreement between Chrysler Group LLC and Austin Energy, and amending the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Austin Energy Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20100913-002 to appropriate \$561,871 for research and testing of Plug-In Electric Vehicles.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Energy. Austin Energy will fund an in-kind match in the amount of \$561,871 over a three-year period. Funding in the amount of \$171,624 is available in the Fiscal year 2010-2011 Capital Budget of Austin Energy. The remainder of Austin Energy's match is contingent upon future budgets.

**FISCAL NOTE:** A fiscal note is required.

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on April 18, 2011 and the Resource Management Commission on April 19, 2011.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Austan Librach, Director, Emerging Transportation Technologies, 322-6351.

---

Under an award from the Department of Energy (DOE), Chrysler Group LLC is collaborating with utilities and research institutions across the United States, including Austin Energy and The University of Texas, to research and test Plug-In Electric Vehicles (PEVs) over a three-year period. The objective of this program is to demonstrate and evaluate advanced PEV technologies across a range of geographic, climatic, and operating environments to accelerate the production and market penetration of PEVs. With this agreement, Austin Energy will continue its research on vehicle-to-utility communications methodologies, equipment, and protocols.

Under this agreement, Chrysler will provide Austin Energy 14 plug-in hybrid Ram 1500 Crew Cab vehicles for the three-year term of the grant only, and 14 Level 2 charging stations which will remain Austin Energy's assets. The program will consist of two phases:

**Phase 1:** Austin Energy will install the charging stations and deploy the vehicles at selected Austin Energy fleet locations.

**Phase 2:** Austin Energy will: (a) Identify data parameters required for evaluating bi-directional power flow, ancillary services, and smart charging; (b) Develop and execute a plan for intelligent charging and energy storage; (c) Collaborate with the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT, who has a separate grant under this program) to explore the potential for aggregation of PEVs to provide ancillary services to the bulk electric power grid; (d) Evaluate a potential

pilot project for PEV aggregation; and (e) Co-author, with ERCOT and UT Austin, a detailed report on PEV potential in ancillary services markets.

This effort will enhance Austin Energy's ability to implement a network of charging stations to support its existing PEV program and promote the City of Austin as a leader in PEV readiness.

The grant period is April 2011 to April 2014. The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this grant.