

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

AGENDA DATE: 08/02/2012

SUBJECT: Approve issuance of a rebate to The University of Texas for the installation of energy efficient equipment in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Operating Budget of Austin Energy, Conservation Rebates and Incentive Fund.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Fred Yebra, P.E., Acting Vice President, Distributed Energy Services, 482-5305; Scott Jarman, P.E., Interim Director, Energy Efficiency Services, 482-5307.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on July 16, 2012 and by the Resource Management Commission on July 17, 2012.

Austin Energy requests authorization to issue a rebate to the University of Texas in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the installation of multiple technologies including High Efficiency Chillers, Variable Frequency Drives, a Cooling Tower, High Efficiency Lighting, and High Efficiency Motors, in accordance with the City of Austin's Commercial Rebate Program guidelines. This program is one element of Austin Energy's comprehensive Resource, Generation, Climate Protection Plan to 2020, approved in April 2010 by City Council, designed to reduce local air pollution through energy conservation, to reduce peak demand, and to assist customers in reducing electric consumption.

The University of Texas High Performance Computing Center is located at 10100 Burnet Road in North Austin and is part of the 475-acre J.J. Pickle Research Campus. The demand kilowatt (kW) savings associated with the high efficiency equipment installed in this project is estimated at 661.6 kW, at a program cost of \$302.29 per kW saved. The avoided kilowatt hours (kWh), estimated at 2,441,265 kWh per year, represents a major benefit to the local environment. This project will prevent the following air pollutants from being emitted: 1,465.9 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), 0.924 metric tons of Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂), and 1.022 metric tons of Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x).

In addition to the reduced air and toxic metals pollution, the project savings are also equivalent to an estimated 3,291,271 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 280.8 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 37,659 trees or 1,883 acres of forest in Austin's parks.