

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	23521	Agenda Number	2.
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Meeting Date:	4/25/2013	Department:	Austin Energy
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## Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of agreements with Ecobee, EnergyHub, and other thermostat vendors who qualify for participation in Austin Energy's Power Partner Program for a demand response program to provide customer incentives in exchange for thermostat data access, for a combined total amount not to exceed \$950,000 over a 24-month period.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining amount, not to exceed \$750,000, is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

## Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Jeff Vice 322-6087; Debbie Kimberly 322-6327; Fred Yebra, P.E. 482-5305; Scott Jarman, P.E. 482-5307.
Boards and Commission Action:	March 18, 2013 – Unanimously approved by the Electric Utility Commission on a vote of 7-0. Recommendation No. 20130318-016. March 19, 2013 – Unanimously approved by the Resource Management Commission on a vote of 6-0. Recommendation No. 20130319-014.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

## Additional Backup Information

Austin Energy has developed a program whereby residential and commercial customers receive incentives for providing demand response services to the utility. Austin Energy provides incentives to the customers for enrolling in the demand response program and requires the software service provider supporting the customers' remotely-communicating thermostat devices to allow Austin Energy remote access to raise or lower thermostat set points for the purpose of demand response. The provider of remotely-communicating thermostat devices and services provides Austin Energy a utility portal to initiate demand response events.

Austin Energy wishes to enter into agreements that provide participating thermostat vendor's obligations to serve utility customers under this program. The agreements include Austin Energy requirements for participating in the program.

Each customer's rebate is expected not to exceed \$140 per thermostat.

Austin Energy currently has two thermostat companies who have met the participation requirements. The two companies are Ecobee of Toronto, Canada and EnergyHub of Brooklyn, NY. Austin Energy is seeking approval to negotiate agreements with additional companies to participate in the program and provide rebates to customers where the customer assigns a portion of their rebate directly to the participating company.

The Power Partner Program is one element of the 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. This program also supports goals set forth in Austin Energy's 2003 Strategic Plan and the 2007 Climate Protection Plan.