

CITY OF AUSTIN  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
**DRAFT 5**  
RESOLUTION FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION  
**JANUARY 24, 2014**

1 WHEREAS, at its regular meeting on April 22, 2010 City Council asserted that clean  
2 energy, reliable energy, and affordable energy were equally important goals and adopted the  
3 2009 Generation Resource Plan on the condition that no resource over 10 megawatts could be  
4 acquired before an affordability matrix was completed; and

5 WHEREAS, the 2009 Generation Resource Plan recommends programs to reduce bill  
6 impact on those least able to pay including low-income weatherization, energy efficiency  
7 programs for residential customer living at 200 to 400 percent of the federal poverty guideline,  
8 distributed generation resources for low and moderate income customers, greater emphasis on  
9 energy efficiency in rental properties; and

10 WHEREAS, on November 5, 2010 Austin Energy issued a report titled Residential  
11 Electricity Burden that measured the impact of electric bills on residential households; and

12 WHEREAS, the Residential Electricity Burden report based on available data for the  
13 years 2006 to 2008 provided much needed information for reviewing billing assistance  
14 programs, rate discounts, and energy efficiency programs for low-income customers; and

15 WHEREAS, in Resolution No. 20131107-052 dated November 7, 2013 the City Council  
16 directs the City Manager to work with and seek approval of the Electric Utility Commission,  
17 Resource Management Commission and the Water and Waste Water Commission concerning  
18 recommendations for deferred payment plans and service disconnections and providing  
19 information on resources available for customer assistance programs, energy efficiency rebates  
20 and low-income weatherization and education on usage management; and

21 WHEREAS, the Residential Electricity Burden report should be updated to provide  
22 information in preparation for planning for future energy and water conservation programs under  
23 the current generation plan and to support the development of the next Generation Resource  
24 Plan; and

25 WHEREAS, in Resolution No. 20120112-063 dated January 12, 2012 city council  
26 affirmed the need to continue the city's goals of ensuring affordability of water rates and  
27 increasing water conservation; and

28 WHEREAS, the city has never issued a study of the impact of water utility bills on  
29 residential households; NOW THEREFORE

30 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Resource Management Commission recommends that  
31 City Council direct Austin Energy and Austin Water Utility to update the electricity burden  
32 report data and add to it an analysis of water bills and costs to estimate the combined effect of  
33 the costs of both utilities on residential and low-income consumers in Austin including renters in  
34 both individual and master metered apartment complexes.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Resource Management Commission further  
36 recommends that the report be completed by June 1, 2014 and made available for the  
37 consideration of the Electric Utility Commission, Resource Management Commission, Water  
38 and Waste Water Commission, the public and City Council in reviewing energy and efficiency  
39 and water conservation programs and during the process of reviewing, amending, and updating  
40 Austin Energy's 2009 Generation Resource Plan.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Resource Management Commission further  
42 recommends the report be updated every three years.