

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin values energy efficiency as a key part of our future generation portfolio; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the City Council passed the Energy Conservation Audit and Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance related to energy conservation that requires time-of-sale energy audits for residential properties, periodic energy audits for multi-family facilities, and yearly energy use ratings for certain commercial facilities in order to encourage energy efficiency retrofits to Austin homes, apartments, and businesses receiving electric service from Austin Energy; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the latest revisions to the ECAD ordinance established phased-in reporting dates for commercial buildings based on the size of the facility; and

WHEREAS, June 1, 2014, was the first date that commercial facilities having a gross floor area of 10,000 square feet up to 30,000 square feet had to comply with the ECAD ordinance; and

WHEREAS, certain commercial facility owners have experienced challenges when using the approved rating system; and

WHEREAS, additional education on how to use the reporting tool could improve compliance, and, with increased customer engagement, Austin Energy could provide more information about the City's energy efficiency incentives available to property owners; and

WHEREAS, the process for businesses to receive additional relevant information to assist with ECAD compliance could be enhanced so that there are not additional burdens on Austin Energy staff; and

WHEREAS, all of these issues could be discussed in a public forum so that prior to the next reporting period there is a full understanding of how to improve the process; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to examine issues that have arisen with the applicability of the ECAD ordinance to smaller commercial facilities and to consider additional measures to facilitate compliance, such as enhanced education efforts, and provide a presentation to the next meeting of the Council Committee on Austin Energy.

ADOPTED: _____, 2014

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk