

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	41283	Agenda Number	3.
Meeting Date:	3/5/2015		Department:	Austin Energy
Subject				
Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with The Settlement Home for Children to provide performance-based incentives for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 1600 Payton Gin Rd., for an estimated \$11,038 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$110,380 over a 10-year period.				
Amount and Source of Funding				
Funding in the amount of \$11,038 is included in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.				
Fiscal Note				
There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:				
For More Information:	Jeff Vice, Director, Local Government Issues (512) 322-6087; Danielle Murray, Solar Program Manager (512) 322-6055.			
Boards and Commission Action:	February 17, 2015 - Approved by the Resource Management Commission on a vote of 7-0. February 23, 2015 - Approved by the Electric Utility Commission on a vote of 5-0 with Commissioners Meijer and Rai absent.			
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				

Additional Backup Information

Austin Energy requests authorization to enter into an agreement with The Settlement Home for Children, to provide performance-based incentives (PBIs) for an estimated \$11,038 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$110,380 over the 10-year period for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 1600 Payton Gin Rd., Austin, Texas 78758. The Settlement Home is an onsite housing and treatment facility located in District 4.

Austin Energy's solar program offers commercial customers incentive payments based on the metered solar production of their approved system for the first 10 years of operation. The payments are made as a monthly billing adjustment to the customer's account. The program was launched in 2010, replacing the upfront solar rebate for commercial customers.

The PBI level for this project is \$0.09 per kilowatt hour (kWh) for 10 years. The total installation cost is \$192,500 and the incentive will cover between 50% and 57% of the total cost. The solar equipment, which meets Austin Energy program requirements, includes a total of 291 solar modules rated at 260 watts and associated inverters rated at 96.5% efficiency. A total of 58 kW-AC in demand savings is expected.

This energy improvement will save an estimated 106,638 kWh per year—enough to provide electricity to nine average Austin homes for a year. These savings are equivalent to the planting of 1,645 trees or 82 acres of forest in Austin's parks or the removal of 143,768 vehicle miles or 12 cars from Austin roadways. This project will save 71 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂); 89 pounds of Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂); 98 pounds of Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x); and 68 pounds of Carbon Monoxide (CO) from being emitted into the atmosphere each year, and 47,987 gallons of water from being used at a power plant.