



**AUSTIN ENERGY UTILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2015**

**The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2015 at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Sheri Gallo called the committee meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.**

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Chair Sheri Gallo  
Vice Chair Leslie Pool  
Mayor Steve Adler  
Council Member Gregorio Casar  
Council Member Delia Garza  
Council Member Ora Houston  
Council Member Ann Kitchen  
Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria  
Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo  
Council Member Ellen Troxclair  
Council Member Don Zimmerman

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

- 1. The first five speakers signed up before the meeting is called to order will each be allowed three minutes to speak.**
  - a.* Trey Salinas stated that Austin Energy rates should affect all customer classes equitably, and that the financial policies should be discussed, especially during the upcoming rate case.
  - b.* Richard Halpin requested that the solar item be moved up on the agenda. He stated Council should move forward on solar and make decisions that make rates affordable.
  - c.* Beki Halpin requested that the solar item be moved up on the agenda, and stated the Electric Utility Commission had a special meeting and a sub-committee work on this issue.
  - d.* Cyrus Reed stated that as part of the last generation plan process, there was discussion about setting aside funds in reserves to retire the coal plant.
  - e.* Paul Robbins spoke about the Future of Solar Energy report by MIT and stated that solar does not do that good of a job of following peak demand. He asked that Council wait for the consultant's report if we will not lose options. He also requested an election on solar.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 2. Approve the minutes of the Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee meeting of June 25, 2015.**

The minutes of the June 25, 2015 meeting were approved on Mayor Pro Tem Tovo's motion, Council Member Houston's second on a 10-0 vote. Council Member Troxclair was off the dais.

Discussion was held regarding the order in which items would be taken up at the meeting. Vice Chair Pool made a motion to take up Items 6 and 7 after Item 3, seconded by Council Member Garza. Council Member Casar proposed a friendly amendment to take up Item 4 with no testimony, followed by Item 7 limiting testimony to six minutes, and Item 3 could be discussed after Item 7 or in the Budget Work Session later today. The friendly amendment was accepted by Vice Chair Pool.

Austin Energy General Manager Larry Weis; Khalil Shalabi, Vice President, Energy Market Operations and Resource Planning; and Mark Dombroski, Senior Vice President, Finance and Corporate Services responded to questions including staff's preference to take up Item 4 prior to Item 7, the time sensitivity of the utility-scale solar proposals, and staff's recommendations regarding the reserves policies.

The motion passed on a vote of 9-2, with Council Members Renteria and Zimmerman voting against.

## **BRIEFING**

### **3. Briefing and discussion regarding Austin Energy's reserves policies.**

This item was not addressed.

### **4. Staff update regarding the Austin Energy Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to 2025.**

The presentation was made by Khalil Shalabi, Vice President, Energy Market Operations and Resource Planning. Vice Chair Pool requested that this topic be one of the first items on the agenda for the meeting in October.

### **5. Briefing and discussion regarding implementation and enforcement of the Energy Conservation Audit and Disclosure Ordinance.**

This item was not addressed.

### **6. Update regarding distributed solar incentive program.**

This item was not addressed.

## **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

### **7. Discussion and possible action on a resolution regarding the procurement of solar generation. (SPONSORS: Council Member Delia Garza, Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo, Council Member Gregorio Casar, Council Member Leslie Pool & Council Member Ann Kitchen).**

A motion was made by Mayor Adler and seconded by Council Member Houston to forward the Resolution to Council with language stating, "The City Manager is directed to bring a plan for Council approval no later than October 1, 2015 that outlines how the City will meet the 600 MW utility scale solar goal by no later than 2017." The motion was approved on an 8-3 vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Tovo and Council Members Garza and Pool voting against.

**FUTURE ITEMS**

**8. Discussion of future agenda items.**

This item was not addressed.

**ADJOURN**

Chair Sheri Gallo adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m. without objection.

DRAFT