

Task Force recommendations on which there was not consensus among members and/or not supported by Austin Energy

Item #	Recommendations from original matrix based on LICATF report voted on September 25					Recommendations as Cited in LICATF FINAL Report			
	Recommendation	Minority Report	Current Status	Budget Impact	Feasibility	AE Response	Recommendation in Exec Summary	Page	Recommendation in Body of FINAL doc
12	Set a goal that a minimum of 25% of the total Energy Efficiency Services budget including administrative expenses should be spent on programs that help low and low-moderate income residential customers, with at least 10% of the Energy Efficiency Services budget dedicated to a free weatherization program.	Opposed	Not recommended	High	Low	This recommendation would impact current budgets (see above) and would increase commercial subsidization of residential programs, creating an equity issue. Three separate staff analyses of the budget example (\$42M) showed a decrease in achievable savings, resulting in greater obstacles to achieving the 900 MW goal by 2025.	A minimum of 25% of the Energy Efficiency Services budget should be spent on programs that help low and low moderate income residential customers, with at least 10% of the budget dedicated to the free weatherization program.	18	The City Council should set a goal that a minimum of 25% of the total Energy Efficiency Services budget including administrative expenses
13	Furthermore, as part of the recommendation to spend at least 25% of the overall Energy Efficiency Services budget, at least 15% of the total distributed solar energy budget for new projects should be dedicated to projects that benefit low and low moderate income customers	Opposed	Not recommended	High	Low	This recommendation would impact current budgets (see above) and would increase commercial subsidization of residential programs, creating an equity issue. Three separate staff analyses of the budget example (\$42M) showed a decrease in achievable savings, resulting in greater obstacles to achieving the 900 MW goal by 2025.	At least 15% of the total distributed solar budget for new projects should be dedicated to projects that benefit low and low moderate income customers	18	at least 15% of the total distributed solar energy budget for new projects should be dedicated to projects that benefit low and low moderate income customers
14	Make Energy Star window unit air conditioners the standard energy efficiency improvement services option in the low income weatherization program and to include under limited circumstances, repair and replacement of central air conditioners	Limited support for window AC - medically vulnerable. Oppose HVAC.	Not recommended	High	Low	A very small percentage of weatherized homes rely on a window unit A/C. In those cases and if the unit is beyond effective useful life, AE currently will replace the window unit. However there are no plans to encourage install of more window units in homes with central systems. Staff is currently investigating the possibility of including some minor repairs to existing central AC units in the Free Weatherization program.	In the Low-income Weatherization Program, make Energy Star window unit air conditioners the standard air conditioning measure, and under limited circumstances, include repair and replacement of central air conditioners	36	To make Energy Star window unit air conditioners the standard energy efficiency improvement services option in the low income weatherization program and to include under limited circumstances, repair and replacement of central air conditioners
15	To expand income eligibility to low income customers whose household incomes are 250% of Federal Poverty Guidelines or less as qualified by the City of Austin Health and Human Services Department. Vulnerability should be considered, and priority should be given to customers at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines	Opposed	Not recommended	High	Low	Would add > 30,000 additional customers, would increase costs and set unattainable expectations		36	To expand income eligibility to low income customers whose household incomes are 250% of Federal Poverty Guidelines or less as qualified by the City of Austin Health and Human Services Department. Vulnerability should be considered, and priority should be given to customers at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
18	Austin Energy should develop a plan for fully enforcing the entire Energy Conservation Audit Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance, especially for those multi-family facilities whose electric cost is 150% of average electrical cost, and should present that plan to the Electric Utility Commission, the Resource Management Commission and the City Council for approval		Not recommended	High	Low	This is beyond the scope of the current ordinance as well as the scope of AE. To fully implement, AE would need additional staff with skill sets beyond the current energy efficiency staff. It may be more appropriate that enforcement fall to Code Compliance. AE could work with Code Compliance staff to provide information regarding compliance and metrics.	Develop a plan for fully enforcing the entire Energy Conservation Audit Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance, especially for those multi-family facilities whose electric cost is 150% of average electrical cost	51	Austin Energy should develop a plan for fully enforcing the entire Energy Conservation Audit Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance, especially for those multi-family facilities whose electric cost is 150% of average electrical cost.
21	Austin Housing Finance Corporation should condition financing approval to applicants involved with affordable housing with a condition that applicant seek energy efficiency services from Austin Energy, including solar for new and substantial rehabilitation construction		Not recommended	Moderate	Low	This is not within the scope of AE. Higher rebates will impact both budget and savings goals.	Require Austin Housing Finance Corporation to condition financing approval to applicants involved with affordable housing with a requirement that the applicant seek energy efficiency services from Austin Energy, including solar for new and/or substantial rehabilitation construction. Higher rebates should be considered for these applicants.	52	Austin Housing Finance Corporation should condition financing approval to applicants involved with affordable housing with a condition that applicant seek energy efficiency services from Austin Energy, including solar for new and substantial rehabilitation construction. Higher rebates should be considered for these applicants
22	Establish a minimum energy savings annual target of one percent of total energy sales through energy efficiency and demand reduction programs. In future updates to the Austin Energy Generation Plan, assess meeting this level or higher energy savings goals, subject to future budgets, affordability and other factors		Not recommended	Moderate	Low	This recommendation could impact budgets and adds a layer of complexity to program design, reporting and administration. The long lived AE programs have already resulted in reduced average customer consumption and incremental savings may be costly.	Establish a minimum overall energy savings annual target of one percent of total energy sales through energy efficiency and demand reduction programs.	15	Establish a minimum energy savings annual target of one percent of total energy sales through energy efficiency and demand reduction programs.
23	Set a current demand savings goal for Austin Energy's energy efficiency programs targeting low and low-moderate income customers of no less than 5% of the utility's annual peak demand savings and increasing that goal 1% per year over the next five years reaching 10%	Opposed	Not recommended	High	Low	This recommendation would impact current budgets. There is a relationship between MW savings and budget. Low income programs typically result in very high \$/kW numbers as AE pays for 100% of upgrades and potentially lower levels of energy and demand savings. Requiring that a percentage of the overall savings be dedicated to low income programs would result in the need for an increased budget to stay on target with the 900 MW goal. This goal is not compatible with a later goal related to dedicating a percentage of the budget to the low income programs.	Set a current demand savings goal for energy efficiency programs targeting low and low moderate income customers of no less than 5% of the utility's annual peak demand savings and increase that goal 1% per year over the next five years reaching 10%.	17	The Council should set a current demand savings goal for Austin Energy's energy efficiency programs targeting low and low-moderate income customers of no less than 5% of the utility's annual peak demand savings and increasing that goal 1% per year over the next five years reaching 10%