

Resolution to Improve Texas Gas Service Conservation Program in 2018 Budget

Whereas, Texas Gas Service has been required by the City of Austin to operate energy efficiency programs as part of its franchise; and

Whereas the efficiency programs in the past have not saved appreciable amounts of energy in comparison to the company's annual sales; and

Whereas the Austin City Council considers lower gas use as a strategy to both lower Austin consumers' cost of living and protect the environment; and

Whereas the Texas Gas Service efficiency programs have an annual budget cycle that begins January 1 of each year;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Resource Management Commission ask the Office of Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs and Texas Gas Service to begin planning the next year's efficiency program budget no later than August 1 of this year; and

Be It Further Resolved that the efficiency programs are revised to increase savings for the 2018 programs by 25% over expected savings from this year's programs; and

Be It Further Resolved that these savings include participation options for "transport gas" commercial, industrial, and institutional customers that are not currently served with efficiency programs; and

Be It Further Resolved that non-education efficiency programs, with the exception of low-income programs and pilot programs, have a Total Resource Cost Test Benefit/Cost ratio of 1.0 or better; and

Be It Further Resolved that Texas Gas Service consider using some of the education program money for the research, development, and demonstration of new gas efficiency technologies.