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September 19, 2022

## VIA EMAIL

Electric Utility Commission City of Austin Austin Energy Headquarters 4815 Mueller Blvd Austin, Texas 78723

RE: FTE Discussion at the September 12, 2022 Meeting of the Electric Utility Commission

## **Dear Commissioners:**

During last week's meeting of the Electric Utility Commission (EUC), there was a discussion regarding the number of full time employees (FTEs) employed by Austin Energy. Specifically, Commissioner Chapman asked Austin Energy about the number of unfilled full time employee positions currently available, and whether the proposed rate increase could be mitigated by eliminating those unfilled FTE positions in the revenue requirement. Austin Energy files this letter to clarify its response.

The unfilled FTE positions referenced by Commissioner Chapman are the unfilled FTE positions as of the pay period ending August 13, 2022. However, these positions are irrelevant to the revenue requirement in the Base Rate Filing Package and were not included in the Test Year data. The revenue requirement is based on a Test Year ending September 30, 2021. The FTEs contemplated and discussed for the purposes of Austin Energy's Base Rate Review were based on actual Test Year payroll through September 30, 2021. Therefore, eliminating the currently unfilled FTE positions would not impact Austin Energy's revenue requirement, however, the current FTE positions referenced by Commissioner Chapman are necessary for Austin Energy to continue to provide continuous and adequate service, have been approved by City Council and should not be eliminated to somehow reduce Austin Energy's necessary revenue requirement.

As a point of further clarification, the FTE positions referenced by Commissioner Chapman do not include Apple One/Customer Care contractors that work for Austin Energy vendors. The "FY 22 Contractors" referenced at the meeting are comprised of IT contractors that work for Austin Energy through staffing agencies.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Brocato