

AUSTIN ENERGY’S TARIFF PACKAGE: §
2022 § BEFORE THE CITY OF AUSTIN
PROPOSAL TO CHANGE BASE § IMPARTIAL HEARING EXAMINER
ELECTRIC RATES §

EXCEPTIONS OF HOMEOWNERS UNITED FOR RATE FAIRNESS

COMES NOW, HOMEOWNERS UNITED FOR RATE FAIRNESS (“HURF”), and files this, its Exceptions to the IMPARTIAL HEARING EXAMINER’S FINAL RECOMMENDATION in the captioned proceeding.

HURF agrees in part with the language in the examiner’s finding, at page 36:

“But just as Texas Government Code § 1502.059 does not appear to limit how the City may use GFT funds, it also does not prohibit the City Council from addressing the policy implications of this issue. Because there is no direct evidence of benefit of GFT funds to outside-city customers, the City Council could decide that, as a matter of public policy, the GFT should not be considered in calculating outside-city rates.”

HURF would go further and say that as a matter of policy, because there is no direct evidence of benefit of GFT funds to outside-city customers, the City Council should decide that the GFT should not be considered in calculating outside-city rates. The reduction to the revenue requirement for customers outside the City of Austin recognizes that those customers do not receive the benefit of the utility’s revenues transferred to the City’s general fund and thus protects them from discriminatory and excessive electric rates, used to pay for City of Austin services they do not receive.

Conclusion

HURF asserts that the original reduction to the revenue requirement for customers outside the City of Austin was reached through a compromise, which implicitly recognized that those

customers do not receive the benefit of the utility's revenues transferred to the City's general fund (proposed to be \$121 million), used to pay for City of Austin services they do not receive. This rate reduction is easily justifiable based upon the lack of any city services received by these customers and should be recognized and maintained.

Respectfully submitted,

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