



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 23-1605, **Agenda Item #:** 2.

4/20/2023

### Posting Language

Approve issuance of a capacity-based incentive to Texas County & District Retirement System for the installation of solar electric systems on their facility located at 901 South Mopac Expressway Service Road, in an amount not to exceed \$163,620.

### Lead Department

Austin Energy.

### Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$163,620 is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

### For More Information:

Amy Everhart, Director, Local Government Issues (512) 322-6087; Tim Harvey, Solar Program Manager (512) 482-5386.

### Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

April 10, 2023 - To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

April 18, 2023 - To be reviewed by the Resource Management Commission.

### Additional Backup Information:

Austin Energy requests approval to issue this capacity-based incentive (CBI) to the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) for the installation of solar electric system(s), detailed in the table below, at their facility to produce renewable energy for on-site consumption. The table below provides a summary of the system size, cost, proposed incentive, and environmental benefits:

Solar System Details*	
Total System Size (kW-DC)	164
Total System Size (kW-AC)	136
Annual Estimated Production (kWh)	240,495
Total System Cost (\$)	\$471,841
Total Incentive (\$)	\$163,620
Percent of Cost Covered	35%
Environmental Benefits** and Emission Reduction Equivalencies***	
Reduction of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) in tons	113
Reduction of Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) in pounds	144
Reduction of Nitrogen Oxide (NOX) in pounds	168
Equivalency of Vehicle Miles Driven	254,456

Equivalency of Cars on Austin Roadways	22
Equivalency of Trees Planted	1,695
Equivalency of Forest Acreage Added	121

\*All solar equipment meets Austin Energy program requirements

\*\* Environmental Benefits based on the US Energy Information Associations state-wide electricity profile  
<<https://www.eia.gov/electricity/state/texas/>>

\*\*\* According to the Environmental Protection Agency's Greenhouse Gas Equivalency Calculator  
<<https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>>

The TCDRS is a non-profit public trust providing pension and death benefits for eligible employees of participating subdivisions (counties and districts). The TCDRS is governed by a nine-member Board of Trustees and is managed by an administrative staff in Austin. This solar system meets 15% of the customer's historic needs at this facility at 901 S Mopac Expressway Service Road NB, Austin, Texas 78746.

According to the Austin Energy Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan, "Austin Energy will achieve a total of 375 MW of local solar capacity by the end of 2030, of which 200 MW will be customer-sited (when including both in-front-of-meter and behind-the-meter installations)." To meet these goals, Austin Energy has funded the Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Programs, which are designed to reduce the amount of electricity Austin Energy must purchase from the market and reduce associated greenhouse gas emissions.

The purpose of the Austin Energy Solar PV CBI Program is to expand adoption of solar by nonprofit organizations. Under this program, customers who qualify as nonprofit entities (outlined in Section V.B.iv of the [program guidelines](https://austinenergy.com/wcm/connect/1374fb2d-6dd0-4df7-a499-72970cfdb62e/Commercial-CBI-Guidelines-2021.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=nPdPUB) <<https://austinenergy.com/wcm/connect/1374fb2d-6dd0-4df7-a499-72970cfdb62e/Commercial-CBI-Guidelines-2021.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=nPdPUB>>), are eligible to receive \$1.00/W-DC up to \$482,000. Per program guidelines, the installation is expected to continue producing electricity for a minimum of 20 years, and the recipient may be subject to repay the incentive at a prorated amount if the system stops producing for any reason short of the stated minimum.

This project will advance the stated goals of expanding locally sited solar, carbon reduction and resiliency, and continue to demonstrate the value and importance of renewables as part of the individual and collective generation portfolio in Austin Energy territory.