

Posting Language

Authorize issuance of rebates for multifamily and commercial customer energy efficiency measures by Austin Energy during Fiscal Year 2023-2024 in the aggregate amounts of \$2,900,000 for multifamily programs and \$3,600,000 for commercial programs, for a total combined budget amount of \$6,500,000.

Lead Department

Austin Energy

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$6,500,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Austin Energy Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

April 20, 2023 - Council approved issuance of energy efficiency program rebates for multifamily energy efficiency rebates and commercial and small business energy efficiency rebates.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

Sept 11, 2023 - To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission

Sept 19, 2023 - To be reviewed by the Resource Management Commission.

Additional Backup Information:

Austin Energy's energy efficiency rebate programs provide customer incentives to reduce energy demand and associated costs, benefiting all electric utility customers and the utility. Aggregate authority for the issuance of rebates has been requested and approved in FY2020, FY2021, FY2022, and FY2023. This authorization will allow Austin Energy to continue to issue rebates to multifamily, commercial, and small business customers during Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY2024) for energy efficiency improvements in accordance with program guidelines and up to a combined amount of \$6,500,000.

The aggregate rebate approval request reflects our continued commitment to be responsive and flexible to customer needs by reducing the wait time needed to be reimbursed for energy efficiency upgrades.

Multifamily customers will receive an average of three upgrades per unit (e.g., smart thermostats, lighting, solar screens, HVAC tune-up, etc.), helping to reduce their energy costs during the continued economic uncertainty. The aggregate approval ensures program continuity by assuring that contractors and property managers/owners would receive rebate funding promptly after work has been completed.

As per current practice, Austin Energy staff will continue to provide a monthly report that summarizes the Commercial, Small Business, and Multifamily program pipeline (including leads, active, and paid projects). For all projects that will exceed the FY2024 City Manager's spending authority in rebate payments, the report will also include measures installed, expected savings, and other relevant data. The annual customer rebate cap will remain at \$300,000 pursuant to Resolution 20140807-006.