

Posting Language

Approve issuance of a capacity-based incentive to Westminster Manor for the installation of solar electric systems on their facility located at 4300 Bull Creek Rd. Austin, TX 78731, in an amount not to exceed \$144,936.

Lead Department

Austin Energy

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

Prior Council Action:

For More Information:

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

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

November 13, 2023– To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

November 14, 2023 – To be reviewed by the Resource Management Commission.

Additional Backup Information:

Austin Energy requests approval to issue this CBI to the Customer 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)	161
Total System Size (kW-AC)	134
Annual Estimated Production (kWh)	223,283
Total System Cost (\$)	\$313,401
Total Incentive (\$)	\$144,936
Percent of Cost Covered	46%
Environmental Benefits** and Emission Reduction Equivalencies***	
Reduction of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) in tons	105
Reduction of Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) in pounds	156
Reduction of Nitrogen Oxide (NOX) in pounds	156
Equivalency of Vehicle Miles Driven	244,189
Equivalency of Cars on Austin Roadways	21.2
Equivalency of Trees Planted	1,575
Equivalency of Forest Acreage Added	0.632

*All solar equipment meets Austin Energy program requirements

** Environmental Benefits based on the [US Energy Information Association’s state-wide electricity profile](#)

*** According to the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)’s Greenhouse Gas Equivalency Calculator](#)

Westminster Manor Assisted Living is a medium-sized assisted living community located in the vibrant city of Austin, Texas. This community offers residents a comprehensive range of care and medical services, ensuring that each individual's needs are met with the utmost attention and dedication. This system will offset 14% of the facilities' emissions.

According to the updated Austin Energy Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan, approved by Austin City Council in March 2020, "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)." In order 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 by helping to offset the capital investment for customers who are unable to benefit from the federal tax credit. Under this program, customers who qualify as nonprofit entities (outlined in Section V.B.iv of the [program guidelines](#)), are eligible to receive \$0.90/W-DC up to \$433,800. Per program guidelines, the installation is expected to continue producing for a minimum of 20 years or may be subject to repay the incentive at a pro-rated amount, if it 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, extend the adoption of solar to entities historically excluded from the investment benefits of solar, and continue to demonstrate the value and importance of renewables as part of the individual and collective generation portfolio in Austin Energy territory.