

**Posting Language**

Conduct a public hearing and consider proposed terms, rate and fee changes for Austin Energy – Solar Standard Offer Rider – Solar Integrator; High Load Factor Primary Voltage (Demand greater than or equal to 20,000 kW); and High Load Factor Transmission Voltage (Demand greater than or equal to 20 MW).

**Lead Department**

Austin Energy

**Fiscal Note**

The Solar Standard Offer Rider is funded through the Power Supply Adjustment.

**Prior Council Action:****For More Information:**

Amy Everhart, Director, Local Government Relations (512) 322-6087; Russell Maenius, Sr. VP and Chief Financial Officer, (512)-322-6133.

**Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:**

Sept 9, 2024 - To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

Sept 17, 2024 - To be reviewed by the Resource Management Commission.

**Additional Backup Information:**

If the Solar Standard Offer Rider is approved, the Standard Offer Program will allow Austin Energy to procure locally sited solar generation at market-based rates and increase the Community Solar generation portfolio through a standardized and streamlined approach with pre-established project criteria and published energy value. This method allows developers of solar installations to have price transparency which enables them to obtain financing, engage potential host customers, identify viable projects, and meet project criteria set by Austin Energy. Through the Standard Offer Program, Austin Energy will purchase the production at a value equal to the avoided costs of energy and transmission expenses.

Through the Standard Offer Program customers who may not have normally moved forward with solar projects due to split incentives between a building owner and a customer paying for utilities will now have a new opportunity through direct compensation for ahead of the meter interconnections.

The Community Solar program increases solar access while helping Austin Energy achieve our local solar goals. The Standard Offer Program is designed to facilitate the expansion of the Community Solar Portfolio.

In addition, in support of customer-sited, third-party owned renewable energy, Austin Energy is proposing the removal of the maximum capacity limits for on-site renewable generation associated with High Load Factor Primary Voltage (Demand greater than or equal to 20,000 kW) and High Load Factor Transmission Voltage (Demand greater than or equal to 20,000 kW) rate schedules. This change to the tariff language means that customers in these rate categories can build larger on-site renewable generation, if desired.