

**Versión en español a continuación.**

## **Meeting of the Electric Utility Commission October 12, 2020**

**The Electric Utility Commission is to be held October 12, 2020 with Social Distancing Modifications**

Public comment will be allowed via telephone; no in-person input will be allowed. **All speakers must register in advance of Sunday, October 11 by Noon.** All public comment will occur at the beginning of the meeting.

To speak remotely at the **Electric Utility Commission** meeting, residents must:

- Call or email the board liaison at **512-497-0966 OR [jeff.vice@austinenergy.com](mailto:jeff.vice@austinenergy.com)** no later than noon, Sunday, October 11. The information required is the **speaker name, item number(s) they wish to speak on, whether they are for/against/neutral, and a telephone number or email address.**
- Once a request to speak has been called in or emailed to the board liaison, residents will receive either an email or phone call providing the telephone number to call on the day of the scheduled meeting.
- Speakers must call in at least 15 minutes prior to meeting start in order to speak, late callers will not be accepted and will not be able to speak.
- Speakers will be placed in a queue until their time to speak; each speaker will have up to three minutes to speak.
- Handouts or other information may be emailed to [jeff.vice@austinenergy.com](mailto:jeff.vice@austinenergy.com) by noon, Sunday before the scheduled meeting. This information will be provided to Board and Commission members in advance of the meeting.
- If this meeting is broadcast live, residents may watch the meeting here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>

# Reunión del **Electric Utility Commission**

## FECHA de la reunion (**12 de Octubre 2020**)

La junta se llevará con modificaciones de distanciamiento social

Se permitirán comentarios públicos por teléfono; no se permitirá ninguna entrada en persona. Todos los oradores deben registrarse con anticipación (11 de Octubre antes del mediodía). Todos los comentarios públicos se producirán al comienzo de la reunión.

Para hablar de forma remota en la reunión, los residentes deben:

- Llame o envíe un correo electrónico al enlace de la junta en **512-497-0966 OR [jeff.vice@austinenergy.com](mailto:jeff.vice@austinenergy.com)** a más tardar al mediodía (el día antes de la reunión). La información requerida es el nombre del orador, los números de artículo sobre los que desean hablar, si están a favor / en contra / neutrales, y un número de teléfono o dirección de correo electrónico.
- Una vez que se haya llamado o enviado por correo electrónico una solicitud para hablar al enlace de la junta, los residentes recibirán un correo electrónico o una llamada telefónica con el número de teléfono para llamar el día de la reunión programada.
- Los oradores deben llamar al menos 15 minutos antes del inicio de la reunión para poder hablar, no se aceptarán personas que llamen tarde y no podrán hablar.
- Los oradores se colocarán en una fila hasta que llegue el momento de hablar.
- Los folletos u otra información pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a [jeff.vice@austinenergy.com](mailto:jeff.vice@austinenergy.com) antes del mediodía del día anterior a la reunión programada. Esta información se proporcionará a los miembros de la Junta y la Comisión antes de la reunión.
- Si esta reunión se transmite en vivo, los residentes pueden ver la reunión aquí: <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>



## **Electric Utility Commission**

**October 12, 2020 ■ 1:00 PM**

**VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING**

**<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>  
Austin, Texas**

### **AGENDA**

#### **Members:**

Marty Hopkins, Chair (Casar)  
Dave Tuttle, Vice Chair (Alter)  
Jim Boyle (Pool)  
Cary Ferchill (Adler)

Erik Funkhouser (Garza)  
Karen Hadden (Kitchen)  
Cyrus Reed (Tovo)  
Rachel Stone (Harper-Madison)

Kay Trostle (Ellis)  
Matt Weldon (Flannigan)  
Stefan Wray (Renteria)

**For more information, please visit:** [www.austintexas.gov/euc](http://www.austintexas.gov/euc)

**Reading and Action on Consent Agenda:** Items 2-11 may be acted upon by one motion. No separate discussion or action on any of the items is necessary unless desired by a Commissioner.

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#### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approve minutes of the September 14, 2020 regular meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT**

( ) = Target Council Meeting Date; [ ] = RCA Type

2. (10/15) [Capital Contracting Office] Authorize negotiation and execution of a Design Build Agreement with Stellar Energy Americas, Inc. for design and construction services for the Mueller Energy Center Chiller Capacity Addition in an amount not to exceed \$15,600,000.
3. (10/29) [Austin Energy] Authorize reimbursement of costs to GBD Properties Inc. for the engineering, purchase and installation of a service pipe connection to interconnect the second phase of the Shoal Creek Walk Building to the Austin Energy (AE) downtown District Cooling System in an amount not to exceed \$175,616.
4. (11/12) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Atlas Copco Compressors LLC, for preventative maintenance and repair services for air compressors, for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed \$440,000.
5. (11/12) [Purchasing] Authorize award of a multi-term contract with Absolute Testing Services Inc, to provide installation, repair and testing of electrical systems for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.
6. (11/12) [Purchasing] Authorize award of a multi-term contract with KBS Electrical Distributors Inc, to provide substation signs, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$550,000.

7. (11/12) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of three multi-term contracts with Asplundh Tree Expert LLC, Davey Tree Surgery Co, and Wright Tree Service, Inc, to provide vegetation management services on distribution energized lines, each for up to five years for total contract amounts not to exceed \$85,000,000 divided among the contractors.
8. (11/12) [Purchasing] Authorize award of a multi-term contract with Techline Inc. for vacuum interrupter switches, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$3,518,000.
9. (11/12) [Capital Contracting Office] Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with T. Morales Company Electric & Controls, for Domain District Cooling Plant (DCP) switchgear replacement in the amount of \$3,659,000 plus a \$548,850 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,207,850.
10. (11/12/) [Purchasing: Various depts; AE's portion \$564,000] Authorize award of a contract with Victor Pena D/B/A Pena's Traffic Services, LLC (MBE), to provide rental of temporary traffic control devices and roadway pavement marking services, for a term of two years in an amount not to exceed \$3,280,000.
11. (11/12) [Purchasing: Various depts; AE's portion \$1,350,000] Authorize award of a multi-term contract with Expert Relocation Services, LLC, to provide citywide moving and relocation services, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$5,783,500.

#### **STAFF BRIEFINGS & REPORTS**

12. Discussion/follow-up regarding SHINES Project update.
13. Discussion/follow-up regarding Online Customer Care Portal update.
14. Discussion/follow-up regarding line clearance practices.

#### **ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

15. Discussion and possible action regarding the Climate Emergency Resolution Working Group [Resolution No. 20190808-078]. (Wray, Hadden)

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

16. Discussion and possible action regarding EUC Annual Review 2019-20.
17. Discussion and possible action regarding 2021 EUC Meeting Schedule.
18. Report regarding City Council action on items previously reviewed by the EUC.
19. Discuss potential future agenda items.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least two days (48 hours) before the meeting date. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. Please call Jeff Vice, Austin Energy, at (512) 497-0966 for additional information regarding the Electric Utility Commission.



## **Electric Utility Commission September 14, 2020 Minutes**

**The Electric Utility Commission (EUC) convened a regularly scheduled meeting via videoconference/Webex.** Meeting called to order by Chair Hopkins at 10:02a.m. Also present were Commissioners Boyle, Ferchill, Funkhouser, Hadden, Reed, Stone, Trostle, Tuttle and Weldon. Commissioner Wray was absent.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approve minutes of the August 10, 2020 regular meeting. **Motion (Weldon) to approve minutes; seconded (Stone) passed on a vote of 10-0, with Commissioner Wray absent.**

### **NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT**

(    ) = Target Council Meeting Date; [    ] = RCA Type

**Motion (Ferchill) to recommend consent agenda Items 2,3, 5 - 14; seconded (Hadden); passed on a vote of 10-0, with Commissioner Wray absent. Following discussion, motion (Ferchill) to recommend Item 4; seconded (Stone); passed on a vote of 10-0, with Commissioner Wray absent.**

2. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize an amendment to an existing cooperative contract with CDW LLC D/B/A CDW Government D/B/A CDWG D/B/A CDW Government LLC, to provide additional Trend Micro products and services, for an increase in the amount of \$110,262, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$268,000.
3. (9/17) [Capital Contracting] Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with Flintco, LLC for the Domain Four Chillers Demolition project in the amount of \$1,339,000 plus a \$66,950 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,405,950.
4. (9/17) [Austin Energy] Authorize issuance of energy efficiency program rebates by Austin Energy during Fiscal Year 2020-21, in an amount not to exceed \$2,700,000 for multifamily energy efficiency rebates and \$3,350,000 for commercial and small business energy efficiency rebates, for a total combined amount not to exceed \$6,050,000.
5. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Marsh USA, Inc. D/B/A Marsh Wortham, for Austin Energy property insurance and related services, for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed \$38,565,000.
6. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Daniel L Sun Inc D/B/A Sun-Net Inc., to provide maintenance, support and system upgrades for the transmission outage scheduler, for a term of five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

## Item 1

7. (10/1) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract with TGM Wind Services, LLC D/B/A Kardie Equipment, to provide maintenance, inspection and repair services, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$895,000.
8. (10/1) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term cooperative contract with Unifirst Holdings, Inc D/B/A Unifirst Corporation, to provide rental and laundering of flame-resistant uniforms, for up to 63 months for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,827,000.
9. (10/1) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract with Power Cost, Inc., to provide a cloud hosted energy trading and risk management solution, for up to 12 years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,700,000.
10. (10/1) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Hyundai Power Transformers USA Inc., to provide a three-phase autotransformer for the Dunlap substation, in an amount not to exceed \$4,700,000.
11. (10/15) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract with Wright Tree Service, Inc, or one of the other qualified offerors, to provide distribution line clearance for street and nightwatchman lights, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.
12. (10/15) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of two multi-term contracts with Cleaver-Brooks Sales and Services Inc. and Pro Serv Industrial Contractors, LLC, to provide heat recovery steam generator services, each for up to six years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$17,400,000 divided between the contractors.
13. (10/15) [Purchasing] Authorize an amendment to an existing contract with Great Western Managed Services Corporation D/B/A GWC (WBE), for continued grounds maintenance services for Austin Energy substations and adjacent areas, that would increase the amount by \$480,000 and extend the term for up to four years, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$600,000.
14. (10/1) [Capital Contracting] Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with Santa Clara Construction, Ltd. (MBE), for the San Antonio Street Chilled Water Distribution Extension project in the amount of \$4,322,891 plus a \$432,289 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,755,180.

### STAFF BRIEFINGS & REPORTS

15. Briefing regarding the Austin Community Climate Plan by the Office of Sustainability – **provided by Zach Baumer, Climate Protection Manager and Celine Rendon, Community Engagement Specialist.**
16. Update regarding the SHINES project – **provided by William Kelly, Distribution Process Manager – Advanced Grid Technologies.**
17. 3rd Quarter Financial Briefing – **hard copy provided.**

### ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

18. Discussion and possible action regarding the Climate Emergency Resolution Working Group [Resolution No. 20190808-078]. (Wray, Hadden)

**OTHER BUSINESS**

19. Discussion and possible action regarding the Austin Community Climate Plan.

**Motion (Weldon) to recommend support for the Austin Climate Equity Plan; seconded (Hadden); passed on a vote of 10-0, with Commissioner Wray absent.**

20. Discussion and possible action regarding EUC Annual Review 2019-20 – **postponed till next meeting.**

21. Report regarding City Council action on items previously reviewed by the EUC.

22. Discuss potential future agenda items.

- **Reed: Presentation on multi-family energy efficiency program**

**Chair Hopkins announced the formation of an RCA Working Group, to evaluate criteria regarding the RCA backup material. Members include the chair and Commissioners Boyle and Trostle.**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.**

**Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of a Design Build Agreement with Stellar Energy Americas, Inc. for design and construction services for the Mueller Energy Center Chiller Capacity Addition in an amount not to exceed \$15,600,000.

[Note: This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 22.50% MBE and 18.30% WBE participation.]

**Lead Department**

Capital Contracting Office

**Managing Department**

Austin Energy

**Fiscal Note**

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

**Purchasing Language:**

Best Value to the City of Austin of eleven offers received.

**Prior Council Action:**

February 20, 2020 – City Council authorized use of Design-Build type of Alternative Delivery Method.

**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov).

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall direct inquiries to Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749, Rick Selin, 512-974-7179, or the Project Manager, Annette Guerra, 512-322-6203.

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

To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on October 12, 2020.

**Additional Backup Information:**

Austin Energy constructs, maintains, and operates district chilled water plants that transform electrical energy into stored thermal energy that is then distributed, via a network of underground pipes, to external customers in the form of chilled water. The aggregation of loads enables superior efficiencies, reliability and quality when compared to stand-alone systems at each customer's building. The thermal storage element enables Austin Energy to shift electrical consumption from on-peak to off-peak periods. Austin Energy owns and operates three district energy and cooling systems serving the Downtown Central Business District, the Domain, and the Mueller Redevelopment Zone.

The project is to construct a new 6,000-ton Chilled Water Plant (including thermal storage) with an estimated design and construction budget of \$15,600,000 to meet the cooling needs of the new Austin Energy Headquarters building, a new medical office building, expansion of the Dell Children's Hospital and other new customers as they arise. Austin Energy will connect the plant to the existing chilled water distribution piping in the Mueller Redevelopment Zone. The plant equipment will include chillers, cooling towers, pumps and all other equipment for a remotely-operated chilling station. The goal is to have the plant operational in time for the summer 2022 cooling season to minimize the need for temporary chillers to meet requirements.

The Design-Build contract is recommended for award to the Design-Builder providing the best value to the City, as established through a qualifications-based selection process. A design-build solicitation is a 2-Step Process consisting of Request for Qualifications and Request for Additional Information. A diverse City-staffed Evaluation Panel comprised of technical experts, reviews, scores, and shortlists Design-Builder firms. The result of which is the selection of the highest-ranked firm. Council's authorization is requested to negotiate and execute an agreement with the highest-ranked firm to begin design phase services. MBE/WBE goals are initially established for the design phase services only. When Design is sufficiently complete and prior to Construction Phase, MBE/WBE goals are established based on identified construction trades.

Austin Energy will perform all public and community engagement. The Design-Builder will be required to assist Austin Energy in providing graphics, project descriptions, and technical information, as requested. The Design-Builder's team representative will be required to attend and participate in public presentations and assist in follow-up tasks.

This project is located within zip code 78723 (District 1). The completion date is slated to be February 2022.

**TOP RANKED FIRM:**

Stellar Energy Americas, Inc. is located in Jacksonville, Florida.

**SECOND RANKED FIRM:**

SpawGlass Contractors, Inc. is located in Austin, Texas.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government that Works for All

**Posting Language**

Authorize reimbursement of costs to GBD Properties Inc. for the engineering, purchase and installation of a service pipe connection to interconnect the second phase of the Shoal Creek Walk building to the Austin Energy Downtown District Cooling System, in an amount not to exceed \$175,616.

**Lead Department**

Austin Energy

**Fiscal Note**

Funding is available in the Austin Energy Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Capital Budget.

**Prior Council Action:**

**For More Information:**

Pat Sweeney, Vice President, Power Production, 512-322-6292; Andrew Gallo, Interim Director, District Energy Cooling, 512-322-6424

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

To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on October 12, 2020.

**Additional Backup Information:**

Austin Energy (AE) operates several district cooling systems providing chilled water to customer buildings through a network of underground pipes. These systems serve multiple large buildings within a particular service area including Downtown Austin, the Domain, the Mueller Redevelopment Zone and, soon, Austin Community College Highland Campus.

A district cooling plant distributes chilled water to the customer's building through a set of heat exchangers located in the building's mechanical room. A single district cooling plant can meet the cooling needs of many buildings. For example, the Downtown District Cooling System currently serves 47 customers, including City Hall, the main library, Austin Convention Center, Whole Foods, Ballet Austin, hotels, residential buildings and office towers.

Additionally, by using thermal energy storage, AE shifts electric load from peak times (3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) to off-peak times, helping AE meet the Council-approved thermal energy storage goal of 40MW by 2030. Adding chilled water customers increases the load to AE's District Cooling System and thereby increases the amount of potential electrical demand shifted from on-peak to off-peak hours.

This project will connect the Shoal Creek Walk building #2 at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Bowie Streets to the Downtown District Cooling System. The piping will provide chilled water service to the existing mechanical room as specified in a Chilled Water Services Agreement between AE and GBD Properties Inc. AE recovers the cost for reimbursable items through the chilled water rate specified in the agreement. The customer is purchasing the materials for reimbursement due to the short timeframe until construction will begin. Delay of this project would delay building construction.

This project is located in zip code 78703 and Council District 4. AE will manage the project.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government That Works for All

**Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Atlas Copco Compressors LLC, for preventative maintenance and repair services for air compressors, for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed \$440,000.

(Note: Sole source contracts are exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

**Lead Department**

Purchasing Office.

**Client Department(s)**

Austin Energy.

**Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$88,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

**Purchasing Language:**

Sole Source.

**Prior Council Action:**

**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov) or to Julia Finn, at 512-322-6060 or [Julia.Finn@austintexas.gov](mailto:Julia.Finn@austintexas.gov).

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

October 12, 2020 - To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

**Additional Backup Information:**

The contract will provide preventative maintenance and repair services for existing Atlas Copco air compressors at Sand Hill Energy Center, which are necessary to operate valves for the generators and keep the plant running at capacity.

The contractor is the only company authorized to perform services on Atlas Copco compressors while maintaining a warranty on the compressors.

This contract replaces the existing contract which expires March 5, 2021. The recommended contractor is the current provider for these services.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government That Works for All.

**Posting Language**

Authorize award of a multi-term contract with Absolute Testing Services Inc., to provide installation, repair and testing of electrical systems for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

**Lead Department**

Purchasing Office.

**Client Department(s)**

Austin Energy.

**Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$250,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

**Purchasing Language:**

The Purchasing Office issued an Invitation for Bids (IFB) 1100 SMB1010 for these services. The solicitation issued on June 29, 2020 and it closed on July 28, 2020. Of the four offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the lowest responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](#).

**Prior Council Action:**

**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov)

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Persons: DeJuan Brown, at 512-322-6472 or [DeJuan.Brown@austintexas.gov](mailto:DeJuan.Brown@austintexas.gov) or Julia Finn, at 512-322-6060 or [Julia.Finn@austintexas.gov](mailto:Julia.Finn@austintexas.gov).

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

October 12, 2020 – To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

**Additional Backup Information:**

The contract will provide new equipment installation, repairs, and electrical testing on an as needed basis for the electrical systems located within Austin Energy's district cooling plants. District cooling plants provide customers with chilled water, which is a more efficient, environmentally friendly, and affordable way to cool buildings than traditional air conditioning.

This is a new contract. Previously, these services were contracted on an individual job basis.

**Contract Detail:**

<b><u>Contract Term</u></b>	<b><u>Length of Term</u></b>	<b><u>Contract Authorization</u></b>
Initial Term	2 yrs.	\$ 600,000
Optional Extension 1	1 yr.	\$ 300,000
Optional Extension 2	1 yr.	\$ 300,000
Optional Extension 3	1 yr.	\$ 300,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5 yrs.</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>

**Note:** Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government That Works for All.

**Posting Language**

Authorize award of a multi-term contract with KBS Electrical Distributors Inc., to provide substation signs, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$550,000.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9D Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the goods required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

**Lead Department**

Purchasing Office.

**Client Department(s)**

Austin Energy.

**Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$100,833 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

**Purchasing Language:**

The Purchasing Office issued an Invitation for Bids (IFB) 1100 DTB1018 for these goods. The solicitation issued on July 13, 2020 and it closed on August 11, 2020. Of the two offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the only responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](#).

**Prior Council Action:**

**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov)

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: DeJuan Brown, at 512-322-6472 or [DeJuan.Brown@austintexas.gov](mailto:DeJuan.Brown@austintexas.gov).

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

October 12, 2020 – To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

**Additional Backup Information:**

The contract will provide signs for Austin Energy substations. The signs are used to communicate safety and emergency information such as the presence of dangers, mandatory requirements, and prohibited actions. These signs will conform to the guidelines of the American National Standard Institute.

This is a new contract. Previously, these goods were acquired through spot purchases.

**Contract Detail:**

<b><u>Contract Term</u></b>	<b><u>Length of Term</u></b>	<b><u>Contract Authorization</u></b>
Initial Term	1 yr.	\$110,000
Optional Extension 1	1 yr.	\$110,000
Optional Extension 2	1 yr.	\$110,000
Optional Extension 3	1 yr.	\$110,000
Optional Extension 4	1 yr.	\$110,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5 yrs.</b>	<b>\$550,000</b>

**Note:** Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government That Works for All.

**Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of three multi-term contracts with Asplundh Tree Expert LLC; Davey Tree Surgery Co; and Wright Tree Service, Inc.; to provide vegetation management services on distribution energized lines, each for up to five years for total contract amounts not to exceed \$85,000,000, divided among the contractors.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program and subcontractor goals were applied to the solicitation. The recommended contractors met the Combined MBE/WBE Goal with 3.75% MBE/WBE participation).

**Lead Department**

Purchasing Office.

**Client Department(s)**

Austin Energy.

**Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$15,583,332 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

**Purchasing Language:**

The Purchasing Office issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) 1100 EAL3012 for these services. The solicitation issued on June 1, 2020 and it closed on July 14, 2020. Of the five offers received, the recommended contractors submitted the only responsive offers. A complete solicitation package, including a log of offers received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](#).

**Prior Council Action:**

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**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov)

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Liz Lock, at 512-322-6251 or [Liz.Lock@austintexas.gov](mailto:Liz.Lock@austintexas.gov).

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

October 12, 2020 – To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

**Additional Backup Information:**

These contracts will provide vegetation management services on distribution energized lines for Austin Energy. The contractors will perform services on an as needed basis for capital improvement projects; on circuit, grid, and substation facilities; individual customer requests; after-hour or storm restoration events, and vegetation suppression. The work is highly specialized, and contractors will be required to follow strict safety protocols. The contractors will also work in partnership with the Austin Fire Department Wildfire Division to reduce the risk of wildfires.

Asplundh Tree Expert LLC and Wright Tree Service Inc. are the current providers for these services. The current contracts expire January 16, 2021.

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the offers and scored Asplundh Tree Expert LLC; Davey Tree Surgery Co; and Wright Tree Service, Inc.; as the best to provide these services based on program, experience and qualifications, price, local preference, and service-disabled veteran business enterprise.

**Contract Detail:**

<b><u>Contract Term</u></b>	<b><u>Length of Term</u></b>	<b><u>Contract Authorization</u></b>
Initial Term	2 yrs.	\$34,000,000
Optional Extension 1	1 yr.	\$17,000,000
Optional Extension 2	1 yr.	\$17,000,000
Optional Extension 3	1 yr.	\$17,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5 yrs.</b>	<b>\$85,000,000</b>

**Note:** Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government That Works for All.

**Posting Language**

Authorize award of a multi-term contract with Techline Inc., for vacuum interrupter switches, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$3,518,000.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9D, Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the goods required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

**Lead Department**

Purchasing Office.

**Client Department(s)**

Austin Energy.

**Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$644,966 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

**Purchasing Language:**

The Purchasing Office issued an Invitation for Bids (IFB) 1100 MEA1017 for these goods. The solicitation issued on July 7, 2020 and it closed on August 11, 2020. Of the two offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the lowest responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online.

Link: [Solicitation Documents](#).

**Prior Council Action:**

**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov)

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Maria Andrade, at 512-972-9424 or [maria.andrade@austintexas.gov](mailto:maria.andrade@austintexas.gov).

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

October 12, 2020 – To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

**Additional Backup Information:**

The contract will provide vacuum interrupter switches for Austin Energy's network operations. Vacuum interrupter switches sense faults in the network, allowing the switches to safely open and disconnect energized equipment inside the electrical service vault. The switches create a safe work environment for maintenance crews performing repairs on de-energized equipment. These switches are used throughout the Austin Energy network vault protection system to prevent equipment damage.

This contract will replace the previous contract which expired on October 18, 2020.

**Contract Detail:**

<b><u>Contract Term</u></b>	<b><u>Length of Term</u></b>	<b><u>Contract Authorization</u></b>
Initial Term	2 yrs.	\$1,407,200
Optional Extension 1	1 yr.	\$ 703,600
Optional Extension 2	1 yr.	\$ 703,600
Optional Extension 3	1 yr.	\$ 703,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5 yrs.</b>	<b>\$3,518,000</b>

**Note:** Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government that Works for All.

## Item 9

### **Posting Language**

Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with T. Morales Company Electric & Controls, for the Domain DCP Switchgear Replacement project in the amount of \$3,659,000 plus a \$548,850 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,207,850.

[Note: This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 94.32% MBE and 3.39% WBE participation.]

### **Lead Department**

Capital Contracting Office

### **Managing Department**

Austin energy

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Energy Capital Budget.

### **Purchasing Language:**

Lowest responsive bid of three received through a competitive Invitation for Bid solicitation.

### **Prior Council Action:**

N/A

### **For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov).

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall direct inquiries to Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749, Garrett Cox, 512-974-9423, or the Project Manager, James Matlock Jr., 512-775-3924.

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

To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on October 12, 2020.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The Domain District Cooling Plant (Domain DCP) has the capacity to provide 10,000 tons of district cooling to buildings in the Domain business district. The ability to continue providing this service depends on replacing the existing 40+ year-old electrical switchgear that is past its expected lifecycle.

The switchgear at the Domain DCP controls, regulates, protects and isolates electrical equipment. Austin Energy (AE) staff also use it to de-energize equipment to allow work on it and to clear faults downstream. Replacing the aged equipment with new, more reliable switchgear ensures the Domain DCP can continue providing district cooling to buildings in the Domain business district.

The current equipment is long past its useful life. If the equipment fails, it cannot be repaired due to parts being obsolete. AE would have to rent emergency switchgear while it purchased and installed new switchgear.

There will be no impact to the public on this project. All work will be on City property within the Domain DCP.

If council does not approve this item, the existing 40 plus year-old switchgear at the Domain DCP will fail. Austin Energy will have to purchase switchgear at a premium price and rent electrical switchgear equipment until the new switchgear is delivered and installed. That course of events could cause the City significantly more to replace the equipment. Additionally, the Domain DCP would have several days during which it could not have power to provide chilled water to customers.

Due to the potential for the need for additional electrical wiring/cable of medium voltage, AE has included a 15% contingency in funding to allow for expeditious processing of change orders. A contingency is an additional amount of money added to the construction budget to cover any unforeseen costs associated with the project.

The contract allows 243 calendar days to complete this project. This project is located within zip code 78758 (District 7).

T. Morales Company Electric & Controls is located in Florence, Texas.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Safety, Government that Works for All, Health and Environment

**Posting Language**

Authorize award of a contract with Victor Pena D/B/A Pena's Traffic Services, LLC (MBE), to provide rental of temporary traffic control devices and roadway pavement marking services, for a term of two years in an amount not to exceed \$3,280,000.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

**Lead Department**

Purchasing Office.

**Client Department(s)**

Austin Convention Center Department; Austin Energy; Austin Police Department; Austin Transportation Department; Austin Water; Parks and Recreation Department; Public Works, Street and Bridge Operations; Parks and Recreation Department; Watershed Protection Department.

**Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$1,366,667 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of various City departments. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

**Purchasing Language:**

The Purchasing Office issued an Invitation for Bids (IFB) 2200 BJT1014REBID for these services. The solicitation issued on March 25, 2020 and it closed on June 11, 2020. Of the six offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the lowest responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](#).

**Prior Council Action:**

**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov)

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Bartley Tyler, at 512-974-2023 or [Bartley.Tyler@austintexas.gov](mailto:Bartley.Tyler@austintexas.gov).

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

October 12, 2020 – To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

October 14, 2020 – To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

**Additional Backup Information:**

The contract will provide delivery, placement, maintenance, and replacement of temporary traffic control devices, and for roadway pavement marking services for various departments. Temporary traffic control

devices include barricades, traffic cones, yellow and white pavement markings, and cyclone or plastic fencing. Services include the installation of temporary roadway striping and restoration of permanent roadway striping and raised pavement markings.

These services are required for special events, or when City crews work on the road or near high traffic areas and temporary modifications are necessary to divert traffic around the work sites. This will promote efficiency of the departments in their day-to-day duties maintaining the City's infrastructure and will improve response time and safety for the taxpayers. The contractor is required to respond in both routine and emergency situations where traffic control is required.

This contract is replacing an existing contract that expires on December 10, 2020. The requested authorization amount was determined based on projected usage over the next several years. If the City is unable to secure a contract, departments will be forced to make spot purchases, which would potentially increase the cost as well as cause delays in service. The recommended contractor is not the current provider for these services. The recommended contractor is a City certified minority owned business.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Mobility.

**Posting Language**

Authorize award of a multi-term contract with Expert Relocation Services, LLC, to provide citywide moving and relocation services, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$5,783,500.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

**Lead Department**

Purchasing Office.

**Client Department(s)**

All City departments.

**Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$1,703,808 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of various City departments. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

**Purchasing Language:**

The Purchasing Office issued an Invitation for Bids (IFB) 7400 BYS1005 for these services. The solicitation issued on May 18, 2020 and it closed on June 11, 2020. Of the six offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the lowest responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](#).

**Prior Council Action:**

**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov)

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Brenita Wilkison, at 512-974-3164 or [brenita.selement@austintexas.gov](mailto:brenita.selement@austintexas.gov).

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

October 12, 2020 – To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.

October 14, 2020 – To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

**Additional Backup Information:**

The contract will provide relocation services for all City facilities as needed to relocate from one building to another or for moves within the same building. The contractor will provide all labor, materials, and necessary equipment to perform the moving services.

The contractor is required to properly recycle all materials used during the moving services, provide re-usable crates in place of paper boxes, use appropriately sized vehicles in order to minimize the number of trips required, and to follow the City's anti-idling regulations while providing moving services to the City.

The contract will replace the existing moving services contract, which will run out of spending authority prior to expiring due to an increased need of moving services. The requested authority for the new contract will allow for additional departments to use this contract and to support several large office moves taking place in future years.

If the City is unable to secure the contract, departments will be required to perform spot purchases and may experience service delays for moving services.

**Contract Detail:**

<b><u>Contract Term</u></b>	<b><u>Length of Term</u></b>	<b><u>Contract Authorization</u></b>
Initial Term	2 yrs.	\$3,057,400
Optional Extension 1	1 yr.	\$ 908,700
Optional Extension 2	1 yr.	\$ 908,700
Optional Extension 3	1 yr.	\$ 908,700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5 yrs.</b>	<b>\$5,783,500</b>

**Note:** Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government That Works for All.

# Austin SHINES Project Update

William Kelly

Distribution Process Manager – Advanced Grid Technologies



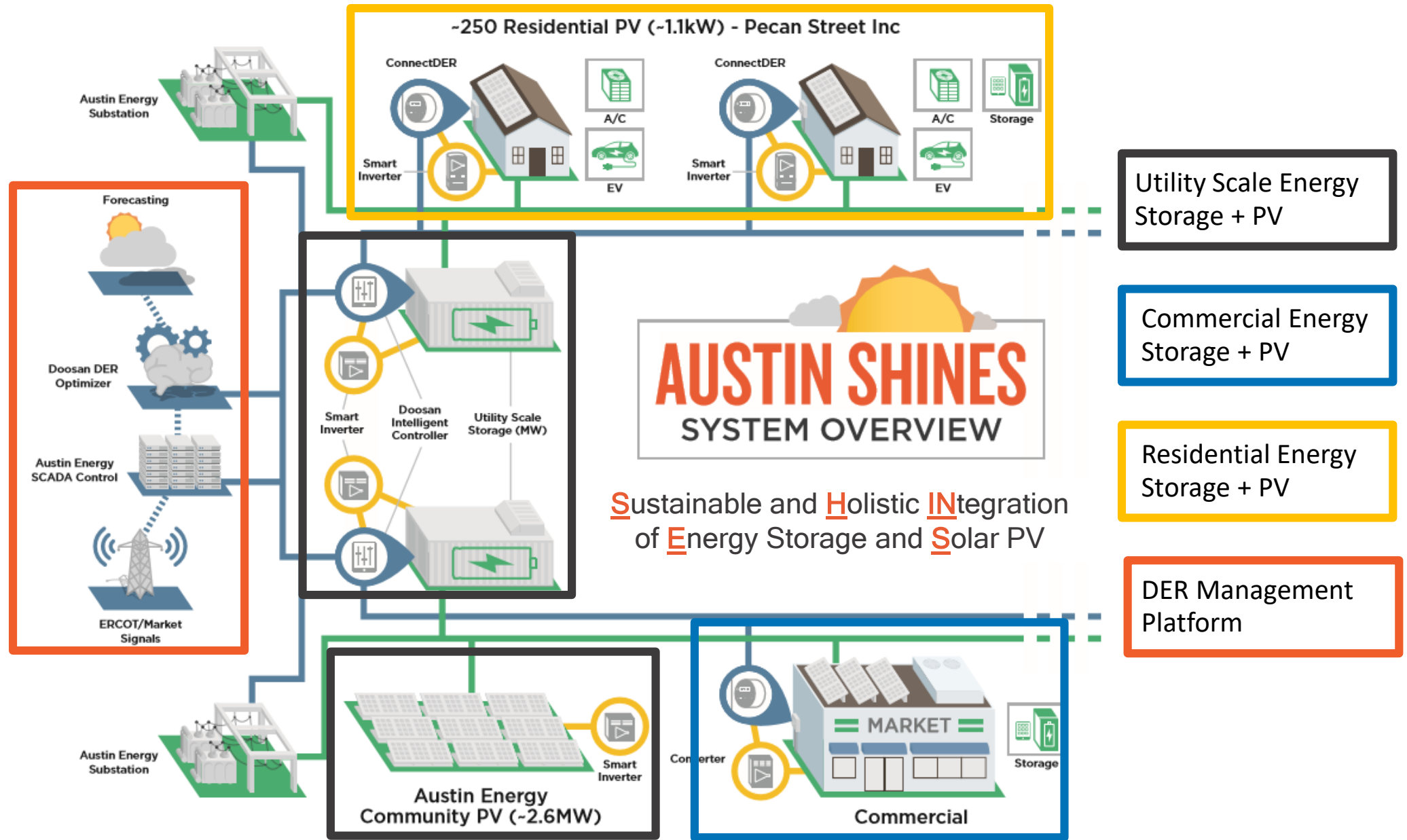
October 12, 2020 (Formerly Item 16, September 14, 2020)

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# Project Description



# The Austin SHINES Concept



# Austin SHINES Assets

## Grid Scale

- Kingsbery Energy Storage System
- Mueller Energy Storage System
- La Loma Community Solar Farm

## Commercial Scale

- 3 Aggregated batteries + existing solar PV

## Residential Scale

- 6 Aggregated batteries + existing solar PV
- 1 Electric Vehicle installed as Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G)
- 12 Utility-Controlled PV Smart Inverters
- 6 Autonomously-Controlled Smart Inverters





















# DER Value Strategies

Value Streams		Use Case	
Energy Market	{	Utility Peak Load Reduction	<i>Lower transmission cost obligation</i>
		Day-Ahead Energy Arbitrage	<i>Realize economic value through price differential</i>
		Real-Time Price Dispatch	<i>Realize economic value from real-time price spikes</i>
Grid Reliability	{	Voltage Support	<i>Reduce losses and increase solar generation</i>
		Distribution Congestion Management	<i>Increase local grid reliability</i>
Utility Customer	—	Demand Charge Reduction	<i>Lower customer bills and realize system benefit</i>



# SHINES Asset 'Value Stack'

DERO Application (application benefit)		Kingsbery ESS (grid-scale)	Mueller ESS (grid-scale)	Agg. PV/ESS (commercial)	Agg. PV/ESS (residential)	Solar PV (residential)
ECONOMIC	<b>Utility Peak Load Reduction</b> (Lower transmission cost obligation)					
	<b>Day-Ahead Energy Arbitrage</b> (Realize economic value through price differential)					
	<b>Real-Time Price Dispatch</b> (Realize economic value from real-time price spikes)					
RELIABILITY	<b>Voltage Support</b> (Reduce losses and increase solar generation)					
	<b>Distribution Congestion Management</b> (Increase local grid reliability)					
CUST	<b>Demand Charge Reduction</b> (Lower customer bills and realize system benefit)					



# Findings To Date



# Technical Lessons



**INTEROPERABILITY:** Lack of industry wide standards for communication & system integration protocols

**SIZING:** Optimal system design highly dependent on value application and grid location

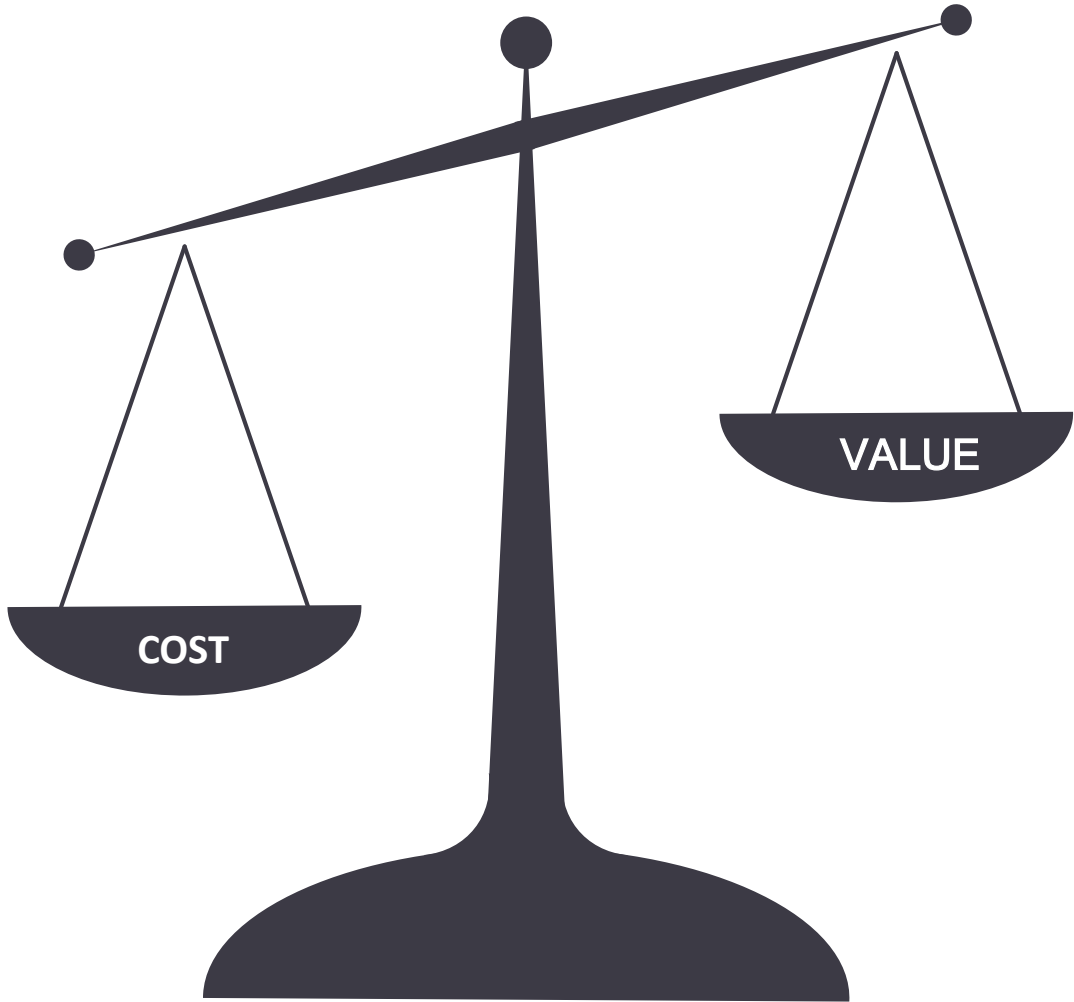


**SITING:** Building codes & permitting processes unable to keep pace with DER

**SAFETY:** Development & deployment of emerging technologies can outpace present day safety measures



# Economic Lessons



**HOLISTIC CONTROL:** “Value stacking” is possible but prioritization of use cases is critical

**RELIABILITY:** Highly dependent on location and the underlying characteristics of the interconnected grid

**COST vs VALUE:** The value of battery storage does not yet outweigh the costs

**LOAD MANAGEMENT:** Load management can be impacted utilizing DER, but may not be economical

# Tipping Points

## Investing at scale in DER and DER Integration



### Economic Imperative

- A primary determinant
- Deployment costs decrease
- Deployment value increasing
- Many combinations of variables



### Technical Requirements

- A wide range of technology benefits
- Should be considered compared to traditional alternatives



### Policy Imperatives

- Regulatory changes may dictate that storage is the best option
- Market changes
- Mandates or Incentives



**IN THE MEANTIME: Maintain readiness through continued research**

# Where Do We Go From Here?



**Safety  
Guidelines**



**Comm  
Standards**



**Intentional  
Islanding**

**Market  
Development**



**DERMS  
Integration**

**Reliability  
Value**



**DER  
Roadmap**

**Vendor  
Partnerships**



**Cyber  
Security**



# Austin SHINES Grant Reporting

<https://austinenenergy.com/ae/green-power/austin-shines/final-deliverable-reports>

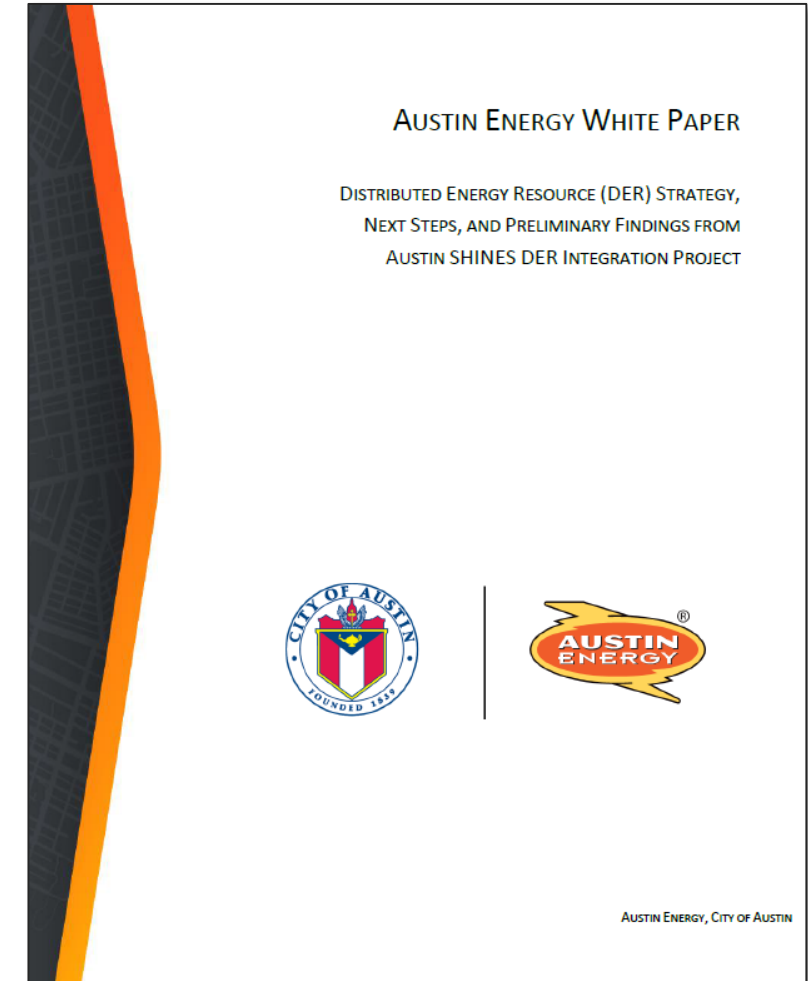
1. System Levelized Cost of Electricity (System LCOE) Methodology
2. Software Platform Product Description
3. Optimal Design Methodology
4. Ownership and Operation Models for DER System Performance
5. Economic Modeling and Optimization
6. Fielded Assets



# DER Whitepaper

<https://austinenergy.com/ae/about/reports-and-data-library/generation-resource-planning-update/euc-resource-planning-working-group>

- Written in September 2019
- Used in development of Austin Energy's 2019 Generation Resource Plan update
- Summarizes lessons learned & next steps based upon the to date completed SHINES work
- Will serve as an input to DER Roadmap for Austin Energy





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# Energy Management and Smart Meter Texas

**Kheira Ardjani**

*IT Systems Consultant, CIS Operations, IT Austin Energy*

**John Halter**

*IT BSA Senior, AMI, ESD Austin Energy*



October 12, 2020 (Formerly Item 6, June 8, 2020)

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# Energy Management

Monthly Electric Usage Billing Details

Graphic Visualizations with Weather Data

Daily / Interval Electric Meter Usage Details  
(as available)

Home Energy Audit

Personalized Usage Tips

Educational Weekly Energy Updates

Proactive Email Alerts for High Usage



Weekly electricity update May 18-24: You used 8% more electricity. 

City of  
to me



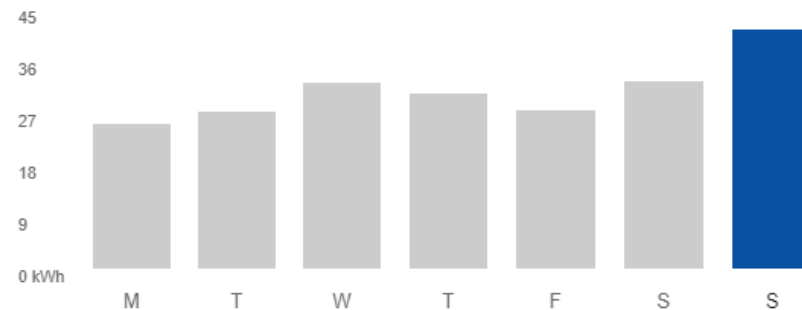
You are projected to use 892 kWh.

Estimated days until your next bill: 8.



## Your electricity use this week

You used the most on Sunday



On Sunday, May 24, you used the most in the afternoon



# COA Utilities Opower Energy Management Program Tour



# Smart Meter Texas

Electric Usage Reports

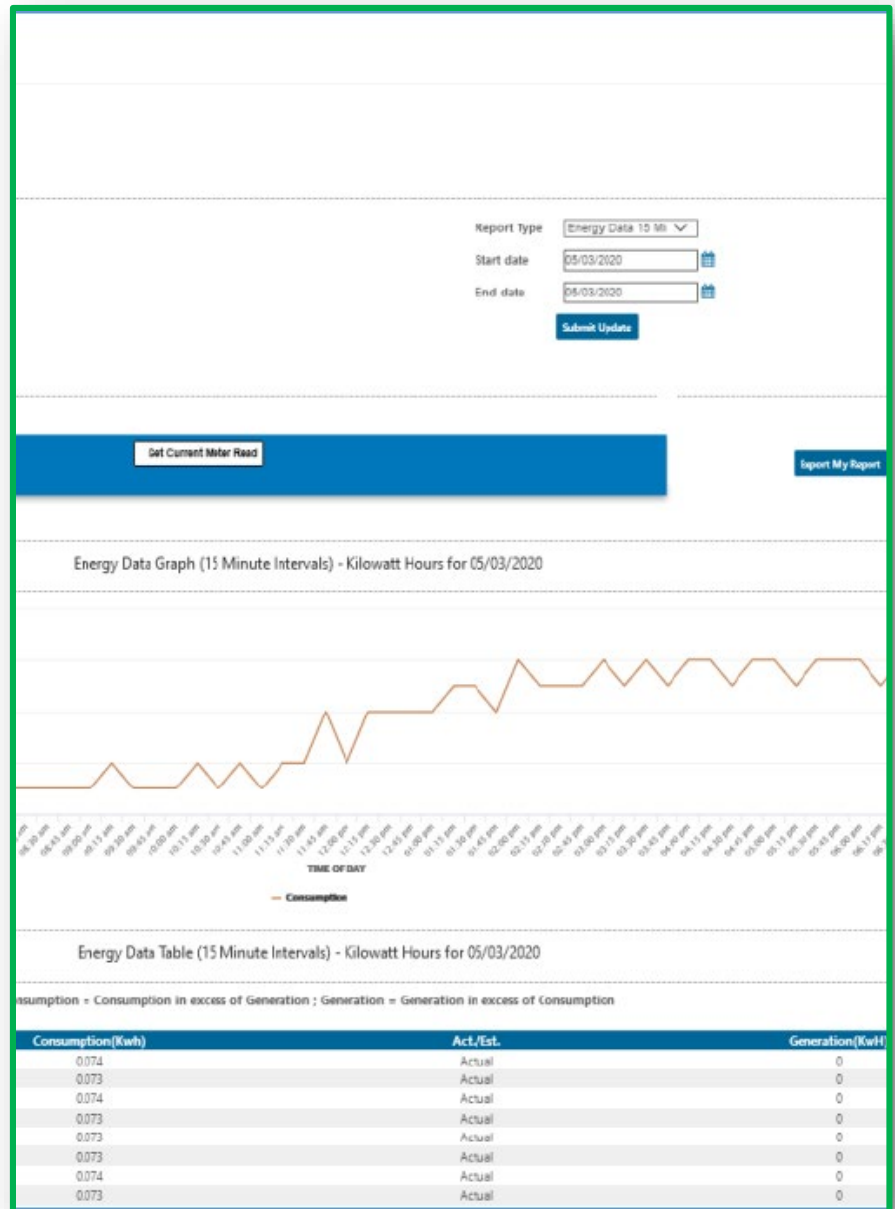
Electric Data Graphs

On Demand Reads

My Friend's Data

In-home Device Management

Third Party Agreements



# Smart Meter Texas Dashboard

Smart Meter TEXAS™

Dashboard

Smart Meters

Report Request Status

Manage Agreements

Manage Subscriptions

Feedback

Help Center

DASHBOARD

Description

NA

Address

399 N MILLER RD TEL, MANSFIELD, TX, 76063-9144

ESIID

10443720000000047

Meter Number

151662306

Meter Multiplier

1

Report Type

Energy Data 15 Min

Start date

05/03/2020

End date

05/03/2020

Submit Update

Meter Read Data

Export Energy Usage Data

Date

05/03/2020

Latest End of Day Read

00:00:00

Meter Read

203.835

Set Current Meter Read

Export My Report

Download My Data

Energy Data Graph (15 Minute Intervals) - Kilowatt Hours for 05/03/2020

Energy Data Table (15 Minute Intervals) - Kilowatt Hours for 05/03/2020

View as Table

Start Time	End Time	Consumption(Kwh)	Act./Est.	Generation(Kwh)	Act./Est.
12:00 am	12:15 am	0.074	Actual	0	NA
12:15 am	12:30 am	0.073	Actual	0	NA
12:30 am	12:45 am	0.074	Actual	0	NA
12:45 am	01:00 am	0.073	Actual	0	NA
01:00 am	01:15 am	0.073	Actual	0	NA
01:15 am	01:30 am	0.073	Actual	0	NA
01:30 am	01:45 am	0.074	Actual	0	NA
01:45 am	02:00 am	0.073	Actual	0	NA



# QUESTIONS / DISCUSSION





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# Austin Energy Operational Update Q2 FY19

Electric Utility Commission

Charles Dickerson

Chief Operating Officer, Austin Energy



**Note: This is an  
excerpt of the  
Q2FY19 Update  
pertaining to the  
Vegetation  
Management  
Program**

Formerly Item 25, May 13, 2019

# Austin Energy Operational Update

## Vegetation Management Program



# Austin Energy Vegetation Management Program

## Barrier to Prudence: Risk of Wildfire



“We recognize that more must be done to adapt to and address the increasing threat of wildfires and extreme weather in order to keep our customers and communities safe,” said John Simon, PG&E Interim Chief Executive (WSJ - 2/28/19)

# Austin Energy - Vegetation Management Program

## Barriers to Prudence: Inadequate trim clearances and heavy tree regrowth



Northwest (Balcones Woods)



Southwest (South Lamar)



Northeast (Windsor Park)

Travis County Rainfall \*: Years with >20 weeks of severe, extreme or exceptional drought: 2006, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014

\*National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) program



# OUR AREA

# Austin Energy - Vegetation Management Program

## Achieving prudence: Increase clearances



AE's **pre-2006** pruning clearances:  
Fast growing species – 11 to 13 ft.  
Slow growing species – 7 to 9 ft.



AE's **CURRENT** pruning clearances:  
Fast growing species - 8 ft.  
Slow growing species - 4 ft.

- Clearances for 2-3 year cycle
- With no range of clearances, flexibility in the field reduced

AE's **NEW** pruning clearances:  
Fast growing species - **11 to 15** ft.  
Slow growing species – **7 to 10** ft.

- Clearances for 4-5 year cycle
- Range of clearances for flexibility in field
- Compliant with International Society of Arboriculture Standards
- Compliant with City's tree preservation ordinances



# Austin Energy - Vegetation Management Program

## Achieving prudence: Streamline Customer Notifications

- **SIMPLIFY:**

- Benchmark best customer notification practices with other utilities
- Reduce steps that require multiple vehicle trips to properties and multiple attempts to reach property owners
- Examine surveys to determine customer priorities for improving communications
- For properties that do not require a tree removal, eliminate property owner sign-off on vegetation work plan

- **IMPROVE:**

- Conduct multi-channel customer communications – pruning schedule on website, door hangers and mail
- **Continue providing detailed vegetative work plan**
- **Continue Customer Refusal Process when Customer Consultation unsuccessful**
- Reduce lead time between initial customer notification and performance of work
  - Current lead time is between 30 and 60 days (the disinterested customer drives the schedule)
  - Reduce lead time to 10 to 14 days
- Focus attention on property owners who request Customer Consultation
- Kick-off communication plan that includes Public Service Announcements



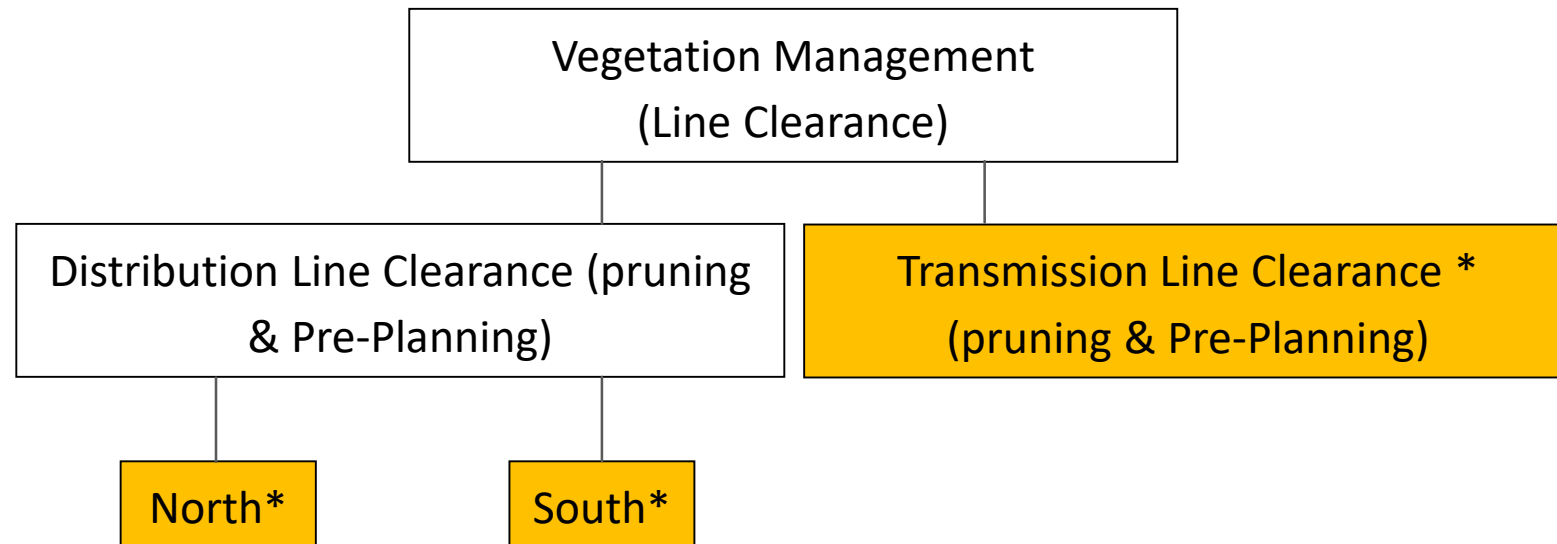
# Austin Energy Operational Update

## Line Clearance Contract Approach



# Austin Energy - Vegetation Management Contracts

## Current Contracts



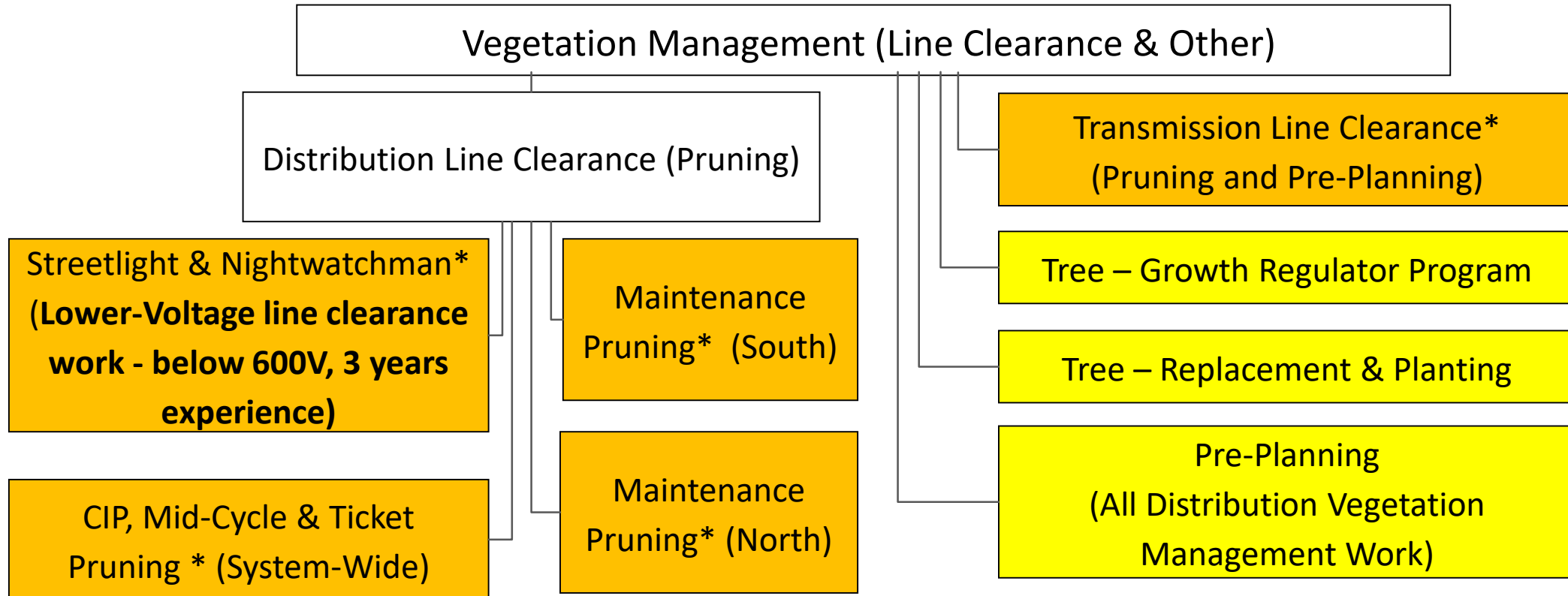
\*Energized Line Clearance Work

Current Contracts -



# Austin Energy – Vegetation Management Contracts

## Planned Contract Strategy & Opportunities



\*Energized Line Clearance Work

Contracts – shown in color



# Austin Energy - Vegetation Management

## SUMMATION

- **IMPLEMENT** new tree pruning **CLEARANCES**
- **IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS** with Customers
  - Broader and more timely communication of tree pruning schedule and plans
  - Focus attention on property owners who request Customer Consultations
  - Provide Public Service Announcements
- **IMPROVE PROCESSES** by reducing lead time and multiple vehicle trips
- **IMPLEMENT PLANNED CONTRACT STRATEGY** by adding contracts for services requiring varying types and levels of experience
  - RCA in June for one-year extension of Distribution Line Clearance contracts
  - Develop and issue solicitations, including experience-building line clearance work, during FY20



#### Item 14: Communication to Commissioner Hadden re Line Clearance

**From:** Vice, Jeffrey (Jeff)

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 08, 2020 4:00 PM

**To:** Hadden, Karen - BC <bc-Karen.Hadden@austintexas.gov>

**Cc:** 'Hopkins, Marty' <martyhopkins@eversheds-sutherland.com>; Hopkins, Marty - BC <BC-Marty.Hopkins@austintexas.gov>; 'Karen Hadden' <karendhadden@gmail.com>

**Subject:** EUC Follow-up

Commissioner Hadden,

At the EUC's last meeting, during the Future Agenda Items discussion, you requested 1) some additional information/responses to questions re line clearance and herbicidal use; and 2) an update regarding electrification of the heavy-duty vehicles in the Austin Energy fleet (e.g., bucket trucks). Chair Hopkins and I reviewed the agenda for September, noting that it contained a briefing you had previously requested (from Office of Sustainability), as well as a long-delayed update on the SHINES project (requested by Commissioner Tuttle)...plus the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financial Report postponed from last meeting.

Recognizing that this month we wouldn't be able to take up your two concerns above, we wanted to 1) provide you with information that I hope will satisfy your request for additional information re line clearance...and 2) explain that we will schedule a fleet electrification update in the months to come (the last update was provided to EUC Nov 2019).

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,  
Jeff

#### Herbicide Use in Line Clearance Activities

- a) Treatment or removal of dead vines information is located on the Austin Energy Website Tree Pruning (<https://austinenergy.com/ae/residential/residential-services/tree-pruning/tree-pruning>) FAQs section (<https://austinenergy.com/ae/residential/residential-services/tree-pruning/faqs>) regarding vines on utility poles (snap shot attached). In light of your concerns, we intend to change the verbiage from "treat" to "apply an EPA-approved herbicide to the base of the vine." To clarify, AE/AE's contractors will remove only vines from poles and not the remaining dead vines that may stretch out along a fence or into surrounding flora.
- b) You thought perhaps there was a prohibition of pesticide use at the City of Austin; we could not locate any such policy banning pesticide or herbicide use. Rather, the City maintains an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan (<http://www.austintexas.gov/ipm>) which is included in Austin Energy's forestry contract solicitations (language excerpt provided below).

NOTE:

*The Contractor shall be responsible for all record keeping regarding pesticide application as required by the TDA Rules and Regulations and the City's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan. The Contractor shall abide by the City's IPM plan when using any general use chemicals, including fertilizer, herbicide or other chemicals, and shall obtain written approval from Austin Energy's Project Manager prior to any application. Application of chemicals shall be made only by individuals licensed by the TDA. If pesticide application is required and approved by Austin Energy, the Contractor shall maintain all Pesticide Application Records (the Records) as required by the terms of their License as outlined by the Laws and Regulations of the TDA. If Austin Energy requests the Records, the Contractor shall provide them within five calendar days. The Contractor shall maintain the Records for two years as required by the Laws and Regulations of the TDA.*

*The City of Austin's IPM plan website is at: <http://www.austintexas.gov/ipm>.*

- c) You had specific concerns re 1311 Alta Vista. For example, you asked about the notification process – please find a copy of the Vegetation Work Plan (VWP) below. You mentioned dead flowers at the site – please find below a short explanation of the treatment location and explanation of the physical presence of the site provided by Wright Tree Service. Wright Tree Service provided us with pictures of the site taken during a site visit we requested on Aug 10/the day of the EUC meeting, and I've included those below as well.

V.W.P. Id: 2005-A79ZT-501



Tickets 2020  
Wright

Distribution  
Tickets  
(Blanket)

### Vegetation Work Plan

The Austin Energy Utility Forestry Section is currently pruning and/or removing vegetation that is near the electric facilities. This work is necessary to ensure safe and reliable electric service to your area and is not at any additional expense to you.

I, PATTERSON, ROBERT, have been notified by a representative of Austin Energy of the following work on my property at

Address 1311 ALTA VISTA AVE

Phone # 361-288-0133

☐ No Work Required

AUSTIN, 78704

Phone #

☐ Limb by Limb

Pole # 238406 to Pole # 238406

☐ Refusal

☐ Non Contact

☐ Dogs in Yard

☐ Locked Gate

☐ Call Ahead

☐ Mitigation Trees

☐ Shared Trees

☐ Stump Treatment

#### Notes

HOTSPOTTED FOR VINES / ACCESS THROUGH ALLEY AT 905 AVONDALE

Total Trees Pruned	Total Trees Removed by Diameter at Breast Height				Brush
0	2-7.5" diam: 0	8-12.5" diam: 0	13-18.9" diam: 0	19 and greater" diam: 0	1

Ribbon Number	Action	Loc	Species	Exact Tree Size (in. DBH)	ROW	Type	Comments	Action Detail
1	Remove	R	Vines			Fast	REMOVE VINES FROM POLE AND SERVICE WIRES	Remove from around the pole

\*\*Austin Energy has developed an interim line clearance Standard that will be in place until a tree regrowth rate study has been completed, reviewed, and new pruning clearances have been established. At that time, your trees will be reviewed and additional clearances may be required.

Contractor	Crew Type	Crew Foreman	Start Date	Comp Date	Assess Date	Work Order
Wright Tree Service, Inc.	H/C	Scrimshaw	6-8-20	6-8-20	05-06-2020	18814

#### AE Representative

Name KYMBERLI HERRON  
Phone # 512-696-1072

Bob Patterson - verbal  
Property Owner or Legal Rep

5/13/20  
Date Signed

**Subject:** RE: 1311 Alta Vista

Treatment would have only been around the 2 poles. 1 pole along the side of the back yard and 1 pole along the alley. There are some dead vines along the fence by both poles. We wouldn't have sprayed the entire perimeter. Only at the poles where vines were cut.

Correct, there are some dead vines in the small hackberries. It appears customer raised canopy of these small trees and cut vines growing up the trunk of each small tree. The trees are alive; dead leaves are vines.

\*\*\* External email - Exercise caution \*\*\*

Here are some photos from 1311 Alta Vista. Vines cut on poles, but that's the only work that was done here by WTS.





It looks like customer or tenant did some recent pruning to some of the small trees in the back yard (not pruned by WTS). The ground is pretty bare here by the poles. I don't see any dead plants other than vines that were cut. Herbicide was likely applied to the cut vines, or else they would be most likely be growing back by now.



Some dead vines in small trees recently pruned by either customer or tenant?

---

**Jeff Vice**

Director, Local Government Issues

Austin Energy, 721 Barton Springs Rd, Austin TX 78704

O: 512-322-6087 | C: 512-497-0966

[austinenergy.com](http://austinenergy.com) | [twitter.com/austinenergy](https://twitter.com/austinenergy)

[linkedin.com/company/austin-energy](https://linkedin.com/company/austin-energy)



## **Electric Utility Commission**

### **Annual Internal Review**

**This report covers the time period of 7/1/2019 to 6/30/2020**

**The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:**

(A) The commission shall review and analyze all policies and procedures of the electric utility, including the electric rate structure, fuel costs and charges, customer services, capital investments, new generation facilities, selection of types of fuel, budget, strategic planning, regulatory compliance, billing procedures, and the transfer of electric utility revenues from the utility fund to the general fund.

(B) The commission shall advise the city council, the city manager, the electric utility, city departments, and city boards, commissions, and committees on policy matters relating to the electric utility. All advisory information given shall simultaneously be forwarded to the city manager.

(C) The commission may review, study, and make recommendations to the Planning Commission on proposed electric utility projects for inclusion in the Capital Improvements Program.

(D) The commission may request that the city council hire an outside consultant every five years to make a comprehensive review of the policies and procedures of the electric utility. The commission may initiate an external or internal review of the policies and procedures of the electric utility. If the commission initiates a review, it shall report its findings to the city council and the city manager.

(E) The commission shall interpret the role of the electric utility to the public and the role of the public to the electric utility. The commission may hold a public hearing and briefing session every six months to explain new policies and to take citizens comments, suggestions, and complaints.

(F) The commission may make recommendations to the city council before final council action on a policy or procedure of the electric utility.

(G) The commission shall request from the city manager any information that it deems to pertain to the electric utility.

(H) The commission shall, as a body, review customer complaint procedures, accept specific customer grievances and complaints, and make recommendations to the city council and city manager based on its findings. This duty does not supersede, replace, or substitute for the appeal procedures provided to customers in the City Utility Service Regulations.

(I) The commission shall seek to promote close cooperation between the city council, other city boards, committees, and commissions, city departments and individuals, institutions and agencies concerned with the policies, procedures, and operations of the electric utility to the end that all similar activities within the City may be coordinated to secure the greatest public welfare.

**1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

In keeping with its mission, the Electric Utility Commission (EUC) reviewed and analyzed policies and procedures of Austin Energy during the reporting period. The Commission:

- Reviewed, discussed and solicited public comments for approximately 80 procurement actions leading to Requests for Council Action (RCA's) and made recommendations to Austin City Council regarding these requests.
- Reviewed and discussed Austin Energy staff briefings, presentations and updates on subjects including: financial updates; operational updates; Decker decommissioning; Nacogdoches power plant acquisition; Climate Emergency declaration; Resource Plan; district cooling; transportation electrification; emission reductions; FPP operational data; AE vehicles; ERCOT market update; online customer care portal update (including AE's Energy Management Module vs. SmartMeter TX); purchasing processes and rules overview; Customer Care update; new AE Headquarters update; and overview of the budget.
- Continued the EV Working Group composed of Commissioners David Tuttle, Michael Osborne and Cary Ferchill and non-EUC member Joep Meijer to consider how the utility can foster the rapid deployment of electric vehicles in our community.
- Established the Electric Utility Commission Resource Planning Working Group to work in collaboration with Austin Energy to update the Austin Energy Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to 2025.

- Established the Climate Emergency Working Group to work on the Climate Action Plan.
- Elected new officers in May 2020. The Commission elected Marty Hopkins as Chair and elected Dave Tuttle as Vice-Chair.

**2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

Throughout the July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 timeframe the actions of the Electric Utility Commission complied with the mission statement (bylaws) as outlined in the Ordinance.

**3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.**

- Encourage public discussion on the future policies and programs of Austin Energy
- Provide educational and practical learning opportunities for EUC members to become more familiar with the actual operations of the utility, including tours of Austin Energy Facilities by EUC members.
- Provide public oversight of Austin Energy's annual budget and efforts to reduce costs and provide clean, reliable power
- Provide public oversight over long-term planning regarding electric rates
- Review and provide public input and oversight over Austin Energy's compliance with the Austin Climate Protection Plan, including how actions and proposed actions of the utility impact climate change, sustainability goals and water usage.
- Provide continued oversight and guidance regarding the Generation, Resource and Climate Protection Plan.
- Provide review for replacement of power from aging baseload and peaking assets that is consistent with the Council adopted plan.
- Encourage utility transparency in providing data important to the public, including data broken down by Council District. Encourage fair and equitable treatment of all customers.
- Encourage adoption and implementation of measures prioritized by the EUC Customer Assistance Program Working Group.
- Encourage equitable distribution of energy efficiency benefits to low and low

moderate-income customers and renters.

- Encourage excellence in Austin Energy customer satisfaction.
- Continue to review and advise on the Austin Energy EV and Emerging Technology programs.
- Provide public oversight over asset retirements and decommissioning.
- Encourage development of dispatchable renewable energy/storage facilities.



## Electric Utility Commission 2021 Meeting Schedule

The Electric Utility Commission meets monthly on the **second** Monday of the month, unless otherwise determined by the Commission. If the regular meeting day conflicts with a holiday, the meeting will be held on the following Monday. Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. in the Shudde Fath Conference Room at Austin Energy HQ, Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Road, Changes to the above regarding date, time or location will be noted on meeting agendas.

MEETING DATES	CANCELLED DATES
January 11, 2021	
February 8, 2021	
March 8, 2021	
April 12, 2021	
May 10, 2021	
June 14, 2021	
July 12, 2021	
August 9, 2021	
September 13, 2021	
October 11, 2021	
November 8, 2021	
	December 13, 2021*

\*Due to no subsequent Council Meetings in 2021

**EUC Report re Council Action  
October 12, 2020**

**Items below recommended by EUC August 10; Council approved on date indicated in parenthesis.**

14. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize award and execution of a multi-term contract with Techline Inc, to provide design and fabrication for transmission poles, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$15,000,000.
15. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize an amendment to an existing contract with Altec Industries, Inc., to provide customized utility vehicles, for an increase in the amount of \$9,500,000, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$30,500,000.

**Item below not recommended by EUC August 10; Council approved on date indicated in parenthesis.**

13. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of various cooperative contracts during the Fiscal Year 2020-2021, for the purchase of computer, network and other technology hardware, software and related maintenance and technology services, in an amount not to exceed \$62,000,000.

**Items below recommended by EUC September 14; Council approved on date indicated in parenthesis.**

2. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize an amendment to an existing cooperative contract with CDW LLC D/B/A CDW Government D/B/A CDWG D/B/A CDW Government LLC, to provide additional Trend Micro products and services, for an increase in the amount of \$110,262, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$268,000.
3. (9/17) [Capital Contracting] Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with Flintco, LLC for the Domain Four Chillers Demolition project in the amount of \$1,339,000 plus a \$66,950 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,405,950.
4. (9/17) [Austin Energy] Authorize issuance of energy efficiency program rebates by Austin Energy during Fiscal Year 2020-21, in an amount not to exceed \$2,700,000 for multifamily energy efficiency rebates and \$3,350,000 for commercial and small business energy efficiency rebates, for a total combined amount not to exceed \$6,050,000.
5. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Marsh USA, Inc. D/B/A Marsh Wortham, for Austin Energy property insurance and related services, for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed \$38,565,000.
6. (9/17) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Daniel L Sun Inc D/B/A Sun-Net Inc., to provide maintenance, support and system upgrades for the transmission outage scheduler, for a term of five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.
8. (10/1) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term cooperative contract with Unifirst Holdings, Inc D/B/A Unifirst Corporation, to provide rental and laundering of flame-resistant uniforms, for up to 63 months for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,827,000.
9. (10/1) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract with Power Cost, Inc., to provide a cloud hosted energy trading and risk management solution, for up to 12 years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,700,000.
10. (10/1) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Hyundai Power Transformers USA Inc., to provide a three-phase autotransformer for the Dunlap substation, in an amount not to exceed \$4,700,000.
14. (10/1) [Capital Contracting] Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with Santa Clara Construction, Ltd. (MBE), for the San Antonio Street Chilled Water Distribution Extension

## Item 18

project in the amount of \$4,322,891 plus a \$432,289 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,755,180.

**Items below recommended by EUC September 14; Council to review on date indicated in parenthesis.**

7. (10/15) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract with TGM Wind Services, LLC D/B/A Kardie Equipment, to provide maintenance, inspection and repair services, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$895,000.
11. (10/15) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract with Wright Tree Service, Inc, or one of the other qualified offerors, to provide distribution line clearance for street and nightwatchman lights, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.
12. (10/15) [Purchasing] Authorize negotiation and execution of two multi-term contracts with Cleaver-Brooks Sales and Services Inc. and Pro Serv Industrial Contractors, LLC, to provide heat recovery steam generator services, each for up to six years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$17,400,000 divided between the contractors.
13. (10/15) [Purchasing] Authorize an amendment to an existing contract with Great Western Managed Services Corporation D/B/A GWC (WBE), for continued grounds maintenance services for Austin Energy substations and adjacent areas, that would increase the amount by \$480,000 and extend the term for up to four years, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$600,000.