



Energy Efficiency for Existing Homes



June 4, 2009



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Overview

Austin Energy – Austin, Texas

- ◆ Municipal-Owned Electric Utility

- *10th Largest Municipal Utility*

- ◆ Serves > 888,000 Population

- *320,000 Residential*

- *40,000 Commercial*

- ◆ Generation – 2,700 MWs

- *Coal 35%, Nuclear 28%, Gas 28%,
Purchase Power 5%, Renewable 4%*



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Program History



Over 25 Years Promoting Energy Efficiency!

- ◆ Original Program Developed in 1982
 - Low Interest Loan Offered
- ◆ Core Group of Contractors
 - 4 to 5 Local Contractors

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Residential Efficiency



- ◆ Whole House Improvements
- ◆ Air Conditioning Rebates
- ◆ Duct Sealing
- ◆ Refrigerator Recycling
- ◆ Free Home Weatherization
- ◆ ENERGY STAR Lighting
- ◆ Online Energy Audits

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Home Performance with ENERGY STAR



Attic Insulation, Solar Screens, Window Film, Home Sealing, Duct Sealing, Duct Replacement, High Efficiency AC

Rebate

- ◆ Bonus Rebates of \$200 - \$650
- ◆ Covers up to 20% of Total Cost of Job
- ◆ Texas Gas Service Rebates
 - Attic Insulation, Duct Sealing

Loan

- ◆ Partnership with Local Credit Union
- ◆ 0%-5% APR Fixed Interest Loans
- ◆ 3 to 10 Year Term Options

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Contractor Training



Austin Energy Provides

- ◆ Contractor orientation – overview of our programs and requirements
- ◆ Free Building Performance Institute (BPI) classes

Austin Energy Requires

- ◆ BPI certification and orientation attendance
- ◆ Must perform HPwES jobs periodically
- ◆ Liability Insurance

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Marketing



Internal Austin Energy Department

- ◆ Bill Inserts, considered the most effective
- ◆ Newspaper inserts

Other

- ◆ Our contractors – part of contractor orientation is to teach them to up sell the services.

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Verification of Savings



1990s: savings were determined by DOE-2 analysis

- ◆ Calibrated models were used to determine the impact of various measures based on field data.

Recent:

- ◆ Independent report by National Renewable Energy Labs confirm energy savings.
- ◆ In house billing analysis is being developed to track savings and market trends

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Low Income Program



Eligible Improvements

- ◆ Attic Insulation
- ◆ Caulking and Weather-stripping
- ◆ Duct Sealing/Repair
- ◆ Solar Screens
- ◆ CFL Lighting

Stimulus Grants

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Energy Efficiency Audit and Disclosure (ECAD) Residential



Requires that before the sale of a single family home, owners must have an energy audit performed on the property and must provide a copy of the audit to the purchaser or prospective buyer

- ◆ Effective June 1, 2009
- ◆ Applicable inside Austin city limits **and** Austin Energy customers
 - Allows for recommended retrofits to receive a rebate
- ◆ Applies to houses built 10 years prior to current year
- ◆ Audit required once every 10 years
- ◆ Conservation participants within the last 10 years receiving rebates greater than \$500 are exempt
- ◆ Exceptions include: immanent demolition, distressed sale, etc.
- ◆ Low income residents are required to apply for Low Income Program
- ◆ Goal is to increase HPwES participation by 1,000 homes every year.

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ECAD Commercial



Commercial property owners must:

- ◆ Effective June 1, 2009
- ◆ Use Energy Star Portfolio Manager
- ◆ Benchmark building within 2 years
- ◆ Report results to Austin Energy

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ECAD Residential Key Points



Single Family Homes

- ◆ Duct Blower test
- ◆ Duct size assessment (adequate air flow)
- ◆ Inspect
 - Attic Insulation
 - Window Shading
 - Weather stripping and sealing of plumbing penetrations and other 'holes'

Will the contractors be ready?

- ◆ Doubling of HPwES participants
- ◆ Increasing Low Income by 2 to 3 times current levels
- ◆ Coordination with Workforce Commission and Austin Community College to train installers

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