

**Austin Generation Resource Planning Task Force
Information Request Responses
September 30, 2009**

Question submitted by the Task Force on 9/16/09.

Has Austin Energy conducted a needs-based assessment for low-income households? *Attached is a recent presentation on weatherization assistance. As one of the purposes of AE's weatherization assistance program for recent stimulus funding is to assist lower-income households and homes with higher energy burden, slide 14 of the presentation identifies potential program participants. This slide identifies eligible households in existing programs that target lower-income households. A more detailed needs-based assessment has not been conducted by AE to date.*

Follow-up to information request response provided to the Task Force on 9/23/09 as follows:

2. ERCOT: Please explain how ERCOT may be able to prevent AE from shuttering or reducing the output of FPP, including consideration of issues such as RMR [Reliability Must Run], Out of Merit Energy, and dispatch in a nodal market. If possible, please show a mock/hypothetical timeline and description of events that would need to take place in order to fully shut down Austin's share of the FPP plant. *There are two ways in which ERCOT can influence operation and or closure of any generating facility. Both currently and in the nodal market, ERCOT can start and operate any available generator up to its maximum capability if required for reliability purposes at any time irrespective of the owner's intended operating plan. Reliability purposes include transmission system limitations and/or generating capacity (including ancillary services) shortfalls. For these same reasons, any intended mothballing exceeding 180 days or closure of a generating facility must be approved by ERCOT. ERCOT may elect to maintain the operation of a generator via a one-year Reliability Must Run (RMR) agreement which may be extended annually by ERCOT board approval. Closure/mothball plans must be submitted to ERCOT for RMR review a minimum of 90 days in advance of a target closure date.*

Follow-Up Question submitted by Matt Johnson on September 24, 2009:

The answer to question 2 did not include any response to the mock/hypothetical timeline I asked about. Can someone address it please? *The timelines related to ERCOT notifications are the only hard-coded requirements with respect to a closure of the plant. It would be difficult to construct a hypothetical timeline beyond those requirements without first determining a target closure date and the disposition of the entire FPP facility as it relates to LCRA's rights and obligations.*