



## **Commercial Rebates**

### **DATA CENTER EFFICIENCY OVERVIEW**

#### **Program Description**

Austin Energy's Data Center Efficiency Rebate Program is offering incentives to data center facilities being planned and built within the service area of Austin's Electric Utility. These program incentives are intended to reduce the added incremental costs associated with the specification and installation of high efficiency technologies such as Massive Array of Idle Disk (MAID) storage systems, Virtual servers, and various 'Custom Technologies'.

Austin Energy wants to help you make the right decisions by off-setting the higher incremental costs associated with the increased efficiency levels of equipment being considered for inclusion in your project. Making the right decisions today means lower operating costs tomorrow; an absolute 'win-win' for data centers and utilities alike!

The data center owner, design professional, contractor or other designated representative or agent is eligible to apply to Austin Energy for rebates on Data Center facilities. All levels of Data Center facilities are eligible (enterprise, corporate, and server closets).

Incentives are available for Retrofit and New Construction projects. Eligible equipment in the **Data Center Efficiency Program** is to include the following high efficiency technologies:

1. Uninterruptible Power Supplies
2. Chillers / Cooling Towers
3. Massive Array Idle Disk (MAID) Storage Systems
4. Virtualized Servers (Retrofit only)
5. Thermal Energy Storage Systems
6. Custom Technologies (various technologies qualify).

Thermal Storage Systems are likewise an option for inclusion in new (or remodeled) structures. The most economical time to invest in energy efficiency is during the initial design and construction phase of a new building or during major remodels of existing structures.

A representative will assist you with the process and to help determine eligibility and make recommendations. The program will pay specific rebates in each of the categories listed above for building system components.

Qualifying equipment that is required to pass COA permitting must pass all City of Austin Building and Energy Code inspections prior to payment. Multiple applications can be submitted for a single project, for qualifying equipment installed in the facility. Rebate payments cannot exceed \$200,000.00 per site (per fiscal year) including any eligible bonus payments. Any single expenditure in excess of \$49,000.00 requires Council approval prior to the issuance of any incentive funds.

Businesses may be eligible for the Commercial New Construction program bonus or Small Business Non-Profit bonus per those qualifications.

### **Program Guidelines & Eligibility Criteria**

To participate in the Data Center Efficiency Program, the following guidelines must be observed. Specific requirements that cover each data center component rebate likewise apply.

- 1) Each participant must be served by Austin Energy and be metered as a commercial customer (once the permanent meter is installed).
- 2) New Construction projects shall pass Energy Code review by the 'One Stop Shop' in the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department and also adhere to the New Construction Program in order to qualify for rebate payments.
- 3) A Rebate Application must be submitted with the required documentation for each qualifying data center component. Applications must be submitted to Austin Energy before the new replacement technology is installed. This early involvement in the planning process will give Austin Energy personnel the opportunity to provide input to the project engineers and make an estimate of available incentive funds for qualifying technologies.
- 4) Projects outside the established City limits of Austin, Texas but served by Austin Energy are eligible to participate.
- 5) Efficiency improvements resulting from rebate payments must remain in place and be maintained for five (5) years, unless stated otherwise on the rebate applications, from the date that rebate funds are issued to the customer.
- 6) All the equipment installed and work performed shall be in accordance with all applicable national, state, local and manufacturer's codes and applicable local standards.
- 7) Rebate Applications exceeding \$49,000.00 will require City Council approval.
- 8) A final inspection of all qualifying equipment will be conducted once the site is accessible. The client, contractor, responsible agent or owner is responsible for scheduling this on-site inspection.
- 9) After proposed rebate items pass final inspection, the final rebate payment will be determined.
- 10) Rebates are based upon summer peak kW savings. All eligible components must reduce peak electrical demand for a minimum of four hours during the summer (May-October) peak demand period from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. weekdays.

*The Austin Energy guidelines and rebate levels are subject to change at any time, without notice.*

**Austin Energy – Power Saver™ Program – Commercial Rebate**  
811 Barton Springs Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. Austin, TX 78704. Phone (512) 482-5346. FAX (512) 505-4026  
Email: [conservation@austinenergy.com](mailto:conservation@austinenergy.com) website: [www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com)



## **Commercial Rebates**

### **DATA CENTER EFFICIENCY PROCEDURES**

#### **Step 1**

Complete and submit a Participation Request Form. An Austin Energy Commercial Energy Management representative will contact the participant to determine the data center status, explain the program, and offer additional energy related technical assistance (as requested and if needed).

#### **Step 2 (for New Construction only)**

Complete and submit documents for permitting (including all Energy Code forms) to the 'One Stop Shop' at the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department. The 'One Stop Shop' is located at 505 Barton Springs Road in Austin, Texas.

#### **Step 3**

Complete and submit all Rebate Application forms (with all required specification documents or cut-sheets). Program guidelines for specific technology areas are available at [www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com).

#### **Step 4**

The Rebate Application form(s) will be reviewed by the Austin Energy representative for program eligibility. Estimates of rebate amounts will be made available to program participants as requested.

#### **Step 5**

**A pre-inspection is required for retrofit projects.** Contract an Austin Energy representative to schedule.

#### **Step 6**

Once the project is complete, Austin Energy's final inspection is conducted to verify that all qualifying technologies have been installed as reflected on the application forms.

#### **Step 7**

Final exact rebate amounts are determined based upon the actual equipment installed. A schedule of construction costs and/or invoices may be requested for final approval of the rebate payment.

#### **Step 8**

A rebate check is sent to the designated financial contact for the project. Any rebate exceeding \$49,000 must go through City Council approval.

*The Austin Energy guidelines and rebate levels are subject to change at any time, without notice.*

#### **Austin Energy – Power Saver™ Program – Commercial Rebate**

811 Barton Springs Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. Austin, TX 78704. Phone (512) 482-5346. FAX (512) 505-4026  
Email: [conservation@austinenergy.com](mailto:conservation@austinenergy.com) website: [www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com)