

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
New Technology Implementation Grant (NTIG) Program  
Quarterly Project Status Report**

**Contract  
Number:**

582-15-54066-1471

**Grantee:**

City of Austin – Austin Energy (AE)

**Report for the  
Monthly Period:**

Q4 2015 (Oct-Dec 2015)

**Date**

**Submitted:** December 31, 2015

**Section I. Accomplishments**

*Provide a bulleted list of project accomplishments as well as a description of their importance to the project.*

- Received approval from Austin City Council on October 1, 2015 to enter into a contract with 1Energy for the ESS Pilot Project
- Negotiations and contract finalization with 1Energy are underway
- Through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with PowerFin Partners, continued preparatory work necessary in advance of site construction of the solar PV facility. Such work included site studies, site zoning, community outreach and initial steps for the site plan engineering phase

*Indicate which part of the Grant Activities as defined in the grant agreement, the above accomplishments are related to:*

- The first two bullets above relate to Task 1. The contract with 1Energy must be in place for AE to meet Task 1 deliverables. The accomplishments described above are in accordance with City of Austin procurement policies.
- The last bullet above relates to Task 2. AE has selected a vendor for construction and operation of the adjacent solar PV facility to be integrated with the grid. The work underway is in preparation for Task 5: Completing and commissioning the adjacent solar PV facility.

## **Section II: Problems/Solutions**

*Problem(s) Identified: Report anticipated or unanticipated problem(s) encountered and effect(s) on the progress of the project*

- a) AE financial tracking for the ESS Pilot Project may not align to the Project Budget Categories originally identified in the Grant Contract.
- b) Determined the original battery supplier of choice will not fully meet the requirements for the Modular Energy Storage Architecture (MESA) standard for energy storage which is a critical requirement to meet Austin Energy's operational and safety needs. Switching vendors has resulted in a delay in putting the contract in place with the battery integrator, 1Energy Systems. As a result, Grant Activities may not meet the original schedule.
- c) Grant Activities language references to battery vendor need to be updated.

*Proposed Solution(s): Report any possible solution(s) to the problem(s) that were considered/encountered*

- a) After further review, AE may request amendment to the Approved Grant Budget section of the Grant Contract.
- b) AE and 1Energy have worked expeditiously to reduce the delay in schedule and are in the final stages of contract negotiation. After the contract with 1Energy is executed, AE will assess the ESS Pilot Project schedule to determine if AE and its subcontractor can meet the given schedule. If necessary, AE will request amendment to the Grant Contract.
- c) Proposed new Grant Activities language, which provides flexibility to avoid the need for future amendments.

*Action(s) Conducted and Results: Describe the action(s) taken to resolve the problem(s) and effect(s) had*

- a) AE expects to mitigate any identified issue by proposing an appropriate amendment to realign project financial tracking with the TCEQ approved budget. AE does not foresee any change to the overall TCEQ grant project total.
- b) Negotiations and contract finalization with 1Energy are underway with contract execution expected Q1 2016.
- c) AE contacted TCEQ when item first arose to gain consensus on a path forward. TCEQ review of proposed Grant Activities language currently underway.

**Section III. Goals and Issues for Succeeding Period:**

*Provide a brief description of the goal(s) you hope to realize in the coming period and identify any notable challenges that can be foreseen*

During Q1 2016 and regarding the ESS Pilot Project, AE expects to enter into a contract with 1Energy. AE, through its contract with 1Energy, plans to continue preparatory work necessary in advance of site construction. Such work includes initiating detailed design, permitting and equipment procurement.

During Q1 2016 and regarding the adjacent solar PV facility, AE, through its PPA with PowerFin Partners, plans to perform site plan engineering work and initiate detailed engineering/final design work.

  
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Authorized Project Representative's Signature

Date: 12/30/2015

**NOTE:** *Please attach any additional information that you feel should be a part of your report or that may be required to meet the deliverable requirements for tasks completed during this reporting period.*

