

**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: Q1 2016 (Jan-Mar 2016) **Date Submitted:** March 31, 2016

Section I. Accomplishments

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

- Completed amendment to the TCEQ award contract to update battery supplier references
- Continued negotiations and contract finalization with the energy storage integrator, 1Energy Systems
- Continued necessary preparatory work in advance of site construction of the solar PV facility, including site studies 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 bullet relates to Task 1. The original battery supplier of choice did not fully meet the requirements for the Modular Energy Storage Architecture (MESA) standard for energy storage, which is a critical design requirement to meet Austin Energy’s operational and safety needs.
- The second bullet relates to Task 1. The contract with 1Energy must be in place for AE to meet Task 1 deliverables.
- The last bullet above relates to Task 2. PowerFin Partners is AE’s selected vendor for construction and operation of 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) Contracting with the energy storage integrator, 1Energy Systems, has been delayed in part due to the change in battery supplier. This has resulted in a delay in meeting Grant Activity deadlines.
- c) During site studies associated with the adjacent solar PV facility, AE and PowerFin encountered two challenges to project development: results of the site's tree survey and discovery of a misplaced gas line easement. Mitigation of these issues has resulted in a delay in meeting Grant Activity deadlines.

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 are working to complete contract negotiations for the Energy Storage System. After items b and c are resolved and updated project schedules are available, AE will request amendment to the Grant Contract to adjust Grant Activity deadlines.
- c) AE and PowerFin are working to finalize the site layout for the solar PV facility that will allow it to continue to meet TCEQ award requirements. After items b and c are resolved and updated project schedules are available, AE will request amendment to the Grant Contract to adjust Grant Activity deadlines.

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

- a) AE discussed its proposed changes with TCEQ staff during a face-to-face meeting at TCEQ offices in February 2016. 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 Q2 2016.
- c) AE and PowerFin are working toward solutions to keep the project underway. PowerFin is developing an amended site plan that minimizes and mitigates tree impacts, and AE is working with the gas company to correct the easement boundaries.

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 Q2 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.

During Q2 2016 and regarding the adjacent solar PV facility, AE, through its PPA with PowerFin Partners, plans to perform site plan engineering work and work toward obtaining site plan approval.



Date: 3/31/16

Authorized Project Representative's Signature

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.*

