





Austin Energy Resource Plan Update Getting Austin to Quit Coal (for real this time)

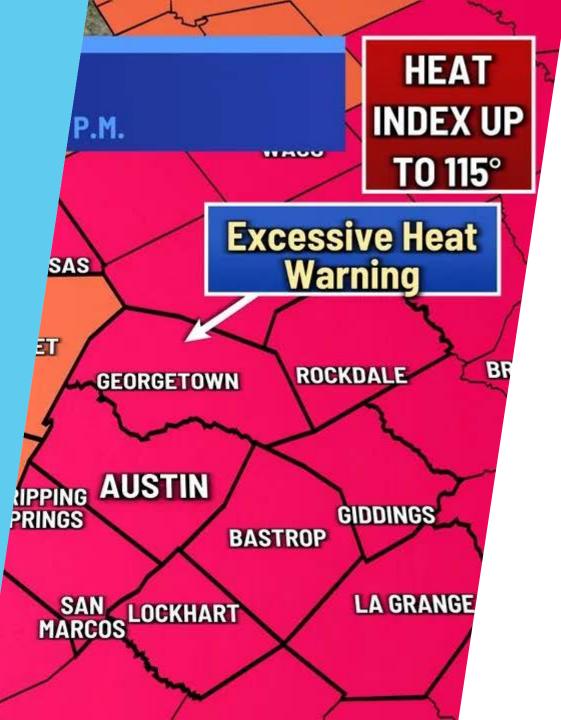




Austin Energy Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan

- Plan for how Austin Energy will meet the community's energy needs in the future
- Carbon-free by 2035
 - 86% carbon-free by year-end 2025
 - 93% carbon-free by year-end 2030
- Commitment to no new carbon generating assets
- Retire AE's portion of the Fayette coal plant by the end of 2022 (before that, reduce usage of the plant)
- Retire Decker gas plant units in 2020 and 2021
- Local solar goals
- Energy efficiency goals
- Energy storage goals





Why Now?

- In December 2022, the Austin City Council passed a resolution directing Austin Energy to update the Austin Energy Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan.
- The update is happening now because:
 - Austin Energy failed to shut down its portion of the Fayette coal plant by the end of 2022.
 - Austin Energy completed a transmission study that is key to determining if the carbon-free goal established in the current plan can be moved from 2035 to 2030 (or some other date).
 - Federal legislation over the past couple of years has created new and expanded incentives for energy efficiency, solar, wind, and energy storage.
- The climate crisis is here now, and emissions must be rapidly reduced.





Fayette Coal Plant

- Fayette is Austin's biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions (29%) and other air pollution
- Fayette also ranks among the biggest sources of pollution statewide

Pollutant	Tons in 2021	Rank in TX
СО	6,970	4th
NOx	6,490	2 nd
PM10	912	4th
PM2.5	889	4 th
SO2	1,117	25 th

Buried coal ash from Fayette is leaking into groundwater at the site





Fayette, cont.

- Two of the three units at Fayette are coowned by Austin Energy and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), which is controlled by a board appointed by Gov. Abbott
- No exit clause in the ownership agreement between Austin Energy and the LCRA, and negotiations to shut down Austin Energy's portion of the plant failed.
- Austin Energy cites affordability as the barrier but hasn't defined "affordability".
- Austin City Council does not review expenditures on the plant, unlike for most city expenses over \$65,000.
- Austin Energy and the LCRA both serve and have equal voting authority on the Fayette Management Committee, which votes on annual budgets and capital expenses for the co-owned units.





What's Happening

- In a departure from past practice, Austin Energy says it doesn't need a working group to advise on the update.
- Electric Utility Commission disagreed and created a Resource Planning Working Group anyway. It includes:
- Members of the Electric Utility Commission
- Member of the Resource Management Commission
- Community members that represent different customer classes and segments of residential customers, including lowincome and renters
- The working group meeting will be open to the public.
- ► <u>AustinEUCResourcePlanningWG.org</u>





What You Can Do

- Attend public meetings and speak about why shutting down Austin's part of the Fayette coal plant needs to be a top priority.
 - Electric Utility Commission (EUC) meetings
- EUC Resource Planning Working Group Meetings
- Austin City Council meetings (General Communication)
- Austin City Council Austin Energy Electric
 Utility Oversight Committee meetings
- ► Email the Austin City Council
- Share information with your community
- Show up at events
- Get your organization(s) to sign on to a letter supporting Fayette retirement (coming later)



Questions?

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