

# Candidate Questionnaire on Austin Energy Issues

## Participating Organizations:

- Public Citizen
- SEED Coalition
- Sierra Club
- Solar Austin
- Texas ROSE (Ratepayers' Organization to Save Energy)
- Clean Water Action
- Austin Climate Action Network
- Texas Drought Project
- First Unitarian Universalist Green Sanctuary Ministry
- Wildflower Unitarian Universalist Church

**Candidate Name:** Jason Denny

**District:** 5

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- 1. The mission of the Austin Energy Department is to deliver clean, affordable reliable energy and excellent customer service. During your term, what will be the most important challenge for the city in regard to Austin Energy?**

Ensuring that cost saving measures are in place and being applied to lower consumer costs for energy. Affordability in Austin must be a priority and that extends to affordable utilities.

- 2. From a citywide and district perspective, briefly describe your vision for managing and improving Austin Energy?**

Again, I return to ensuring that every possible step is taken to make energy more affordable to the residents of Austin. Whether this includes exploring alternative energy sources, cutting wasteful spending at Austin Energy, or other measures, we must act in the best interests of our residents.

- 3. What is your position on climate change?**

I believe that there is a change in global climate occurring but I also believe that the changes are cyclical and that we can do things to mitigate the effects in the short term.

- 4. Do you support implementation of the recommendations in the report developed by the [Austin Generation Resource Planning Task Force](#) and are there any other specific changes you would like made to the [Austin Energy Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to 2020](#)? What would you change and how?**

I look forward to working with stakeholders in the community to perfect this plan. I think this is a good start but things can always be made better.

- 5. City Council serves as the board of directors for Austin Energy. As a council member, what do you consider your role to be in regard to Austin Energy's governance?**

My role as a city council member is to represent my district. I will fight to make sure that my residents are treated fairly and that their costs are kept to a minimum.

**6. What renewable energy resources and programs should be incorporated into the Austin Energy generation resource mix?**

I believe Austin Energy should be exploring additional ways to serve our community. Solar Power has made incredible gains in recent years and should be explored extensively.

**7. How and to what extent should Austin Energy provide customer energy efficiency programs?**

The more efficient our energy usage is the lower our costs. Programs that help our residents save money should be utilized whenever possible.

**8. What are your thoughts on whether Austin Energy should invest in more nuclear reactors and whether the utility should remain involved in the existing South Texas Project reactors after their currently scheduled retirement dates of 2027 and 2028 if they get relicensed for 20 additional years?**