

# Candidate Questionnaire on Climate and Energy

350 Austin, Solar Austin, Earth Day Austin, Shades of Green

**Candidate Name:** Reedy Spigner

**Candidate For:** Austin District 1 Council Member

**1. What are your top three priorities for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Austin, and what actions would you take to implement needed changes?**

- Increase constituent education surrounding recycling and composting for both residential and commercial constituents.
- Increasing the number of energy efficient products purchased and used in municipal buildings.
- Advocating commercial recycling. Additionally, recycling has the added benefit of creating jobs in recycling processing.

**2. As mayor or council member, you will be a member of the Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee. What will you do to make sure that Austin Energy takes the necessary steps to phase out its use of fossil fuels for power generation by 2030?**

As a member of the AEUO I will diligently research and advocate for sensible solutions to ensure the goal is met.

**3. Despite declining costs of solar, many low income residents and multi-family housing tenants are challenged to participate in Austin Energy's existing rooftop solar programs. Do you think it is important to expand access to solar by developing targeted programs and policies at Austin Energy? Please explain.**

Yes. I think it is important to expand access to solar by developing targeted programs and policies at Austin Energy. For solar or any energy efficiency program to be successful it must have mass support. Mass support leads to volume discounts and efficiencies.

**4. Local, distributed scale solar installation has produced values to the utility, community and the local economy. Do you support the expansion of utility**

**investment programs (including rebates) for installing solar locally within the Austin Energy territory? Please explain.**

Yes. I support the expansion of utility investment programs (including rebates) for installing solar locally within the Austin Energy. These programs serve as effective mechanisms to educate and reward consumers of energy efficiency.

**5. What specific role and responsibility do you see Austin taking in responding to local, regional and international impacts of climate change, including preparing for large numbers of people displaced by extreme weather events?**

As the capital city of Texas we are the standard-bearer and are expected to lead. How we react to new developments impacts the reaction of other municipalities. My experience in emergency preparedness guides my opinion that we should be prepared for all large emergencies including extreme weather events.