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## Insights from UT Austin Energy Poll on U.S. Consumer Attitudes

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Impartial and authoritative source of public perspectives on energy to inform and guide discussion, business planning and policy development **Background** 

- First questionnaire developed in 2010 (Inaugural launch Oct. 2011)
- Collaborative effort with representatives from academic institutions, polling companies, non-governmental organizations, energy producers and energy consumers

#### Fall 2012 – Third Release

- Online survey conducted September 6-17, 2012
- 2,092 respondents, weighted to reflect U.S. Census demographics

#### Spring 2013 – Fourth Release

- Online survey conducted March 11-20, 2013
- 2,113 respondents, weighted to reflect U.S. Census demographics

#### General Topics

- Energy prices and availability
- Energy concerns
- Satisfaction with government
- Consumer behaviors and voting preferences

#### "Hot Topics"

Spring 2012: Hydraulic Fracturing Fall 2012: Energy, Voting Behavior, and the 2013 Election Spring 2013: Consumer Attitudes on Energy

Fall 2013: The Water-Energy Nexus

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

### ENERGY ------ POLL

#### A Look At Respondents: Spring 2013



# Who do you trust to provide information on how to conserve energy?

Academic / scientific community Environmental groups Renewable energy companies Your electric provider Retail stores such as Home Depot or Best Buy The media (radio, TV, online, print, etc.) Local government office / agency US business community Federal government office / agency State government office / agency Oil and gas companies



# Who do you trust to provide information on how to conserve energy?



### Trust the academic/scientific community to provide information on how to conserve energy



# Trust the U.S. business community to provide information on how to conserve energy



# How likely is it that you will do each of the following within the next 5 years?



Sep-11 Sep-12

September 2011 Base: 3406, September 2012 Base: 2092. All results based on weighted data

# How likely is it that you will do each of the following within the next 5 years?



**Energy Efficient Appliances** 



**Energy Efficient Appliances** 

### Northeast (CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT)

### Midwest (IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI)

#### South

# (AL, AR, DC, DE, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV)

### West (AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY)



#### **Energy Efficient Appliances**







## Likely to improve insulation in the next 5 years 60% 50% 40% 40% 36% 30% 20% 10%

**0%** + March 2013 Base: 2113. All results based on weighted data

Female

Male





## Likely to improve insulation in the next 5 years





## Likely to install solar panels in the next 5 years



#### **Solar Panels**

## Likely to install solar panels in the next 5 years



September 2012 Base: 2092 All results based on weighted data

#### **Solar Panels**



#### **Solar Panels**



September 2012 Base: 2092 All results based on weighted data









Likely to purchase energy efficient light bulbs in the next 5 years



## Likely to purchase energy efficient light bulbs in the next 5 years





### Likely to have a home energy audit performed in the next 5 years





Likely to have a home energy audit performed in the next

## Likely to have a home energy audit performed in the next 5 years



#### **Smart Meters**



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#### **Smart Meters**



#### **Smart Meters**



#### Hybrid Vehicles



#### Hybrid Vehicles





All results based on weighted data

#### Hybrid Vehicles



# Which of the following is more likely to lead you to reduce your overall electricity consumption?



Which is more likely to lead you to shift your electricity consumption from peak periods of the day to off-peak periods?



### Which of the following best reflects your attitude on energy usage labels at major retail stores?



Over the next five years, how do you think U.S. energy policy will affect your choices for more affordable and clean energy?



March 2012 Base: 2371, September 2012 Base: 2092, March 2013 Base 2113 All results based on weighted data Party differences on whether U.S. energy policy will improve choices for more affordable and clean energy



# Which of the following is more likely to lead you to reduce your household water consumption?



#### Do you think climate change is occurring?



March 2012 Base: 2371, July 2012 Base: 1029. September 2012 Base: 2092, March 2013 Base: 2113 All results based on weighted data

#### Do you think climate change is occurring?



March 2012 Base: 2371. September 2012 Base: 2092, March 2013 Base: 2113 All results based on weighted data

# Regional differences among Americans who think that climate change is occurring:



Indicate if you think each of the following is a significant factor contributing to global climate change:



March 2013 Base: 2113. All results based on weighted data

# Which of the following best reflects your views on the relationship between the environment and the economy?



# Would you be more likely to vote for a presidential candidate who supports..?





How satisfied are you with the job that each is doing to address the energy issues most important to you?



Compared to most people you know, how knowledgeable are you about how energy is produced, delivered and used?



Compared to most people you know, how knowledgeable are you about how energy is produced, delivered and used?



All results based on weighted data

#### How concerned are you about each of the following?



Cost of electricity Portion of your household budget spent on energy

Consumption of oil from foreign sources

Developing renewable sources of energy

Energy efficiency of your home

Depletion of water resources

Effect of our nation's energy production and consumption on carbon emissions

Impact of domestic oil drilling and production on the natural environment

> Impact of hydraulic fracturing on the natural environment

# Which benefits do you most associate with natural gas production?



All results based on weighted data

## Which benefits do you most associate with renewable energy sources?











Americans familiar with the term 'hydraulic fracturing' (sometimes referred to as 'fracking')?



March 2012 Base: 2371, September 2012 Base: 2092, March 2013 Base 2113 All results based on weighted data

## When it comes to dealing with energy issues that face our nation, do you think things are headed in...?



September 2011 Base: 3406, March 2012 Base: 2371, September 2012 Base: 2092, March 2013 Base 2113 All results based on weighted data

#### How relevant are energy issues to you?



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#### For more information:

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