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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Capital and Alamo Regions Launch Massive Clean Air Initiative

April 17, 2009 – Austin, TX On Monday, April 20, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m., on the South steps of the State Capitol (11th Street and Congress Avenue), area elected officials and dignitaries will host a press conference and rally in support of the regions' "Big Push" initiative to remain in compliance with federal health-based standards for ground-level ozone. Attendees will include Texas legislators Senator Kirk Watson, Senator Leticia Van de Putte, Senator Judith Zaffirini, and Representative Donna Howard, as well as Austin Mayor Will Wynn, Round Rock Mayor Alan McGraw, Comal County Commissioner Jay Millkin, Williamson County Commissioner Lisa Birkman, Travis County Commissioners Sarah Eckhardt, Ron Davis and Karen Huber, Hays County Commissioner Karen Ford and others.

Senator Watson and Representative Howard will present concurrent resolution HCR 177, which directs state agencies to initiate emission reduction policies and programs in order to help Central and South Central Texas meet the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ground-level ozone.

The rally will celebrate the unveiling of an exciting, region-wide public awareness campaign, "Ozone Action Heroes," that empowers, educates and encourages residents and businesses to join the growing force of Ozone Action Heroes to improve our air quality. By committing to at least three simple, yet heroic, actions such as refueling after 6:00 p.m., checking tire pressure and turning off the lights, we will win the battle against air pollution. Aspiring Ozone Action Heroes will be asked to take the "Your air. Your commitment." pledge online at www.ozoneheroes.com. Please RSVP and direct questions to Lauren Churchin, PGC, email: LChurchin@pgccreative.com.

