

Media Contact: Michael Rey 214-224-2237 mrey@ntta.org Customer Contact: 972-818-NTTA (6882) CustomerService@NTTA.org www.NTTA.org

NTTA REDUCES CARBON FOOTPRINT, ENHANCES SUSTAINABILTY EFFORTS AND SAVES MONEY WITH SELECTION OF NEW POWER PROVIDER

Four Year Commitment Reduces Carbon Dioxide Emissions

PLANO, Texas – March 20, 2013 – The North Texas Tollway Authority will lower the cost it pays for electricity and reduce its carbon footprint under an agreement with a new power provider. The NTTA signed a four year contract with lowest responsible bidder Green Mountain Energy, ensuring at least 10 percent of Authority power use will be wind-sourced beginning in January 2014.

The renewable energy to supply the NTTA will be purchased in the form of wind Renewable Energy Certificates, the industry standard for accounting for renewable electricity generation. Purchasing RECs ensures that 10 percent of the estimated energy used by NTTA is added to the U.S. power grid from renewable sources. By choosing renewable energy over standard system power, the NTTA will avoid producing 7.4 million pounds of carbon dioxide over the course of the four year commitment - the equivalent of taking 720 cars off the road for a year.

This move will be in concert with other NTTA sustainability efforts, including native landscaping to aid in tree and shrub sustainability and reducing ozone-causing traffic congestion through cashless toll collection, which removes idling, acceleration and deceleration at toll plazas as it lowers fuel consumption and reduces vehicle emissions.

The NTTA also protects water resources along roadways with aggressive storm water management and cleanup programs, complete turf coverage to reduce erosion and limited use of herbicides and pesticides. The Authority also uses a smart irrigation system, which adjusts run times based on weather conditions, eliminates run-off and saves millions of gallons of water annually.

As the power changeover date approaches, the NTTA will become eligible to join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partnership, a voluntary program that encourages organizations to use green power as a way to reduce environmental impacts associated with conventional electricity use. The partnership currently lists more than 1,400 partner organizations voluntarily using billions of kilowatt-hours of green power annually.

For more on NTTA sustainability efforts, visit <u>NTTA.org</u>.

About the NTTA

The North Texas Tollway Authority, a political subdivision of the state of Texas, is authorized to acquire, construct, maintain, repair and operate turnpike projects in the north Texas region. The <u>nine-member</u> <u>board</u> is comprised of Chairman Kenneth Barr; Vice Chairman Bill Moore; and Directors David Denison, William D. Elliot, Matrice Ellis-Kirk, Mojy Haddad, Michael Nowels, George "Tex" Quesada and Jane Willard.

The NTTA serves Collin, Dallas, Denton and Tarrant counties and owns and operates the Dallas North Tollway, President George Bush Turnpike, Sam Rayburn Tollway, Addison Airport Toll Tunnel, Lewisville

Lake Toll Bridge and the Mountain Creek Lake Bridge. The NTTA is able to raise capital for construction projects through the issuance of turnpike revenue bonds. NTTA toll projects are not a part of the state highway system and receive no direct tax funding. Tolls are collected to repay debt and to operate and maintain the roadways.