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**CITY OF AUSTIN PRESENTED REGIONAL RECYCLING LEADERSHIP AWARD BY
THE RECHARGEABLE BATTERY RECYCLING CORPORATION**

Household Hazardous Waste Program Recognized for Rechargeable Battery Recycling

AUSTIN, TX, April 7, 2008 – The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC), a nonprofit, public service organization dedicated to recycling used rechargeable batteries, has recognized Austin’s Department of Solid Waste Services, Household Hazardous Waste program with a 2007 “Regional Recycling Leadership Award” for its efforts in rechargeable battery recycling. The award was presented on April 4 to Veronica Garza, Austin Department of Solid Waste Services, Household Hazardous Waste Program.

A **Call2Recycle™** participant since 2004, Austin’s Department of Solid Waste Services has collected more than 13,000 pounds of rechargeable batteries to date. The department has a comprehensive public education program designed to build and maintain awareness of recycling used rechargeable batteries as well as the ability to recycle them at the Household Hazardous Waste recycling center or approximately 30 participating retail locations. In addition, a staff presence at community events such as Green Garden Expo, Green City Festival, and other department-sponsored electronics collection events, environmental fairs and school education events have helped encourage rechargeable battery and cell phone recycling in the Austin metro area.

“*Call2Recycle* is a wonderful program that is so beneficial to the city of Austin,” said Veronica Garza, Austin Department of Solid Waste Services. “To be able to recycle rechargeable batteries in a free and simple way is a tremendous asset to our local environmental preservation efforts, and receiving this award is truly an honor for us.”

“The Household Hazardous Waste Program in Austin is an outstanding recycling program for the community in Austin,” said Linda Gabor, Director of Marketing and Media Relations, RBRC. “The hard work and dedication of the staff, as well as their willingness to go above and beyond in recycling rechargeable batteries, has made this program the success that it is today.”

The RBRC Recycling Leadership Awards recognizes outstanding *Call2Recycle* participants each year for their exceptional efforts in rechargeable battery recycling. The awards are divided into regional and national categories with four U.S. regional award winners and two national award winners – one from the United States and one from Canada.

RBRC's *Call2Recycle* program is available to communities and public agencies without any associated fees. There are currently more than 6,000 communities and public agencies enrolled in the program in the U.S. and Canada. For more information on implementing a recycling program, contact RBRC toll free at 877-2-RECYCLE or visit www.call2recycle.org.

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About RBRC

The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) is a nonprofit, public service organization dedicated to rechargeable battery recycling. There are over 50,000 retail, business, and community collection locations enrolled in RBRC's rechargeable battery recycling program throughout Canada and the United States. RBRC is funded by more than 350 manufacturers and marketers of portable rechargeable batteries and products. RBRC's public education campaign and recycling program is the result of the rechargeable power industry's commitment to conserve natural resources and prevent rechargeable batteries from entering the solid waste stream. In pursuit of its mission, RBRC also collects old cell phones. Cell phones collected through the **Call2Recycle™** program will be recycling or refurbished and resold when possible with a portion of the proceeds benefiting select charities. Contributions or gifts to RBRC are not tax deductible. For more information, call 877-2-RECYCLE or visit www.call2recycle.org.