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**STATE AWARDS TOP TRANSPERANCY RANKING TO THE BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY
WITH FOR SECOND YEAR**

WACO, Texas (Oct 22, 2014) – The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts has awarded the Brazos River Authority the state’s highest ranking for financial transparency for the second year in the form of the Platinum Leadership Circle Award. The BRA received the Gold Leadership Circle Award in 2013.

The BRA received the “Platinum” ranking in Texas special districts category of the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle. According to the Comptroller’s Office, the ranking is reserved for those organizations that “go above and beyond providing financial transparency.” The BRA application scored 20 points of 22 possible on the Comptrollers rating criteria to earn the award.

The state used four major criteria in determining the BRA’s ranking, including public availability of the current budget, annual financial report, check register and a webpage or menu dedicated to financial transparency. The BRA makes all these documents and more available online and they can be easily found on our dedicated financial information page at www.brazos.org/FinancialReports.asp. In addition, several minor criteria were used to rank the BRA, including ease of access to documents and public information request instructions.

This marks the second year the BRA has applied for the award. The Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle was created to recognize local governments across Texas that strive to meet a high standard for financial transparency online, according to the Comptroller’s Office.

In addition to this latest award, the BRA has received the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting every year since 1986 for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

To learn more about the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle, please go to http://www.texastransparency.org/Local_Government/Leadership_Circle

For further information, please contact BRA Assistant Public Information Officer Mike Anderson at (254) 761-3174.

About the Brazos River Authority

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The BRA built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the BRA contracts with the US Army Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton and the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System for the City of Round Rock. The BRA also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Dime Box, Clute-Richwood, Sugar Land, and Hutto.

The BRA owns and operates regional water treatment systems in East Williamson County for the City of Taylor. The BRA also operates potable water treatment plant for the cities of Dime Box and Leander.

The BRA engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the Authority samples and tests water from 130 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly, quarterly or annual basis.

For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Mike Anderson, Assistant Public Information Officer at 254-761-3174.