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NEWS RELEASE

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Texas Civil Engineers Release Report that Finds State's Infrastructure in Need Texas' Water Supply and Roads & Highways Given Failing Grades

Austin, Texas— In a new report, Texas's civil engineers awarded the state's infrastructure system a "C" grade due to a significant lack of both long-term maintenance planning and sustainable funding. Released by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Texas Section on January 14 in Austin, the *2012 Report Card for Texas' Infrastructure* (Report Card) evaluates the state's infrastructure systems by categories, assigning individual sectors letter grades.

"As a state, we do a poor job of thinking of our infrastructure as a long-term investment. We can either invest in our future now, or, pay even more later on if we fail to meet even the most obvious needs," said Crespín Guzman, PE, Executive Director of the ASCE Texas Section. "Texas is currently in a critical state when it comes to adequate water supply and transportation infrastructure. The longer we ignore these major concerns, the longer we jeopardize everyone's quality of life."

Texas has many areas of need. The infrastructure categories with the lowest grades were Drinking Water, Schools and Dams. All three were awarded a "D—" due to capacity and funding issues representing a significant concern that attention to current and future issues are not being addressed. Other category grades include: Roads & Highways (D), Bridges (B-), Transit (C+), Aviation (C+), Wastewater (C-), Solid Waste (B+), Navigable Waterways (C), Flood Control (D), and Energy (B+).

Part of ASCE's mission is to benefit the public good. The goal of the Texas Report Card is to educate all Texans, their families and the political leadership across the state about specific infrastructure needs. By using the easily understood format of a grade school report card, civil engineers summarized complex research into an easy to understand format so that every citizen can be informed and help fix their community's infrastructure needs.

The last *Report Card for Texas's Infrastructure* was released in 2008 and also found the state's infrastructure in poor condition, with the state's infrastructure only showing marginal improvement

over the past four years. To read the *2012 Report Card for Texas' Infrastructure* or to read past versions, please visit: www.texasce.org/TXirc. The Report Card is based on the *Report Card for America's Infrastructure*, which last gave the nation a D grade in 2009, and will be updated in early 2013. The current version can be found at www.infrastructurereportcard.org.

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The ASCE Texas Section is one of the largest and most active sections of the American Society of Civil Engineers with nearly 9,000 members. Established in 1913, the Texas Section is headquartered in Austin and is comprised of 16 Branches throughout Texas and student chapters at the state's leading universities. Committed to promoting, encouraging and recognizing civil engineering excellence and professional growth, the ASCE Texas Section holds semi-annual conferences in the spring and fall, as well as technical seminars and other events throughout the year. For more information, visit www.texasce.org.