



STATEMENT TO MEDIA  
March 22, 2011

### **Statement of *Plug-In Texas* President Russ Keene**

#### **Commending Barry Smitherman, Chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas, for his commitment to Electric Vehicles**

*Plug-In Texas* commends Chairman Barry Smitherman for purchasing the Chevrolet Volt, an exciting, new extended range electric vehicle for his personal use from Norman Frede Chevrolet in Houston.

Smitherman has long espoused the many benefits of Electric Vehicles as part of the Texas transportation system.

In 2009, Smitherman told a *Plug-In Texas* conference in Houston that 'by making one's next vehicle an electric vehicle we can improve air quality, enhance America's energy security, and create new jobs.'

*Plug-In Texas* respects Chairman Smitherman's long-demonstrated leadership for Electric Vehicles and for literally putting his money where his mouth is with his purchase of the Chevrolet Volt.

As the state's chief electric regulator, *Plug-In Texas* appreciates Chairman Smitherman's personal commitment to the new generation of plug-in hybrid vehicles."

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**Notes to Editor: (1)** PUCT Chairman Barry Smitherman takes delivery of his new Chevrolet Volt at Norman Frede Chevrolet, located at 16801 Feathercraft Lane, Houston, TX 77058 on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at 4 pm. Chairman Smitherman will be available for interviews. **(2)** General Motors is a member of *Plug-In Texas*.

**For more information, contact:**

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**About *Plug-In Texas*:** *Plug-In Texas* is a broad-based and growing statewide coalition of private and public interests dedicated to supporting policy changes that promote battery electric, plug-in hybrid and all-electric vehicles in Texas, as well as the infrastructure needed to support them. *Plug-In Texas* will support activities that create new jobs, foster development of new technologies, improve environmental conditions and spur economic activity that supports the electric vehicle industry. The coalition intends to serve as a clearinghouse for information on EVs, and will support initiatives that market their development and promote their commercial viability. For more information about *Plug-In Texas*, visit [www.PlugInTexas.org](http://www.PlugInTexas.org).