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Sierra Club Hires Reggie James As Permanent Chapter Director

AUSTIN, Texas – The Executive Committee of Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter announced today the hiring of Reggie James as its permanent Chapter Director. James had been serving as Interim Director since January, and led the Lone Star Chapter during the 84th Legislative Session.

With more than 25 years of experience, James is an innovative non-profit executive with experience in consumer and environmental policy and advocacy. As former director of the Southwest Regional Office of Consumers Union in Austin, he has worked on legislative and regulatory advocacy for improved public and environmental health and safety, and for better low-income legal representation.

"I've worked pretty closely with Reggie over the last five-plus months, and known him for many years in the non-profit world; with him as our director, I am eager to see the Chapter move forward and have a greater impact for the good of Texans and the Texas environment," said Executive Committee Chair Margot Clarke.

Since coming to the Sierra Club, James has successfully initiated several efforts to strengthen the Lone Star Chapter's impact, including expanding fundraising activity, outreach to communities across the state, and strengthening administrative processes.

"I am quite excited. The past five months have been a wonderful test drive for me, and I like the way this vehicle handles," said James. "I would like to thank staff and the Executive Committee search committee. I look forward to working with everyone, and with what I hope to be a growing cadre of volunteers across Texas itching to make a difference."

"Protecting Texas presents a formidable challenge," continued James, "but I have faith that there are enough energetic, right-thinking Texans in every corner of the state to turn the tide against polluting interests. I know the Lone Star Chapter working with the Beyond Coal campaign and Sierra Club groups can make a huge difference and I am pleased to have been given the opportunity to be part of this."

James, Lone Star Chapter staff, and Executive Committee will be part of the chapter's annual environmental awards banquet in Addison, Texas, on July 18. For tickets, please visit: <u>http://www.bit.ly/LSC-TXAwards</u>.