



## **Sam Jones: 2007 GCPA Power Star Award Recipient**

Retired President and Chief Executive Officer of ERCOT Sam Jones was named the 2007 recipient of the Pat Wood Power Star Award in recognition of his significant contributions towards the advancement of competitive energy markets in the Texas. In 2006, the ERCOT Board of Directors asked Jones, then Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer to serve as ERCOT's Chief Executive Officer while an executive search was underway. Mr. Jones had joined ERCOT on December 1, 1996, as its first director. In March 2000, he was appointed as executive vice president and COO of ERCOT. During Sam's tenure at ERCOT, its role changed and expanded significantly. Balancing authority was transferred from the utilities owning the transmission system to ERCOT, a standard generator interconnection agreement was put in place, and the market was opened to both wholesale and retail competition.

Prior to joining ERCOT, Mr. Jones was employed by the City of Austin Electric Utility in Texas for over 35 years. During his career with the City of Austin, he held engineering and management positions in the areas of distribution, transmission, substation, generation and system operations. He was responsible for the development of Austin's first energy control center. Mr. Jones retired from the City of Austin as the director of generation and energy control.

Mr. Jones has been active in inter-utility reliability work for over 25 years. He is a two-time past chair of the ERCOT Operating Subcommittee and past chair of the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) Operating Committee. He has also chaired or participated in numerous NERC and ERCOT committees and task forces. Sam has a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Texas at Austin and is a registered professional engineer in Texas.