## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Cross Texas Transmission Supports Brazos Valley Food Bank's BackPack Program for Students in Need

Donation will provide more than 2,500 backpacks filled with nutritious food to reduce hunger in our community

Bryan, Texas – August 11, 2015 – Cross Texas has donated \$18,000 to support the Brazos Valley Food Bank's BackPack Program for the 2015-2016 school year.

The donation will provide more than 2,500 backpacks to 73 children attending public schools in northern Grimes, as well as Madison County, over the course of the upcoming school year.

"At Cross Texas, we believe in giving back to the communities we serve and look forward to continuing this tradition in the Brazos Valley area," said Cameron Fredkin, Vice President of Project Development of Cross Texas.

The donation comes at a critical time as 1 in 4 children in the Brazos Valley live in homes where access to food is not regularly available. The Brazos Valley Food Bank's BackPack program provides food to children in need during weekends and holidays when school is not in session, therefore, access to school means is not an option. BackPacks are stocked with kid-friendly, healthy foods including fruits and vegetables, whole grain cereal and cereal bars, and more. School administrators discretely identify at-risk children and deposit the bag packed with food in to their backpacks each Friday.

"We are so thankful for the support of Cross Texas in our mission to create access to healthy food for children who do not always have food available in their homes," said Theresa Mangapora, Executive Director of the Brazos Valley Food Bank. "Unfortunately, food insecurity is a real issue for many families. Lack of the proper amount and kind of food impacts every aspect of our lives, our ability to learn, play, grow and be successful in life. The BackPack Program is a lifeline for many children."

To learn more about the BackPack program, please visit <u>www.bvfb.org/backpacks.html</u>

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## About the Brazos Valley Food Bank

The Brazos Valley Food Bank is a central distribution site that unites food donors, volunteers and hunger-relief agencies throughout Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Madison, Robertson and Washington Counties. The Brazos Valley Food Bank distributes million pounds of food to over 50,000 different individuals in need

annually through partner agencies and special programs. For more information about the Brazos Valley Food Bank, <u>visit www.bvfb.org</u>.

## About Cross Texas

Cross Texas is a designated transmission service provider that constructs, owns and operates transmission facilities and lines to help safely and reliably deliver energy to homes and businesses across Texas. Cross Texas Transmission opened its Bryan-College Station office on August 11, 2015.