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**2ND ANNUAL NC MOBILE CARE SYMPOSIUM & AWARDS
Education & Celebration of Transportation Air Quality Solutions**

Greensboro, NC, May 6, 2008 – A capacity gathering of over 160 was welcomed to the 2nd Annual Mobile CARE Symposium and Awards by Greensboro Mayor Yvonne Johnson. Nine morning presentations about technology and policy solutions to air quality and petroleum dependence ranged from Gaston County schools taking waste vegetable oil and converting it into biodiesel, a cleaner burning renewable fuel, to presentations about the potential of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles that can get up to 100 miles per gallon. The focus was on actions taking place now and also included: diesel-retrofit technology to reduce particle matter pollution, the availability of cleaner burning natural gas vehicles, grant funding from the Division of Air, Quality, *Best Workplaces for Commuters*- a program that rewards alternatives to single occupancy vehicles such as transit and ride sharing- and the City of Durham’s “green fleets” program .

The Mobile CARE awards luncheon featured keynote speaker David Morris, vice president of the MN based Institute of Local Self Reliance. The author of several books, who’s been hailed by Bill Moyers as one of the nation’s most “innovative thinkers”, spoke on *Driving Our Way to Energy Independence* stressing that, “ technology is now available to replace our petroleum-based transportation system with high efficiency electric-biofueled vehicles”.

An event highlight was six NC Mobile CARE (clean air renewable energy) awards honoring exemplary efforts to reduce transportation related emissions. State Energy Office director Larry Shirley presented the awards on behalf of the NC Dept of Transportation, Dept of Environment and Natural Resources and the NC Dept of Administration. The annual awards are given in individual, fleet, product providers and policy categories to recognize leaders from around the state. “We are pleased to have the opportunity to create these awards on behalf of three state agencies that have

intersecting interests in cleaning our air, economic and environmental enhancement through the use of alternative fuel and advanced transportation technology,” said the NC Solar Center’s director, Steve Kalland.

The afternoon was capped off with tours of the Proximity Hotel, the nations most environmentally friendly, and a Clean Vehicle Ride-n-Drive which included a biodiesel production demonstration trailer from UNC Pembroke and idle reduction technologies for long haul trucks demonstrated by Volvo, one of the day’s sponsors. The event, hosted by the NC Solar Center/ NC State University is part of the Clean Fuel Advanced Technology project.

***About the Clean Fuel Advanced Technology Project:** A three year, \$2 million dollar initiative of the NC Solar Center (NCSC) that is funded by the State Energy Office and Division of Air Quality as well as by federal CMAQ funds administered by NCDOT to provide educational outreach and emission reductions in 24 NC counties that do not meet national ambient air quality standards. The NCSC has partnered with the Triangle Clean Cities and Centralina Clean Fuels Coalitions to conduct educational outreach in the Triangle and Charlotte Regions.*

***About the NC Solar Center:** a division of the College of Engineering at N.C. State University, operated since 1988 as a clearinghouse for information, demonstration, research, and training related to renewable and advanced technologies.*