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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Names Reliant Energy Executive and Leukemia Survivor Manny Rodriguez 2011 Corporate Walk Chair For Houston Light The Night Walk

LLS Urges Local Businesses to Take the First Step to Help a Good Cause

HOUSTON – The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society named Reliant Energy executive and leukemia survivor Manny Rodriguez as the corporate chair of its 2011 Light The Night® Walk. The Walk is LLS’s annual fall fundraising event that raises money for blood cancer research and patient services.

“I know for a fact that research and treatment saves lives because they saved mine,” said Manny Rodriguez, Reliant Energy Vice President of Sponsorship Marketing and Charitable Giving. “Funds raised through events like Light The Night have allowed me a second chance at a healthy and cancer-free life with my family and our newest addition – my 16-month-old son. As a leukemia survivor in my 10th year of remission, I am honored to serve as the Houston chair and look forward to inspiring commitment from the local business community.”

Reliant Energy is the title sponsor for The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter’s Light The Night walks, which include walks in both Houston and Montgomery County. Supporting the walk program is part of the company’s commitment to being community conscious as well as educating employees on blood cancer signs and symptoms. The funds raised through corporate and individual contributions help find cures and better therapies for leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin disease and myeloma, and provide information, education and support for patients and their families.

LLS holds Walks each fall in more than 200 communities across the United States and Canada. Participants at the walks carry illuminated balloons – white for survivors, red for supporters, and gold to remember those who have died – to honor and commemorate lives touched by blood cancer. The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter’s walks will take place on Oct.1 at Discovery Green Park in Downtown Houston and Oct. 23 at Market Street in The Woodlands.

“The Light The Night Walks give hope to patients and their families and let them know they are not alone in their battle against cancer,” said Walk Director Jennifer Tucker.

To find out more about sponsoring the Walk, forming a team or participating in a Light The Night Walk, contact the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter at 713-680-8088 or

www.lightthenight.org/txg.

About The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society ® (LLS) is the world’s largest voluntary health agency dedicated to blood cancer. The LLS mission: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin’s disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. LLS funds lifesaving blood cancer research around the world and provides free information and support services.

Founded in 1949 and headquartered in White Plains, NY, LLS has chapters throughout the United States and Canada. To learn more, visit www.LLS.org or contact the Information Resource Center at (800) 955-4572, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. www.lls.org.

About Reliant Energy

Reliant Energy provides electricity and energy services to more than 1.5 million retail customers—including homes, small and large businesses, manufacturing facilities, government entities and institutions across Texas. The company also offers service to commercial, industrial, governmental and institutional customers in Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. As part of NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG), Reliant Energy is backed by one of the nation’s largest power producers. NRG owns and operates 25,000 megawatts (MW) of generation capacity, including more than 11,000 MW of capacity in Texas. For more information about Reliant Energy products and services, visit www.reliant.com.

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Beating the Odds: Manny Rodriguez's story

Manny was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in May of 2000 after a routine physical check-up. Upon his diagnosis, Manny was fortunate enough to be accepted into a clinical trial at Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) in New York City for the ground-breaking medical drug STI571 or as it is known today, Gleevac. Manny took his first pill on December 7, 2000 and was in complete remission in May of 2001.

Now living in Houston, Manny is still on the clinical trial at MD Anderson Cancer Center. After moving to Houston Manny joined Reliant Energy in March of 2008 and as Vice President of Sponsorships, Events & Charitable Giving, Rodriguez is responsible for leading corporate sponsorship and event efforts across Reliant and NRG Energy – Reliant's parent company – as well as the Reliant Charitable Giving and Foundation team.

Manny credits Gleevac and the amazing folks at MSK and MD Anderson for helping make his fight against the disease a miraculous one – never missing a day of work, never feeling sick and never experiencing any side effects. Ten years after joining the Gleevac trial, Manny is still in complete remission and enjoying time with his wife Carolina and 16-month-old son Tomas. Manny is one of the newest members of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter's Board of Director and actively gives back, helping organizations like LLS and patients fighting the same battle he fought a decade ago.