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CIO Magazine Names Reliant Energy to its CIO 100 Awards

HOUSTON—IDG's *CIO* magazine has named Reliant Energy, an NRG Energy Company, to its prestigious 2011 CIO 100 for its innovative Reliant *e-Sense*™ smart energy solutions. The 24th annual award program recognizes organizations around the world that exemplify the highest level of operational and strategic excellence in information technology (IT).

"This year's CIO 100 awards draws well-deserved attention to companies that are not only innovating with IT but creating genuine business value as well," said Maryfran Johnson, Editor in Chief of *CIO* magazine & Events. "These winning companies and their IT organizations are an inspiration to businesses everywhere."

"We are thrilled to be honored as a CIO 100 recipient," said Steve Wilburn, NRG Energy Senior Vice President of Information Technology. "In a competitive energy market, it's imperative for Reliant Energy to provide its customers with the latest technology. Reliant customers have a revolutionary new way to understand how they buy and use electricity. These innovative new *e-Sense* tools give our customers information and convenience that simply did not exist before."

Reliant leads Texas in bringing the benefits of smart energy technology to a growing consumer base with more than 250,000 Reliant customers already using Reliant *e-Sense*™. Those customers have detailed information about how they use electricity at home, timely insights about their power use and cost, and the ability to take action to change how they buy and use power.

The 2011 CIO 100 awards will be presented at The Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, Colorado on August 14-16 at the conclusion of the sixteenth annual CIO 100 Symposium® and Awards Ceremony.

About the CIO 100

The recipients of this year's CIO 100 award were selected through a three-step process. First, companies filled out an online application form detailing their innovative IT and business initiatives. Next, a team of judges reviewed the applications in depth, looking for unique practices and substantial results. Finally, *CIO* editors reviewed the judges' recommendations and voted on the final 100. Complete coverage of the 2011 CIO 100 awards will be online at www.cio.com on August 1, 2011 and in the August 1 issue of *CIO* magazine.

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 New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia. 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.

About CIO Magazine

CIO produces award-winning content and community resources for information technology executives and leaders thriving and prospering in this fast-paced era of business, as well as create opportunities for information technology and consumer marketers to reach them. The CIO portfolio includes CIO.com, *CIO* magazine (launched in 1987), CIO Executive Programs and the CIO Executive Council. CIO properties provide business technology leaders with analysis and insight on information technology trends and a keen understanding of IT's role in achieving business goals. The U.S. edition of the magazine and website are recipients of more than 200 awards to date, including the American Society of Business Publication Editor's Top B-to-B Magazine since 2000 and two Grand Neals from the Jesse H. Neal National Business Journalism Awards. *CIO* websites and printed publications appear in more than 25 countries, including Australia, Canada, Finland, India and Sweden. CIO Executive Programs—a series of face-to-face conferences including the CIO 100 Awards & Symposium™—provide educational and networking opportunities for pre-qualified corporate and government leaders. The CIO Executive Council is a professional organization of CIOs created to serve as an unbiased and trusted peer advisory group. CIO is published by IDG Enterprise, a subsidiary of International Data Group (IDG), the world's leading media, events, and research company. Company information is available at www.idgenterprise.com.

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