NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rodeo Fans Ride METRORail for Free

—Reliant provides complimentary rail rides on Black Heritage, Go Tejano Days—

HOUSTON; February 29, 2012 — Fans attending the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ (the Show) on Black Heritage Day, March 2, or Go Tejano Day, March 11, can ride the METRORail free of charge thanks to Reliant. The electricity provider is helping Houstonians bring the energy and excitement to the Show on days the event draws some of its largest crowds.

"Rodeo is a big deal in Houston and a large part of our city's heritage," said Manny Rodriguez, Reliant Vice President, Sponsorship Marketing and Charitable Giving. "Reliant has been a strong supporter of the Show for many years. The 20-day event, which had more than two million attendees last year, is a great opportunity to reach out to fans and give back to the community - whether through donations to the Show's Educational Fund, offering free rail rides or giving away RODEOHOUSTON concert tickets to deserving students and families."

"One of the busiest times of year for public transit is rodeo season, so we're excited about Reliant's offer for rail riders," said METRO President & CEO George Greanias. "Reliant is one of several trusted community partners we're working with to keep METRORail top-of-mind during rodeo as visitors travel in and around Reliant Park for concerts, the carnival and other activities."

Reliant will provide approximately 100,000 free METRORail rides to and from Reliant Park both days. On Black Heritage Day the rail runs from 4:30 a.m. to 2:45 a.m. and on Go Tejano Day from 5:30 a.m. to 12:20 a.m. One METRORail train has a custom graphic rodeo wrap of a bareback rider in action for all 20 days of the Show.

During the 2011 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, METRORail had an average of 44,854 boardings per day with roughly 15,000 of those boardings being attributed to the rodeo. Reliant's effort will encourage even more riders and support the environment by helping keep vehicles off the road and out of traffic. The rail line offers fans a quick and convenient way to get to Reliant Park, particularly rodeo attendees traveling from the downtown area. The average travel time from downtown to Reliant Park by rail is 20 to 25 minutes, depending where you catch the train.

This is the second component in Reliant's "Bring the Energy" offer of free METRORail rides. Reliant provided roughly 156,000 train rides to and from Reliant Park for Texans home games during the regular and playoff season.

For more information about Reliant's activities at and around the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, visit <u>www.rodeohouston.com/activities/reliant.aspx</u>.

About Reliant:

Reliant provides electricity, energy services and smart energy solutions to more than 1.5 million retail customers including homes, businesses, manufacturing facilities, government entities and institutions in Texas, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. As part of NRG (NYSE: NRG), Reliant is backed by a Fortune 500 company that is at the forefront of changing how people think about and use energy. NRG is a pioneer in developing cleaner and smarter energy choices for its customers and its diverse power generating facilities can support over 20 million homes nationwide. For more information about Reliant products and services, visit www.reliant.com.

About METRO

The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (<u>METRO</u>) is the region's largest public transit provider, offering safe, reliable and affordable transportation services about 370,000 times per day. Besides operating more than 1,200 buses, <u>METRO</u> is currently expanding its 7.5-mile light-rail line (Red Line), with <u>three new lines</u> under construction. METRO's services also include: Star Vanpool, METROLift, HOV lanes, Bikes-on-Buses/Trains program, Park-n-Ride and road improvement projects.

Contacts: Reliant Media Pat Hammond 713.503.5371

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Metro Press Office 713.739.4040