

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Reliant Festival of Lights Kicks off this Month with Energy-Efficient
Holiday Lighting Contest in Dallas**

***—Contest will award \$10,000 energy efficiency makeover to homeowner with the most
creative and energy-efficient outdoor lighting design —***

DALLAS, TX; November 28, 2012—Reliant is celebrating the holidays in Dallas with the Reliant Festival of Lights, an outdoor home lighting competition that combines fun and festive holiday decorations with smart energy designs. A \$10,000 home energy makeover will be given to the homeowner who decorates with the most creativity and style using light-emitting diode (LED) lighting and other energy-efficient techniques.

The home energy makeover will include new energy-efficient appliances and smart energy technology, along with other updates to make the winning home more energy efficient. There will also be a \$1,000 Lowe's gift card awarded to the home with the most "likes" on Reliant's Facebook page.

"We're thrilled to host the very first Reliant Festival of Lights this year in Dallas," said Bill Clayton, Vice President of Customer Services, Reliant. "We hope this contest helps everyone who decorates their homes for the holidays understand that decorating with energy-efficient technology can still allow you to have beautiful, creative designs while also having a positive effect on your electricity bill."

Details for the Reliant Festival of Lights are as follows:

1. **Illuminate your home.** Decorate the outside of your home with creative, festive and energy-efficient decorations.
2. **Enter for a chance to win.** Visit reliant.com/festivaloflights to see official rules and to enter online. Or complete a form at Talulah Belle (2011 Abrams Road, Dallas, TX 75214) and mail it, along with a photo of your decorated home, to the address on the form. **Entries must be received by Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2012.**
3. **Vote for your favorite.** Photos of the top 10 homes will be posted on the Reliant Facebook page from Dec. 10-17, 2012. The grand prize winner, selected by local media judges, will receive a \$10,000 home energy makeover, while the home with the most "likes" on Facebook will receive a \$1,000 Lowe's gift card.
4. **Celebrate the winners at the Reliant Festival of Lights block party.** Join us from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2012, at Lakewood Theater. Reliant will announce the winners

amidst a celebration featuring family fun, holiday music and an appearance by Santa and his elves.

The Reliant Festival of Lights is open to all single-family homeowners within the Dallas city limits.

To get a jump-start on the competition, Reliant suggests the following tips for energy-efficient holiday decorating:

- Choose **light-emitting diode (LED) lights** this holiday season. They're shatterproof, cool to the touch, long lasting, and use approximately 90 percent less electricity than an incandescent strand. They cost more up front, but should pay for themselves in a season or two.
- **Use timers** to limit indoor and outdoor light displays to no more than six hours per day to help you conserve electricity.
- To ensure **safety**, refrain from overloading electric sockets and extension cords. Thoroughly inspect light strands and discard any damaged cords. Verify that outside light strands are rated for outdoor use and follow manufacturer's recommendations when connecting multiple strands.
- Save on electricity usage with **decorative lawn-inflatables** instead of standard outdoor incandescent lights. These decorations, on average, require one-third of the electricity needed to power incandescent lights.

"Many people don't realize that simply using a timer or changing your incandescent lights to LEDs can make a significant impact on the amount of energy you use during the holiday season," said Clayton. "Not to mention, following these simple steps might just help you win the Reliant Festival of Lights \$10,000 grand prize."

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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.

Contacts:

Media

Pat Hammond

O: 713.537.2157

C: 713.503.5371

phammond@reliant.com