

**For Immediate Release**

## **Reliant Degrees of Difference Rewards Lower Electricity Use During Energy Rush Hours**

*—Two Unique Programs Encourage Conservation When Electricity Demand Is High—*

**HOUSTON; July 15, 2013** — Everyone likes a pat on the back, especially when it shows up on their electricity bills. The [Reliant](#) Degrees of Difference and the Reliant Degrees of Difference with Nest programs ask customers to conserve electricity when electricity demand is high, also known as "energy rush hours." Reliant then rewards those customers who participate with credits on their bills.

Not only do participating electricity customers earn bill credits if less electricity is used when compared to the amount used during the same hours of the previous five weekdays, they also help reduce demand on the electric grid.

For Reliant customers with a Nest Learning Thermostat™ it's even easier to use less electricity during an energy rush hour. Those who sign up for the Degrees of Difference with Nest program get access to two exclusive, new Nest features: Rush Hour Rewards and Seasonal Savings. Rush Hour Rewards automatically tweaks temperatures around each energy rush hour to help customers earn greater bill credits. Seasonal Savings takes everything Nest has learned about the customer and their habits and looks for new opportunities to save energy.

"Customers help their budgets and our communities manage electricity needs by using a little less electricity when it counts," said Elizabeth Killinger, President of Reliant. "The Degrees of Difference programs make it easy for customers to join Texans across the state to help conserve electricity during periods of high electricity demand expected this summer."

Results from a pilot program conducted last summer showed a reduction of electricity consumption by about 33 percent from active participants. Reliant estimates if 325,000 residential customers reduce their usage by 33 percent in a single high-demand period, there would be enough capacity added to the grid to power an additional 100,000 homes.

Customers signing up for the Degrees of Difference with Nest program must have a Nest thermostat and an active Nest account. Any Reliant customer with a smart meter can sign up for the Degrees of Difference program, regardless of the electricity plan they are currently using. The resulting bill credits will appear within one to two billing cycles.

For more information about the Reliant Degrees of Difference programs and complete terms and conditions, visit [www.reliant.com/degreesofdifference](http://www.reliant.com/degreesofdifference) or [www.reliant.com/degreesnest](http://www.reliant.com/degreesnest) or call 1-866-RELIANT.

### **About Reliant**

Reliant provides electricity, energy services and smart energy solutions to 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. NRG's diverse power generating facilities can support over 40 million homes nationwide, and its retail businesses collectively serve more than 2.2 million customers in 10 states and the District of Columbia. For more information about Reliant products and services, please visit [www.reliant.com](http://www.reliant.com). Connect with Reliant on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/reliantenergy](http://www.facebook.com/reliantenergy) and on Twitter @reliantenergy.

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