

TEACH FOR AMERICA AND NRG ENERGY PARTNER TO EXPAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY IN POINTE COUPEE PARISH

Two-Year, \$150,000 Grant to Support the Work of Dedicated, Talented Teachers in South Louisiana

BATON ROUGE, La., August 27, 2008—Teach For America-South Louisiana and NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG), today announced a two-year partnership to expand educational opportunities for the students of Pointe Coupee public schools. Under the partnership, NRG will provide \$150,000 to Teach For America over two years to offset the cost of recruiting, selecting, training, and supporting top recent college graduates from across the country who commit two years to teach in schools in Pointe Coupee Parish.

The Louisiana Board of Regents initially brought NRG and Teach For America together. “My board colleague Roland Toups was impressed with NRG’s interest in improving education in Pointe Coupee Parish and with Teach For America’s efforts to fill classrooms in South Louisiana with dynamic educators. So we invited both organizations to make informational presentations at our June meeting,” recalled Board of Regents Chairman Pat Strong. “I’m so proud that our meeting provided a setting for this kind of support and collaboration to take place.”

“The challenges faced by the Pointe Coupee school system belong to all of us, just as we will share in its successes through generations of productive students, employees, and future leaders,” said Jeff Baudier, President of NRG’s South Central region. “This partnership is a natural progression of our commitment to public education in Pointe Coupee Parish, where we live and work. We are looking forward to working with Teach For America and are grateful for the energy and enthusiasm of these dedicated teachers.”

Teach For America works to end educational inequity by enlisting the nation’s most promising future leaders in the effort. A growing body of rigorous research is showing that Teach For America teachers, known as corps members, have a significant impact on student achievement. This year, 90 Teach For America corps members are teaching in low-income communities in St. Helena, East Feliciana, East Baton Rouge, St. Landry, and Pointe Coupee parishes, collectively supporting more than 5,000 students. Nine first-year teachers are teaching in Pointe Coupee Parish, serving more than 600 students in Rosenwald Elementary and the state-managed charter school Pointe Coupee Central High School.

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"We are grateful for NRG's support as we continue our work in Pointe Coupee to ensure that all of the parish's students—regardless of which school they attend or what their family's income level is—have the opportunity to attain an excellent education," said Michael Tipton, executive director of Teach For America in South Louisiana. "The Board of Regents also has been invaluable to our work, and we thank them for laying the foundation for this exciting new partnership."

"Research shows that a highly qualified, caring teacher in the classroom can have the greatest impact on student achievement, especially in struggling schools," said Louisiana Commissioner of Higher Education Sally Clausen. "Teach For America is just one organization dedicated to providing quality teachers for Louisiana's classrooms, and I commend NRG Energy for their commitment in supporting this organization."

In 2005, NRG established the Apprenticeship and Mentoring Program for Students (AMPS), which is designed to enrich the lives, academic achievement, and career opportunities of Pointe Coupee high school students while helping to locally develop the company's future workforce. "We hope that these partnerships will serve as a model for businesses in South Louisiana to form similar collaborations with Teach For America and their local school systems to ensure that all students receive the education they deserve," Baudier said.

About Teach For America

Teach For America is the national corps of outstanding recent college graduates who commit two years to teach in urban and rural public schools and become lifelong leaders in expanding educational opportunity. Today, 6,200 corps members are teaching in more than 1,600 schools in 29 regions across the country, while more than 14,000 Teach For America alumni continue working from inside and outside the field of education for the fundamental changes necessary to ensure educational excellence and equity. For more information, visit www.teachforamerica.org.

About NRG Energy, Inc.

NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG), a Fortune 500 company, owns and operates one of the country's largest and most diverse power generation portfolios. NRG's 48 plants provide approximately 24,000 megawatts of generation capacity—enough to power nearly 20 million homes. NRG employs more than 330 people in Louisiana who work at the regional office and operate NRG's Big Cajun I and II plants located in New Roads. The Company also owns and operates natural gas plants in Jennings and Sterlington. NRG's

Global Giving initiative has donated millions of dollars to nonprofit organizations that address vital community needs through targeted and sustainable service programs consistent with the Company's four focus areas: community and economic development, education, environment, and human welfare. For more information on NRG Energy, please visit www.nrgenergy.com.

About the Louisiana Board of Regents

The Board of Regents is a state agency which coordinates all public higher education in the state of Louisiana. The Board's 15 members are appointed by the governor to six-year, overlapping terms, with at least one (but not more than two) Regents drawn from each of Louisiana's seven Congressional districts. In addition, the Legislature may provide for the appointment of one student member.

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