



**Giving Back, Connecting Children to Nature This Holiday Season:
NRG Energy's Cedar Bayou EcoCenter is now a Galveston Bay
Foundation Plant Nursery and Education Facility**

*--Dollar per year lease gives the Galveston Bay Foundation a prime facility
for growing cordgrass for wetland restoration efforts and hands-on
classroom for community outreach and education--*

Galveston Bay Foundation and NRG Energy have partnered for years on wetland restoration in Galveston Bay, one of the state's most important and beautiful natural resources. That partnership has now been taken to a new level as NRG has leased the EcoCenter to the Galveston Bay Foundation for \$1 per year through 2022 and made a \$100,000 donation for operation of the facility. In its four-year lease, the facility will serve an estimated 3,200 students.

"We are excited to take over operation of the EcoCenter from our long-term partner, NRG Energy," said Bob Stokes, president of Galveston Bay Foundation. "We look forward to the opportunity to expand our reach to local students and provide hands-on learning experiences about wetlands at the EcoCenter."

The 15.4 acre EcoCenter consists of an administration and training building, a maintenance facility and 24 floodable earthen ponds and two above ground constructed ponds that grow cordgrass.

"NRG and the Cedar Bayou plant have been proud to work so closely with the Galveston Bay Foundation for many, many years and look forward to expanding this relationship with this new partnership," said Rob Kurelic, plant manager, NRG's Cedar Bayou plant. "The Galveston Bay Foundation shares our goals for the health of the Bay and supporting them is a natural fit for NRG and will help restore the Bay which is so important to the local area."

Over the years, the EcoCenter has donated virtually all of the cordgrass that has been used to restore receding wetlands across the area.

CONTACT:

Claire Everett
Galveston Bay Foundation
281.332.3381 ext 208
ceverett@galvbay.org

David Knox
NRG Energy
713.824.6445
David.knox@nrg.com