

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRG Energy, Inc. Announces Public Offering of Senior Notes

PRINCETON, NJ; June 2, 2009—NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) intends to commence a public offering today of approximately \$700 million aggregate principal amount senior notes due 2019, subject to market and other customary conditions. The notes are being offered under NRG's shelf registration statement.

NRG intends to use net proceeds from the offering to terminate the credit sleeve supporting the retail business approximately one year earlier than originally planned, and for general corporate purposes. In the event NRG does not reach agreement on acceptable terms with either Merrill Lynch or its counterparties to terminate the credit sleeve, the net proceeds will be available for general corporate purposes.

Upon issuance, the notes will be senior unsecured obligations of NRG and will rank equally in right of payment with other existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness of NRG. The offering is being made only by means of a prospectus and related prospectus supplement, a copy of which may be obtained from Morgan Stanley at prospectus@morganstanley.com or 1.866.718.1649. An effective registration statement and related prospectus is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and a copy of the prospectus supplement, together with the prospectus, is also available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. This news release does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer to buy such securities nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state or other jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or other jurisdiction.

NRG Energy, Inc., a Fortune 500 company headquartered in Princeton New Jersey, owns and operates one of the country's largest and most diverse power generation portfolios.

Forward-Looking Statements

This communication contains forward-looking statements that may state NRG's or its management's intentions, beliefs, expectations or predictions for the future. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions, and typically can be identified by the use of words such as "will," "expect," "estimate," "anticipate," "forecast," "plan," "believe" and similar terms. Although NRG believes that its expectations are reasonable, it can give no assurance that these expectations will prove to have been correct, and actual results may vary materially. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated above include, among others, risks and uncertainties related to the capital markets generally and the failure or inability to replace the credit sleeve.

The foregoing review of factors that could cause NRG's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the forward-looking statements included herein should be considered in connection with

information regarding risks and uncertainties that may affect NRG's future results included in NRG's filings with the SEC at www.sec.gov.

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