

NRG TODAY AND TOMORROW



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- EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, free cash flow and adjusted cash flow from operations are nonGAAP financial measures. These measurements are not recognized in accordance with GAAP and should not be viewed as an alternative to GAAP measures of performance. The presentation of adjusted EBITDA should not be construed as an inference that NRG's future results will be unaffected by unusual or non-recurring items.
- EBITDA represents net income before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is presented because NRG considers it an important supplemental measure of its performance and believes debt-holders frequently use EBITDA to analyze operating performance and debt service capacity. EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider it in isolation, or as a substitute for analysis of our operating results as reported under GAAP. Some of these limitations are:
 - * EBITDA does not reflect cash expenditures, or future requirements for capital expenditures, or contractual commitments;
 - EBITDA does not reflect changes in, or cash requirements for, working capital needs;
 - EBITDA does not reflect the significant interest expense, or the cash requirements necessary to service interest or principal payments, on debt;
 - Although depreciation and amortization are non-cash charges, the assets being depreciated and amortized will often have to be replaced in the future, and EBITDA does not reflect any cash requirements for such replacements; and
 - Other companies in this industry may calculate EBITDA differently than NRG does, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.
- Because of these limitations, EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of discretionary cash available to use to invest in the growth of NRG's business. NRG compensates for these limitations by relying primarily on our GAAP results and using EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA only supplementally.
- Adjusted EBITDA is presented as a further supplemental measure of operating performance. Adjusted EBITDA represents EBITDA adjusted for discontinued operations, legal settlements and write downs and gains or losses on the sales of equity method investments and other assets, Exelon defense costs and Texas retail acquisition, settlement of pre-existing relationships and integration costs; factors which we do not consider indicative of future operating performance. The reader is encouraged to evaluate each adjustment and the reasons NRG considers it appropriate for supplemental analysis. As an analytical tool, adjusted EBITDA is subject to all of the limitations applicable to EBITDA. In addition, in evaluating adjusted EBITDA, the reader should be aware that in the future NRG may incur expenses similar to the adjustments in this news release. Adjusted EBITDA, excluding mark-to-market (MtM) adjustments, is provided to further supplement adjusted EBITDA by excluding the impact of unrealized MtM adjustments included in EBITDA for hedge contracts that are economic hedges but do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment in accordance with SFAS No. 133 Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, as well as the ineffectiveness impact of economic hedge contracts that qualify for hedge accounting treatment. Adjusted EBITDA, excluding MtM adjustments, is a supplemental measure provided to illustrate the impact of MtM movements on adjusted EBITDA resulting from commodity price movements for economic hedge contracts while the underlying hedged commodity has not been subject to MtM adjustments.
- Free cash flow recurring operations is cash flow from operations less maintenance capital expenditures and preferred stock dividends and is used by NRG predominantly as a forecasting tool to estimate cash available for debt reduction and other capital allocation alternatives. The reader is encouraged to evaluate each adjustment and the reasons NRG considers it appropriate for supplemental analysis. In addition, in evaluating free cash flow recurring operations, the reader should be aware that in the future NRG may incur expenses similar to the adjustments in this presentation. Free cash flow is cash flow from operations less capital expenditures, preferred stock dividends and repowering capex, net of project funding, and is used by NRG predominantly as a forecasting tool to estimate cash available for debt reduction and other capital allocation alternatives. The reader is encouraged to evaluate each adjustment and the reasons NRG considers it appropriate for supplemental analysis. In addition, in evaluating free cash flow, the reader should be aware that in the future NRG may incur expenses similar to the adjustments in this presentation.



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Appendix: Full Year 2005 Free Cash Flow reconciliation

The following table summarizes the calculation of free cash flow and provides a reconciliation to cash flow from (used by) operations

	2005	
Cash Flow from Operations	\$ 68	
Margin	405	
Working Capital	16	
Maintenance CapEx	(88)	
Preferred Dividends	(20)	
Adjusted Free Cash Flow	\$ 381	



Appendix: Full Year 2005 EBITDA Reconciliation

The following table summarizes the calculation of adjusted EBITDA and provides a reconciliation to net income/(loss)

(dollars in millions)	Total
Net Income (Loss)	84
Plus:	
Income Tax	47
Interest Expense	174
Amortization of Finance Costs	5
Amortization of Debt (Discount)/Premium	5
Refinancing Expense	65
Depreciation Expense	162
Amortization of Power Contracts	(9)
Amortization of Emission Credits	15
EBITDA	548
(Income) Loss from Discontinued Operations	(12)
Write-Down and (Gain)/Losses on Sales of Equity Method Investments	31
Corporate Relocation charges	6
Impairment charges	6
Gain on Settlement	(7)
Gain on sale of land	(4)
TermoRio legal matters	(11)
Gain on Crockett contingency	(3)
Adjusted EBITDA	554
Less: MtM Forward Positions	(119)
Add: Prior Period MtM	58
Adjusted EBITDA, excluding MtM	731



Appendix: 2006 Free Cash Flow reconciliation

The following table summarizes the calculation of free cash flow and provides a reconciliation to cash flow from (used by) operations

	Full year 2006		
Cash Flow from Operations	\$ 408		
Capital Expenditures	(221)		
Preferred Dividends	(50)		
Hedge Reset	1,361		
Reclassification from Cash from Financing	(296)		
Adjusted Free Cash Flow	\$ 1,202		

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Appendix: 2006 Regional EBITDA Reconciliation

The following table summarizes the calculation of adjusted EBITDA and provides a reconciliation to net income/(loss)

(dollars in millions)	Total
Net Income (Loss)	621
Plus: Income Tax Interest Expense	322 560
Amortization of Finance Costs	24
Amortization of Debt (Discount)/Premium Refinancing Expense Depreciation Expense	6 187 590
Amortization of Power Contracts	(1,701)
Amortization of Fuel Contracts	85
Amortization of Emission Credits	47
EBITDA	741
Net (Income) Loss from Discontinued Operations Write-Down and (Gain)/Losses on Sales of Equity Method Investments Legal Settlement	(78) (8) (74)
Acquisition Integration Costs	14
Audrain Asset Sale Adjustment	(3)
Station Service Reserve Reversal	(15)
Gain on Dissolution of Pike	(13)
Property Tax refund Prior Years	(9)
Reclassify Emission Credit Sale Hedge Reset Mirant Defense	1,202 6
Adjusted EBITDA	1,763
Less: MtM forward position accruals	143
Add: Prior period MtM reversals	(116)
Less: Hedge Ineffectiveness	28
Adjusted EBITDA, excluding MtM	1,476



Appendix: 2007 Regional Adjusted EBITDA Reconciliation

The following table summarizes the calculation of adjusted EBITDA and provides a reconciliation to net income

(Amounts in millions)	Total
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ 586
Plus:	
Income Tax	377
Interest Expense	656
Amortization of Finance Costs	25
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Amortization of Debt (Discount)/Premium	•
Refinancing Expense	35
Depreciation Expense	658
ARO Accretion Expense	6
Amortization of Power Contracts	(242)
Amortization of Fuel Contracts	47
Amortization of Emission Allowances	40
EBITDA	2,195
Income from Discontinued Operations	(17)
Station Service Reversal	(18)
Fixed Asset Write-offs	3
Gain on Sale of Equity Method Investment	(1)
Loss/(Gain) on Sale of Assets	(17)
Adjusted EBITDA	2,145
•	
Less MTM Forward Position Accruals	20
Add. Prior Period MtM Reversals	128
Less: Hedge Ineffectiveness	13
Adjusted EBITDA, excluding MtM	\$ 2,240



Appendix: 2008 Regional Adjusted EBITDA Reconciliation

The following table summarizes the calculation of adjusted EBITDA and provides a reconciliation to net income

(Amounts in millions)	Total
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ 1,188
Plus:	
Income Tax	713
Interest Expense	591
Amortization of Finance Costs	22
Amortization of Debt (Discount)/Premium	7
Depreciation Expense	649
ARO Accretion Expense	9
Amortization of Power Contracts	(278)
Amortization of Fuel Contracts	(13)
Amortization of Emission Allowances	40
EBITDA	2,928
Exelon Defense Costs	8
Income from Discontinued Operations	(172)
Adjusted EBITDA	2,764
Less MTM Forward Position Accruals	536
Add. Prior Period MtM Reversals	38
Less: Hedge Ineffectiveness	(25)
Adjusted EBITDA, excluding MtM	\$ 2,291



Guidance Issued

in millions		10/29/2009		7/31/2009	
Wholesale		1,950		2,100	
Retail		625		400	
Consolidated adjusted EBITDA ¹	\$	2,575	\$	2,500	
Q4 EBITDA impact of sleeve unwind - hedge terminations		(85)		-	
Interest Payments		(633)		(631)	
Income Tax		(75)		(100)	
Collateral Payments/working capital/other		(132)		(394)	
Cash from Operations	\$	1,650	\$	1,375	
Maintenance CapEx		(257)		(264)	
Preferred Dividends		(33)		(33)	
Anticipated Permanent Retail Collateral		-		300	
Free Cash Flow - Recurring Ops	\$	1,360	\$	1,378	
Environmental CapEx		(214)		(261)	
Reliant Integration Capital		(20)		(31)	
Repowering NRG:					
Gross Investments		(404)		(447)	
Estimated Project Funding		163		290	
Total, Net of Project Funding	\$	(241)	\$	(157)	
Free Cash Flow	\$	885	\$	929	

¹ Excludes MtM adjustments on economic hedges

Note: Adjusted EBITDA Guidance excludes Exelon defense costs and Reliant Energy transaction and integration expenses



The following table summarizes the calculation of the following: Debt to Adjusted EBITDA, Funds from Operations to Debt and Net Debt to Capital

	2006	2009 Guidance		2006	2009 Guidance
Debt to Adjusted EBITDA			Net Debt to Capital		
Numerator:			Numerator:		
Gross debt	8,726	8,766	Gross debt	8,726	8,766
Denominator:			Less: Total Cash	818	2,276
Adjusted EBITDA	1,476	2,575	Net Debt Denominator:	7,908	6,490
Debt/Adjusted EBITDA	5.91	3.40			
			Capital		
Funds from Operations to Deb	<u>ot</u>		Net debt	7,980	6,490
Numerator:			Preferred Stock Book value of	1,139	653
Adjusted EBITDA	1,476	2,575	common Equity	4,519	7,414
Less: Cash Interest	451	633	Capital	13,566	14,557
Less: Cash Taxes	21	75	Debt/Cap	58.3%	44.6%
Funds From Operations:	1,004	1,867			
Denominator:					
Gross debt	8,726	8,766			
FFO/Debt	11.5%	21.3%			

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\$ in millions	:	2010	
Wholesale		1,700	
Retail		500	
Consolidated adjusted EBITDA ¹	\$	2,200	
EBITDA impact of sleeve unwind - hedge terminations		-	
Interest Payments		(628)	
Income Tax		(150)	
Collateral Payments/working capital/other		(72)	
Cash from Operations	\$	1,350	
Maintenance CapEx		(262)	
Preferred Dividends		(9)	
Free Cash Flow - Recurring Ops	\$	1,079	
Environmental CapEx		(281)	
Reliant Integration Capital		-	
Repowering NRG:			
Gross Investments		(495)	
Estimated Project Funding		391	
Total, Net of Project Funding	\$	(104)	
Free Cash Flow	\$	694	

¹ Excludes MtM adjustments on economic hedges

Note: 2009 Adjusted EBITDA Guidance excludes Exelon defense costs and Reliant Energy transaction and integration expenses