NRG Energy Increases Liquidity by Increasing Corporate Revolver to $1 Billion

March 8, 2002

MINNEAPOLIS, Mar 8, 2002 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE:NRG) announced today that it closed a $1 billion unsecured revolving line of credit with NRG's relationship banks. ABN AMRO and Citibank/Salomon Smith Barney led the transaction. NRG previously reported that it was in the process of renewing and increasing its unsecured corporate credit facility from $500 million to $1 billion to address liquidity concerns raised by the credit rating agencies. The loan, with a 364-day duration, was successfully syndicated under the original terms offered by NRG.

"The unsecured revolving credit facility was completed with favorable terms and conditions due to the strong bank relationships NRG has nurtured," said NRG chief financial officer, Leonard A. Bluhm.

In conjunction with the closing of the revolver, NRG repaid a $600 million bridge loan that matures in June 2002 and received a $300 million cash infusion from Xcel Energy. Xcel has also indicated its support of an additional $300 million to be injected into NRG in the second quarter of 2002.

Brian Bird, NRG treasurer, also reported, "additional planned financing activities remain on schedule including the financing for NRG's planned FirstEnergy acquisition, selected project financing and utilization of the $2 billion construction/acquisition revolver."

Yesterday, Project Finance magazine named NRG's unique construction/acquisition revolver "Global Deal of the Year."

Certain information included in this news release contains statements that are forward-looking. Such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, expected future financing activities, and typically can be identified by the use of words such as "expect", "anticipate", "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, general economic conditions; business conditions in the energy industry; and factors affecting the availability or cost of capital, such as changes in interest rates and market perceptions of the power generation industry, NRG or any of its subsidiaries. NRG undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The foregoing review of factors that could cause NRG's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the forward-looking statements included in this news release should not be construed as exhaustive. For more information regarding these and other risks and uncertainties, review NRG's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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