



## Whole Foods Market and NRG to Plan Large Scale Commercial Solar Project Portfolio

March 8, 2016

PRINCETON, N.J. & AUSTIN, Texas--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Mar. 8, 2016-- Whole Foods Market, America's healthiest grocery store, in conjunction with NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE:NRG), the country's leading integrated competitive power company, plans to install rooftop solar at up to 84 Whole Foods stores and distribution centers across 9 states to generate renewable energy onsite. When completed and determined by final negotiations and analysis, the portfolio of solar projects has the potential to generate up to 13.8 megawatts (MW) of solar power.

NRG will help Whole Foods Market build what may become, upon completion, one of the largest commercial rooftop solar installations in the country<sup>1</sup>. NRG's single-brand, multi-site approach facilitated a streamlined process to obtain contracted solar generation and tailored financing options that allowed NRG to meet Whole Foods Market's needs.

"Installing solar at Whole Foods Market locations across the country will increase the percentage of renewable energy that is generated in communities where we work," said Kathy Loftus, Global Leader in Sustainability for Whole Foods Market. "We're thrilled to work with NRG to bring about this multiple stakeholder view of our clean energy goals while simultaneously maximizing the utilization of resources."

With one of the largest and most diverse energy portfolios in the country, NRG is uniquely positioned to provide holistic energy solutions that combine renewable energy generation with additional energy services to meet the challenges facing commercial customers. NRG's sustainability solutions aim to provide measurable financial benefit, demonstrating that clean energy and economic growth are not mutually exclusive goals.

"Whole Foods Market is an ideal match for NRG. Their vision and mission aligns with NRG's approach to driving smarter, cleaner energy solutions while continuing to serve customers, neighbors and the community," said Rob Gaudette, SVP, Business Solutions, NRG. "We're committed to providing our customers, like Whole Foods Market, with energy solutions that support both sustainability and economic growth."

NRG develops, finances, owns and operates energy projects, products and solutions. When executed, the Whole Foods Market project portfolio is expected to be funded in part through NRG's ongoing partnership with NRG Yield.

### About Whole Foods Market

Founded in 1978 in Austin, Texas, Whole Foods Market ([wholefoodsmarket.com](http://wholefoodsmarket.com), NASDAQ: WFM), is the leading natural and organic food retailer. As America's first national certified organic grocer, Whole Foods Market was named "America's Healthiest Grocery Store" by Health magazine. The company's motto, "Whole Foods, Whole People, Whole Planet"<sup>TM</sup> captures its mission to ensure customer satisfaction and health, team member excellence and happiness, enhanced shareholder value, community support and environmental improvement. Thanks to the company's more than 91,000 team members, Whole Foods Market has been ranked as one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For" in America by FORTUNE magazine for 18 consecutive years. In fiscal year 2015, the company had sales of more than \$15.4 billion and currently has more than 435 stores in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. For more company news and information, please visit [media.wfm.com](http://media.wfm.com).

### About NRG

NRG is the leading integrated power company in the U.S., built on the strength of the nation's largest and most diverse competitive electric generation portfolio and leading retail electricity platform. A Fortune 200 company, NRG creates value through best in class operations, reliable and efficient electric generation, and a retail platform serving residential and commercial businesses. Working with electricity customers, large and small, we continually innovate, embrace and implement sustainable solutions for producing and managing energy. We aim to be pioneers in developing smarter energy choices and delivering exceptional service as our retail electricity providers serve almost 3 million residential and commercial customers throughout the country. More information is available at [www.nrg.com](http://www.nrg.com). Connect with NRG Energy on Facebook and follow us on Twitter [@nrgenergy](https://twitter.com/nrgenergy).

### 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.

<sup>1</sup> Solar Means Business 2015: Top U.S. Corporate Solar Users, <http://www.seia.org/research-resources/solar-means-business-2015-top-us-corporate-solar-users>

View source version on businesswire.com: <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20160308005464/en/>

Source: NRG Energy, Inc.

**NRG**

**Media:**

Marijke Shugrue, 609-524-5262

or

**Investors:**

Kevin Cole, 609-524-4526

or

Lindsey Puchyr, 609-524-4527

or

**Whole Foods Market**

Blaire Kniffin, 512-542-3483