



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRG Energy CEO David Crane Receives Transformational Achievement Award from Ernst & Young

PRINCETON, NJ; June 25, 2010—Ernst & Young awarded David Crane, President and CEO of NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG), a “Transformational Achievement” award at its annual New Jersey Entrepreneur of the Year award celebration.

This special regional award recognizes Crane’s entrepreneurialism, commitment and contribution to changing the debate on climate change and the environment.

“At NRG, we are focused on leading the creation of a clean energy economy and positioning our Company to serve the ever-growing number of Americans seeking a sustainable, low carbon lifestyle,” said Crane. “I’m very proud of the efforts of the more than 4,600 NRG employees working to make this vision a reality, and we all are grateful to be recognized by Ernst & Young for our efforts.”

NRG Energy was founded in 1989 as a subsidiary of Minneapolis-based Northern States Power Company and spun off as a publicly traded company in 2000. Crane assumed the CEO post in 2003, moving the Company from Minneapolis to Princeton, NJ, the following year. Today, NRG is one of the nation’s largest independent wholesale providers of electricity, producing power at nearly 50 facilities concentrated in Texas, the Northeast, Louisiana and California.

Crane was evaluated by an independent panel of judges including regional business, academic and community leaders. As a New Jersey regional award winner, he is eligible for consideration for the Ernst & Young LLP Entrepreneur of the Year’s national program.

The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year awards program celebrates its 24th anniversary this year. The program honors entrepreneurs who have demonstrated exceptionality in such areas as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities.

About NRG

NRG Energy, Inc., a Fortune 500 company, owns and operates one of the country’s largest and most diverse power generation portfolios. Headquartered in Princeton, NJ, the Company’s power plants provide more than 24,000 megawatts of generation capacity—enough to supply more than 20 million homes. NRG’s retail business, Reliant Energy, serves 1.6 million residential, business, commercial and industrial customers in Texas. A past recipient of the energy industry’s highest honors—Platts Industry Leadership and Energy Company of the Year awards, NRG is a member of the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), a group of business and environmental organizations calling for

mandatory legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. More information is available at www.nrgenergy.com.

About Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur Of The Year® Awards Program

Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur Of The Year® is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The award makes a difference through the unique way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 135 cities in 50 countries.

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