



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRG Energy's Langford Wind Farm Commences Operations **NRG's third wind farm adds 150 megawatts of zero-emission wind power**

PRINCETON, NJ, December 15, 2009—NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) has begun commercial operations at the Langford Wind Power Project, a 150 megawatt (MW) wind farm 25 miles south of San Angelo, Texas. NRG subsidiary, Padoma Wind Power, developed the project that is capable of powering more than 100,000 Texas homes with emission-free electricity.

"The Langford Wind Power Project expands our renewable portfolio, giving NRG more valuable emission-free generation capacity in Texas," said David Crane, President and CEO, NRG Energy. "Adding this clean wind generating capacity reduces the overall greenhouse gas intensity of NRG's fleet and enables us to supply Reliant Energy zero-emission energy which it can offer to retail customers in Texas."

The project's 100 General Electric 1.5 MW turbine generators are expected to generate more than 525,000 MW hours of wind energy per year, which will be sold into the ERCOT system. Approximately 200 jobs were created during the nine-month construction period. Now operational, the project will employ approximately 10 full-time professionals.

"This project has already made a substantial investment in the local area through land lease payments, local materials and services procured, and jobs created during construction," said Jan Paulin, President and Chief Executive, Padoma Wind Power. "Through the operation of these units, this investment in the community will continue for decades to come."

In 2008, NRG brought two wind farms online. The first was Sherbino I, a 150 MW wind project near Fort Stockton, Texas, owned and operated in partnership with BP Wind Energy. It was followed by Elbow Creek, a 122 MW wind farm wholly owned by NRG near Big Spring, Texas. With Langford online, NRG now owns almost 350 MW of wind generating capacity in Texas.

Langford is part of NRG's repowering program to meet the energy needs of high-demand, capacity-constrained markets by developing clean and efficient energy sources that include land-based and offshore wind farms, solar thermal and PV fields, and nuclear power generation facilities.

About NRG and Padoma Wind Power

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 more than 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 or www.nrg-econrg.com.

Safe Harbor Disclosure

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions and include NRG's expectations regarding the Langford Wind Power Project and forward-looking statements typically can be identified by the use of words such as "will," "expect," "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, hazards customary in the power industry, weather conditions, competition in wholesale power markets, the volatility of energy and fuel prices, failure of customers to perform under contracts, changes in the wholesale power markets, changes in government regulation of markets and of environmental emissions, unanticipated outages at our generation facilities, the inability to implement value enhancing improvements to plant operations and companywide processes, and our ability to achieve the expected benefits and timing of our *Repowering* NRG projects.

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 be considered in connection with information regarding risks and uncertainties that may affect NRG's future results included in NRG's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission at www.sec.gov.

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