FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL								
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Name and Address of Reporting Person*  Gutierrez Mauricio						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [ NRG ]								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
(Last)	(Fi		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/02/2011							X	Director 10% Owner  X Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)  Exec VP & Chief Operating Ofc								
211 CARNEGIE CENTER						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)					
(Street) PRINCETON NJ 08540														X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City)	(St	ate) (	Zip)																
		Tab	eI-N	lon-Deriv	ative \$	Sec	urities	s Ac	quired, [	Dis	oosed of,	or Ben	eficiall	y Owned		,			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transacti Date (Month/Day)						Execution Date, /Year) if any						es Acquired (A) or Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned		Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
									Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Followin Reported Transact (Instr. 3	ion(s)	(Instr	. 4)	(Instr. 4)	
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share 01/02/20					2011	011			F		229	D	(1)	32,	094		D		
Common Stock, par value .01 per share 01/03/20				2011	)11			A		16,600(2	) A	(3)	48,694			D			
			Tab								osed of, or onvertible			vned					
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	cise (Month/Day/Year) f ive		emed ion Date, n/Day/Year)	4. Transac Code (II 8)		on of I		6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year		Э	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Numb derivativ Securitie Benefici Owned Followir Reporte Transaci (Instr. 4)	ve es ally ng d tion(s)	10. Ownershi Form: Direct (D) or Indirec (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisabl		Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares						
Non- Qualified Stock Options	\$19.83	01/03/2011			A		37,800		01/03/2012	(4)	01/03/2021 <sup>(5)</sup>	Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	37,800	\$0.00	37,81	00	D		
Performance Units	(6)	01/03/2011			A		16,400		01/03/2014	4	01/03/2014	Common Stock, par value	32,800	\$0.00	16,4	00	D		

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. On January 2, 2008, Mr. Gutierrez was issued 600 Restricted Stock Units ("RSU's") by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan (the "LTIP"). Each RSU is equivalent in value to one share of NRG's Common Stock, par value \$0.01\$. On January 2, 2011, the RSUs vested. Pursuant to the LTIP, Mr. Gutierrez elected to satisfy his tax withholding obligation upon the exchange of common stock for RSU's by surrendering a number of shares of common stock having a value on the date of the exchange equal to the tax withholding obligation. This form is being filed to reflect the surrender of 229 shares of common stock to satisfy the grantee's tax withholding obligation.
- 2. Represents Restricted Stock Units issued to Mr. Gutierrez by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan.
- 3. Each Restricted Stock Unit is equivalent in value to one share of NRG Energy, Inc.'s Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share. Mr. Gutierrez will receive from NRG Energy, Inc. one such share of Common Stock for each Restricted Stock Unit on January 3, 2014.
- 4. Pursuant to the Grant Agreement by and between NRG Energy, Inc. and Mr. Gutierrez, the Stock Options will vest and become exercisable as follows: 33 1/3% on January 3, 2012; 33 1/3% on January 3, 2013; and, 33 1/3% on January 3, 2014.
- 5. Stock Options expire ten years from the date of the grant.
- 6. Mr. Gutierrez was issued 16,400 Performance Units by NRG under the LTIP on January 3, 2011. Each Performance Unit will be paid out on January 3, 2014 if the average of the closing price of NRG's Common Stock on January 3, 2014 and the nineteen preceding tracking days (the "Measurement Price") is equal to or greater than \$24.57 (the "Threshold Price"). The payout for each PU will be equal to a pro-rated amount in between one-half and one share of common stock if the Measurement Price equals or exceeds the Threshold Price but less than \$26.66 (the "Target Price"). The payout for each PU will be equal to a pro-rated amount in between one and two shares of common stock if the Measurement Price is equal to the Target Price but less than \$31.17 (the "Maximum Price"). The payout for each PU will be equal to two shares of common stock if the Measurement Price is equal to or greater than the Maximum Price.

share

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- $^{\star}$  If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.