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FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| Chor | ck this box if no longer subject to |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| | |
| Sect | ion 16. Form 4 or Form 5 |
| oblig | ations may continue. See |
| Instr | uction 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

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden

| hours per response: | 0.5 |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Estimated average burden | |

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | |
|---|---------|----------|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| <u>Caldwell Kirbyjon H</u> | | | ,,,,,,, | X | Director | 10% Owner | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) NRG ENERGY, INC. | | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/01/2018 | | Officer (give title below) | Other (specify below) | | | |
| 804 CARNEGIE CENTER | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | ridual or Joint/Group Filing | t/Group Filing (Check Applicable | | | | |
| (Street) | | | | Line) | Form filed by One Rep | orting Person | | | |
| PRINCETON | NJ | 08540 | | | Form filed by More that Person | n One Reporting | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | | | | | | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|---|---|---|--------|---------------|-------|---|---|---|
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (1130.4) |
| Common Stock, par value, \$.01 per share | 02/01/2018 | | A | | 41 | Α | (1) | 52,789 ⁽²⁾ | D | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| | | | | 1 | | 1 | _ | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | r | |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transa Code (8) | | of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) or Dispo of (D) (Instr | 5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and perivative Expiration Date Month/Day/Year) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 7. Title Amour Securi Underl Deriva Securi and 4) | nt of ties ying tive ty (Instr. 3 | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Represents dividend equivalent rights accrued on the reporting person's deferred stock units, which become exercisable proportionately with the deferred stock units to which they relate and may only be settled in NRG common stock. Each dividend equivalent right is the economic equivalent of one share of NRG common stock.

2. Includes 1,679 dividend equivalent rights.



<u>02/05/2018</u>

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* 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.