FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Nu | ımber: | 3235-028 | | | | | | | | |

Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

| | | | | | | UI V | Secui | JII 30(II) | or trie i | nvesimer | it Coi | прапу Асі | 01 194 | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------|---|---|---|---|---|-----------------|-----------|--|---|--------------------|---|---|----------------------|--|---|---|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Hantke William</u> | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG] | | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 | | | <u> </u> | | | - , | | | | X | Direc | ctor | 100 | 6 Owner | | |
| | NRG ENERGY, INC. | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/01/2018 | | | | | | | | | | Office below | er (give title w) | | er (specify ow) |
| 804 CARNEGIE CENTER | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | Form | n filed by One | e Reporting F | erson |
| PRINCE | TON | NJ | 0 | 8540 | | | | | | | | | | | | | Form Pers | | re than One F | Reporting |
| (City) | | (Stat | e) (2 | Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transa Date (Month/Date) | | | | | Execution Date | | n Date, | Transaction Dis | | Dispose | I. Securities Acquired (A Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, i) | | | 4 and Sec Bei Ow | | ount of ties cially I Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | of Indirect | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | | (A) or (D) | Price | e | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | (msu. 4) |
| Common Stock, par value, \$.01 per share 11/ | | | | | 11/01 | 1/2018 | 3 | | | A | | 4 | | A | (1) | | 70,262(2) | | D | |
| | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Derivative Conversion Date | | | 3. Transaction Date Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | of E | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | е | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) | | str. 3 | | | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership ct (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisal | | Expiration Date | Title | or Nur of | ount nber ires | | | | | |

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 95 dividend equivalent rights.

/s/ Brian Curci, by Power of <u>Attorney</u>

11/05/2018

** 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.