FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washi

| wasnington, D.C. 20549 | OMB APPROVAL | | | |
|--|--------------|---------|--|--|
| STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP | OMB Number: | 3235-02 | | |

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

3235-0287 OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Gaudette Robert J | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG] | | | | | | | | | | tionship of Reporti all applicable) Director Officer (give title | | : | L0% C | ssuer Owner (specify |
|---|--|-----|------------|---------|---|--|---------|---|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|----------------------------|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) NRG ENERGY, INC. 804 CARNEGIE CENTER | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/01/2019 | | | | | | | | | | belov | | l | pelow) | | |
| (Street) PRINCETON NJ 08540 (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | . Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ine) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| | | Tab | le I - Nor | n-Deriv | ative/ | Se | curitie | s Acc | quired, | Dis | posed o | of, or | Ben | eficia | ally | Owne | ed | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Trans Date (Month// | | | | | | Day/Year) if | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 5) | | | | 4 and See Be Ow | | ount of ties cially I Following ted | 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) | | | | |
| Common Stock, par value, \$.01 per share 02/0 | | | | | 2/01/2019 | | | | A | | 54 | | A (1) | | ¹⁾ 71,875 ⁽²⁾ | | D | | | |
| | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) 3. Transaction Date Execution Date (Month/Day/Year) (Month/Day/Year) | | | | Date, | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. | | of | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) | | | | vative urity tr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisal | | Expiration Date | Title | of | nber res | | | | | | |

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.

/s/ Christine Zoino, by Power of Attorney

02/05/2019

** 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.

^{2.} Includes 256 Dividend Equivalent Rights.