FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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 Ad Wilder Joh | dress of Reportir | . Date of Event Requiring Stater Month/Day/Yea | nent | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG] | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|--|--|------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| 200 CRESCE (Street) DALLAS | TX | (Middle) RTNERS LLC SUITE 200 75201 | 02/13/2017 | | | tionship of Reporting Pers all applicable) Director Officer (give title below) | on(s) to Issu 10% Own Other (spe below) | er (M | Individual or Joir plicable Line) X Form filed b Person | Date of Original Filed out/Group Filing (Check by One Reporting by More than One derson |
| (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | | | | | | nt of Securities ally Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | |
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share | | | | | | 7,807,214 | I | | See Footnotes ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ | |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | |
| E: (N | | | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | Unde 4) | Title and Amount of Securit Underlying Derivative Securit 4) | | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | Form: Direct (D) or Indirect | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
| | | | Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | | of Shares | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

/s/ Brian Curci, by Power of Attorney 02/15/2017

** 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 5 (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.

^{1.} Represents shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value (the "Common Stock") of NRG Energy, Inc., directly beneficially owned by BEP Special Situations 2 LLC. Mr. Charles John Wilder, Jr. (the "Reporting Person") may be deemed to beneficially own such shares as he is the manager of Bluescape Resources GP Holdings LLC, which is acting as the manager of Bluescape Energy Partners III GP LLC, which is acting as the general partner of Bluescape Energy Recapitalization and Restructuring Fund III LP ("Main Fund"), and Main Fund is acting as a managing member of BEP Special Situations 2 LLC.

^{2.} The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership in such Common Stock except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of Mauricio Gutierrez and Brian Curci, signing singly, the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to: (i) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director and/or owner of greater than 10% of the outstanding Common Stock of NRG Energy, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), Forms 3, 4, and 5 in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules thereunder; (ii) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 3, 4, or 5 and timely file such form with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange or similar authority, including the New York Stock Exchange; and (iii) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-infact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in such attorneyin-fact's discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorneyin-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-infact's substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. Each of the undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming, nor is the Company assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4, and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by each of the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorneys-in-

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of date first written above.

/s/ C. John Wilder, Jr.
