FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

| | Check this box if no longer subjec |
|---|------------------------------------|
| ١ | to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 |
| ı | 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* Pruner Alexandra | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG] | | | | | | | | | ck all app | onship of Reporting all applicable) Director | | erson(s) to I | |
|--|---|--|--------|----------|---|--|------------------|--|--|-------|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/01/2023 | | | | | | | | | | Officer (give title pelow) | | Other (below) | specify | |
| 804 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 Reportin Person | | | | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | | Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Table | l - No | n-Deriva | tive S | ecui | ities | Acq | uired, | Dis | osed of | , or I | Bene | eficial | ly Owr | ned | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transacti Date (Month/Day) | | | | | Execution Date, | | | Date, | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquired (Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3 and 5) | | | | Securi Benefi Owned Follow | ities Fo icially (D d Ind ving (In | | n: Direct or rect (I) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | | Price | Transa | ported ansaction(s) str. 3 and 4) | | | |
| Common | 2023 | | | A | | 5,834(1) | | A | \$0 ⁽²⁾ | 25 | 25,714 ⁽³⁾ | | D | | | | | | |
| Common | | | | | | | | | | 64 | | | By Spouse | | | | | | |
| 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) | rative Conversion Date Execution Date, rity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any | | | | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | | vative crities critied r osed) | 6. Date E Expiratio (Month/D | n Da | | Amount of | | | | | | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Date Code V (A) (D) Exercis. | | Date Exercisa | | Expiration Date | Title | Amo or Num of Shar | ber | | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents 5,834 Deferred Stock Units issued to the Reporting Person under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan.
- 2. Each Deferred Stock Unit is equivalent in value to one share of NRG Energy, Inc.'s Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share. The Reporting Person will receive from NRG Energy, Inc. one such share of Common Stock for each Deferred Stock Unit he owns upon termination of his service on NRG Energy, Inc.'s Board of Directors.
- 3. Includes 1,659 dividend equivalent rights.

<u>Christine Zoino, by Power of Attorney</u>

06/05/2023

** 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.