FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| A / I- ! 4 | D 0 | 00540 |
|-------------|------|-------|
| Vashington, | D.C. | 20549 |

| STATEMENT | OF CHAI | NGES IN | BENEFICIAL | OWNERSHIP |
|-----------------------|----------|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| O I A I E III E I I I | 01 01174 | 1020 | DEITE! IOIAL | OWNER |

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: 3235-0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | | | |
| hours per respons | e 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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Curci Brian</u> | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG] | | | | | | | (Che | eck all app Direct | ' ' | | rson(s) to Is 10% Or Other (| vner | |
|---|--|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|---|--|--|--------|--|---------|----------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| (Last) 804 CAF | (F RNEGIE C | , | Middle) | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/01/2021 | | | | | | | , | below | | | below) | specify | |
| (Street) PRINCE (City) | | | 8540 Zip) | | 4. If A | | | | | | | | | 6. In Line | · | | | | |
| | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da | | | | Execution Date, | | 3. Transaction Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3 5) | | | | Benefic | ies cially Following | Form (D) o | n: Direct r Indirect istr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | Amount (A) or P | | Price | Transa | nsaction(s) tr. 3 and 4) | | | (111501. 4) | | | |
| Common | Stock, par | value \$.01 per sh | nare | 02/01/2 | 2021 | | | Α | | 80 | A S | | \$0 ⁽¹⁾ | 37,895(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) | rivative Conversion Date Execution Date, curity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any | | 4. Transa Code (8) | | Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date Expiration Exercisable Date | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Inst 3 and 4) Amoun or Number of Title Shares | | sstr. | s. Price of Derivative Security Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | y | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |

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 262 dividend equivalent rights.

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

02/03/2021

** 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.