NEWS RELEASE

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NRC Releases Operating License Review Schedule for South Texas Project Expansion

Schedule delivers greater certainty of on-time, on-budget project completion

PRINCETON, NJ – February 11, 2009 – The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a schedule for the Combined License (COL) review of the South Texas Project (STP 3&4) expansion today. Based on the NRC's schedule, Nuclear Innovation North America LLC (NINA) – the nuclear development company jointly owned by NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE:NRG) and Toshiba Corporation, anticipates receiving the COL for the new units in 2012. With this permitting schedule established, we can now move to complete the detailed design and construction schedules from pouring first concrete to fuel load and startup.

Issuing the schedule marks the continuation of NRC's review based on a revision to the STP expansion application filed in September 2008. The revision incorporated a limited number of changes to enhance safety and increase the ability to complete the units on time and on budget using the proven NRC-certified Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) design.

"We strongly believe new advanced nuclear power plants are in the best interest of the American economy and the global environment," said David Crane, NRG President and CEO. "And we equally believe that the nuclear renaissance should be started with the best possible projects with the greatest certainty in terms of cost and schedule. We are convinced, based on the strength of our revised application and alliance with Toshiba that STP 3&4 is one of those projects."

The ABWR design selected for STP units 3&4, and all NINA projects, is the only NRC-certified advanced nuclear design with units fully engineered and built. Four ABWR units have been successfully constructed and have a 12-year operating history. This proven track record should provide the lowest first-of-a-kind technology risk and greater certainty on critical factors such as cost, schedule, process, quantities and operations.

NINA submitted the part II federal loan guarantee application in mid-October to support STP units 3&4.

"We are very comfortable with our current preliminary ranking based on the overall strength of our project, including technology, site and EPC structure and believe we are well-positioned heading into part II of process," said Steve Winn, NINA President and CEO. "With the best site for expansion, a top-notch nuclear operating company, a proven design and now, this schedule in hand, we are moving toward achieving firm, fixed pricing, set delivery dates and performance guarantees to bring these two units online on time and on budget."

STP 3&4 is a 2,700 megawatt nuclear project being developed on a 50-50 basis by CPS Energy and NINA at the existing South Texas Project site in Matagorda County, Texas. STP 1&2 are jointly owned by NRG, CPS Energy, and Austin Energy and operated by the STP Nuclear Operating Company. The existing two units provide clean, safe, reliable energy to more than two million homes and businesses throughout Texas. Originally designed for four units, the plant is one of the nation's top performing nuclear facilities and has led all two-unit plants nationwide in generation for the fifth consecutive year.

About NRG
NRG Energy, Inc., a Fortune 500 company, owns and operates one of the country's largest and most diverse power generation portfolios. NRG's 50 plants provide approximately 24,000 megawatts of generation capacity—enough to power nearly 20 million homes. In November 2007, NRG won two of the industry's highest honors—Platts Industry Leadership and Energy Company of the Year awards. Headquartered in Princeton, NJ, NRG is a member of the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), a group of business and environmental organizations calling for mandatory legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. More information is available at www.nrgenergy.com.

About Advanced Boiling Water Reactors
ABWR technology reflects 50 years of continued evolution of boiling water reactor (BWR) technology and combines the best features of the worldwide BWR fleet with advanced technology enhancements that improve safety, performance and longevity. ABWR technology is certified by the NRC and has an impressive construction and operational track record. This includes setting world records for construction time and bringing the units in on budget. Four ABWR units have been successfully commissioned in Japan in 39 months or less. Toshiba has built two of these units and has developed significant operational experience to support them.

About Toshiba
Toshiba is a world leader and innovator in pioneering high technology; a diversified manufacturer and marketer of advanced electronic and electrical products spanning information and communications equipment and systems; digital consumer products; electronic devices and components; power systems, including nuclear energy; industrial and social infrastructure systems; and home appliances. Toshiba was founded in 1875, and today operates a global network of more than 670 companies, with over 191,000 employees worldwide and annual sales surpassing US$60 billion. Visit Toshiba's web site at www.toshiba.co.jp/index.htm.

Safe Harbor Disclosure

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions and include our expectations regarding the formation of Nuclear Innovation North America and the timing and completion of STP Units 3 and 4, and typically can be identified by the use of words such as "will," "expect," "estimate," "anticipate," "forecast," "plan," "believe" and similar terms. Although NRG believes that its expectations are reasonable, it can give no assurance that these expectations will prove to have been correct, and actual results may vary materially. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated above include, among others, general economic conditions, hazards customary in the power industry, competition in wholesale power markets, the volatility of energy and fuel prices, failure of customers to perform under contracts,

construction delays, changes in the wholesale power markets, changes in government regulation of markets and of environmental emissions, the condition of capital markets generally, and our ability to access capital markets.

NRG undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The foregoing review of factors that could cause NRG's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the forward-looking statements included in this news release should be considered in connection with information regarding risks and uncertainties that may affect NRG's future results included in NRG's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission at www.sec.gov.

Contacts:

Media:
Meredith Moore
609.524.4522

David Knox (Texas and Louisiana)
713.795.6106

Investors:
Nahla Azmy
609.524.4526

David Klein
609.524.4527

Erin Gilli
609.524.4528