

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 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

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Wilson Denise</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>NRG ENERGY, INC.</u> <u>211 CARNEGIE CENTER</u> (Street) <u>PRINCETON NJ 08540</u> (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Exec VP & Pres, New Business</u> |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>08/15/2011</u> | |
| 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 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 | | | |
| Common Stock, par value .01 per share | 08/15/2011 | | A | | 40,000 ⁽¹⁾ | A | (2) | 80,200 | 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 | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | Code | V | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- Represents Restricted Stock Units issued to Ms. Wilson by NRG Energy, Inc. under the NRG Energy, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan.
- Each Restricted Stock Unit is equivalent in value to one share of NRG Energy, Inc.'s Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share. Ms. Wilson will receive from NRG Energy, Inc. one such share of Common Stock for each Restricted Stock Unit on August 15, 2016. Notwithstanding the foregoing, (a) in the event that the Company's Total Shareholder Return (as defined below) has increased by at least 25% between the Date of Grant and August 15, 2014, then the RSUs will vest in full on August 15, 2014, and (b) in the event that the Minimum TSR Condition was not satisfied as of August 15, 2014, but is satisfied as of August 15, 2015, then the RSUs will vest in full on such date. "Total Shareholder Return" shall include the average closing price of a share of Common on the determination date and 19 preceding trading days (20-day average) and (ii) any dividends paid between the Date of Grant and the vesting date.

/s/ Denise Wilson 08/17/2011

** 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.