

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRG Awards Nearly \$75,000 in Grants through Princeton Area Community Foundation

— Six New Jersey-based organizations each receive grants up to \$15,000 —

LAWRENCE, NJ; January 28, 2010—The Princeton Area Community Foundation and NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) awarded approximately \$75,000 in grants to six charitable organizations in central New Jersey. The grants will be used to provide educational services and assistance to underprivileged individuals and families.

“Our role as a community foundation is to encourage philanthropy as a tool for building better communities,” said Nancy W. Kieling, President of the Community Foundation. “By pairing charitable organizations with donations from philanthropic-minded local companies such as NRG Energy, together we can advance the well-being of our community now and in the future.”

“As a major employer and corporate citizen in the communities we serve, we take our social responsibility seriously,” said David Crane, President and CEO, NRG Energy. “We are thankful our work enables us to give back to our local community and make a positive impact on the lives of those less fortunate.”

NRG has donated more than \$11 million in financial grants and donations over the past five years to non-profit organizations that address vital community needs through its NRG Global Giving program. The following organizations recently received grants from NRG:

Jeremiah Project (\$15,000) - The Jeremiah Project Inc. was established in August 2007 to improve the well-being of Trenton’s East and South Wards residents through educational programs and food assistance. The “English at Jeremiah’s” project provides a working knowledge of English for non-native speakers.

Trinity Counseling Services (\$15,000) - Trinity Counseling Services (TCS) has served the Princeton community since 1968. Counseling at TCS is offered by psychologists, social workers, counselors, clergy and psychiatrists. A sliding-fee scale allows counseling to reach those least able to afford services.

Family Guidance Center/Family Children’s Services (\$15,000) - Family Guidance Center and Family & Children’s Services of Central New Jersey merged in April 2008 to better serve individuals in need of mental-health and substance-abuse treatment. They offer free group therapy, case management services, psychiatric evaluation and medication monitoring services for victims of abuse.

Mercer Street Friends (\$15,000) - The mission of the Mercer Street Friends is to help the poor, sick and homeless by distributing food through the Mercer Street Friends Food Bank; in addition to providing clothing, adult basic skills, literacy, child-care services, job training, counseling, family support and medical services.

Rescue Mission of Trenton (\$10,000) - Rescue Mission serves the truly needy men and women who have no place to turn for shelter, food and clothing. They provide a safe, clean and warm refuge for the homeless and others in need, as well as vital services and counseling.

Mobile Meals of Trenton/Ewing (\$4,000) - Mobile Meals of Trenton/Ewing provides nutritious meals and related services designed to promote the independence, dignity, health and well-being of homebound residents in the Greater Trenton area. Mobile Meals serves more than 42,000 hot, nutritious meals to nearly 500 individuals annually.

NRG is committed to the communities it serves and actively supports targeted and sustainable service programs consistent with its four focus areas: community and economic development, education, the environment and human welfare.

About the Princeton Area Community Foundation

The Princeton Area Community Foundation promotes philanthropy to advance the well-being of our communities forever. The Community Foundation provides charitable giving expertise to individuals, nonprofits and corporations, and each year invests millions of dollars into the community through grants and scholarships. For more information on the Community Foundation please contact them at 609-219-1800 or online at www.pacf.org.

About NRG

NRG Energy, Inc., a Fortune 500 company, owns and operates one of the country's largest and most diverse power generation portfolios. Headquartered in Princeton, NJ, the Company's power plants provide more than 24,000 megawatts of generation capacity—enough to supply more than 20 million homes. NRG's retail business, Reliant Energy, serves more than 1.7 million residential, business, commercial and industrial customers in Texas. A past recipient of the energy industry's highest honors—Platts Industry Leadership and Energy Company of the Year awards, 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.

Media Contacts:

Ralph Serpe (The Community Foundation)
609.219.1800

Michelle Tsai (NRG)
609.524.5324

Lori Neuman (NRG)
609.524.4525