



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRG Energy Gives \$100,000 in Fifth Year as Statewide Sponsor of New Jersey Feeding America Food Bank's Check-Out Hunger® Campaign

HILLSIDE, N.J. (November 22, 2010)—For the fifth consecutive year, Princeton, NJ-based electricity provider NRG Energy, Inc., (NYSE: NRG) will be the statewide sponsor for Check-Out Hunger, a campaign that raises funds for the New Jersey Federation of Food Banks to provide food assistance to thousands of people in need.

The Check-Out Hunger program is entering its 20th year, having expanded from New Jersey to the entire northeast. Since the program began, millions of people have added donations to their shopping items at the check-out aisles of participating grocery stores. Last year, Check-Out Hunger raised over \$3 million, including \$1.3 million in New Jersey—both record-high amounts.

Throughout the holiday season, shoppers in every A&P, Fairway of Paramus, Food Basics, Foodtown, Genuardi's, Kings, McCaffrey's, Pathmark, ShopRite, Super Fresh, Wawa, and Wegmans will find \$1, \$2, \$3 and \$5 donation slips on "Check-Out Hunger" placards in the cashier aisle.

"Over the past year, the number of people in New Jersey relying on food stamps increased by more than 26%, the fourth largest increase in the country," said David Crane, NRG Energy's President and Chief Executive Officer. "This is a daunting statistic but it's one that can be improved if we all pitch in, whether it's time or money, to help those in our community who are less fortunate—not just during the holiday season but throughout the year."

"In all my years of food banking, I have never seen a time like this when so many are in need," said Kathleen DiChiara, President and CEO of the Community FoodBank of New Jersey. "We are coming off of a record year, having distributed 35 million pounds of food and groceries. And still it is not enough, the need continues to rise."

Thanks to the generosity of the participating supermarkets and the corporate sponsorship of NRG Energy, 100% of every donation made to "Check-Out Hunger" goes directly to New Jersey's Feeding America food banks. Donations go toward helping emergency pantries, senior meal programs, shelters, low-income day care centers and soup kitchens meet the growing need of New Jersey's neediest residents. Together, these charities serve nearly one million low-income people each year, many of them children and the frail elderly.

Over the past five years, NRG Energy has given almost \$13 million in contributions and grants to non-profit organizations that benefit local communities nationwide. In Mercer County where NRG Energy is based, the Company has a long-standing association with the Mercer Street Friends Food Bank, part of the New Jersey Federation of Food Banks. Earlier this year, NRG Energy donated \$15,000 for Mercer Street Friends' nutrition programs and provided a \$40,000 corporate grant for its Send Hunger Packing backpack drive.

About the Community FoodBank of New Jersey

The Community FoodBank of New Jersey, a member of Feeding America, distributed 35 million pounds of food in the last year to people in need in 18 of New Jersey's 21 counties. Its staff and volunteers fight hunger and poverty not only through the distribution of food and grocery products, but by education and training, and by creating new programs to meet the needs of low-income people. The Community FoodBank of New Jersey has recently earned Charity Navigator's highest honor for the second consecutive year, [a four-star rating](#).

About the New Jersey Federation of Food Banks

The New Jersey Federation of Food Banks is a consortium of five separately incorporated nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is the collection and distribution of charitable food to those that are at risk of hunger in our state. The Federation comprises of the Community FoodBank of New Jersey (and its Southern Branch), Food Bank of Monmouth & Ocean Counties, Food Bank of South Jersey, Mercer Street Friends and NORWESCAP.

About NRG Energy

NRG Energy, Inc., a Fortune 500 and S&P 500 Index 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 nearly 26,000 megawatts of generation capacity—enough to supply nearly 21 million homes. NRG's retail businesses, Reliant Energy and Green Mountain Energy Company, combined serve more than 1.8 million residential, business, commercial and industrial customers. With investments in solar, wind and nuclear power, as well as electric vehicle infrastructure, NRG is working to help America's transition to a clean energy economy. More information is available at www.nrgenergy.com.

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