FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

|   | OMB APPROVAL        |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|   | OMB Number:         | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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0.5

hours per response:

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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Gutierrez Mauricio  |  |    |             |       |                                      | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [ NRG ] |  |                                       |                                       |   |  |   |               |          | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  X Director 10% Owne |   |                                   |   |  |          |
|---|--|----|-------------|-------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------|----------|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|----------|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) NRG ENERGY, INC. 804 CARNEGIE CENTER  |  |    |             |       |                                      | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/01/2019          |  |                                       |                                       |   |  |   |               |          | X  | belov   | ,                                 | Other (specify below) nief Exec Officer |  |          |
| (Street) PRINCETON NJ 08540 (City) (State) (Zip)              |  |    |             |       |                                      | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)             |  |                                       |                                       |   |  |   |               |          | . Indiv<br>ine)<br>X   | ·   |                                   |   |  |          |
|   | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned |    |             |       |                                      |  |  |                                       |                                       |   |  |   |               |          |  |   |                                   |   |  |          |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date) |  |    |             |       |                                      | Execution Date,  |  | Transaction Disposed (Code (Instr. 5) |                                       |   | ities Acquired (A)<br>d Of (D) (Instr. 3,                          |   |               | 4 and So |  | Securities<br>Beneficially  |                                   | ership<br>Direct<br>ndirect<br>r. 4)    | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)  |          |
|   |  |    |             |       |                                      |  |  |                                       |                                       | v | Amount   |   | (A) or<br>(D) | Price    | •  | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)  |                                   |   |  | (1130.4) |
| Common Stock, par value, \$.01 per share 11/01/               |  |    |             |       |                                      | 1/2019   |  |                                       |                                       |   | 99   | A |               | (1       | 1)   | 667,228(2)  |                                   |   | )  |          |
|   |  | Та | ıble II - C |       |                                      |  |  |                                       |                                       |   | sed of,<br>onvertib  |   |               |          | y Ov   | vned  |                                   |   |  |          |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)           | vative Conversion Date Execution Date, irity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any |    |             | Date, | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr. 8) |  | of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4<br>and 5) |                                       | 6. Date E:<br>Expiration<br>(Month/Di | е | Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) |   |               | nt<br>er |  | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | Ow<br>For<br>Dir<br>or I<br>(I) ( | nership                                 | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(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 1,037 dividend equivalent rights.

/s/ Christine Zoino, by Power of Attorney

11/05/2019

\*\* 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.

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