



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRG Energy, Inc. Calls Upon Exelon to Withdraw its Proposal to Expand the NRG Board; Proposal Creates Unnecessary Risks for NRG Stockholders

PRINCETON, NJ; March 26, 2009—NRG Energy, Inc.'s (NYSE: NRG) Board of Directors and management team, in a letter sent earlier today to Exelon, called on Exelon (NYSE: EXC) to withdraw its proposal to expand the NRG Board. In its preliminary proxy materials filed on March 17, 2009, Exelon again proposed to expand the size of the NRG Board to up to 19 directors¹ seeking to elect a total of nine nominees. Exelon has proposed electing four of its nominees to replace four of NRG's incumbent Board members currently up for re-election, including NRG's Chairman, and is also proposing to enlarge the NRG Board and to pack it with five more of its nominees at NRG's annual meeting.

If NRG's stockholders approve Exelon's proposal to expand the size of NRG's Board—and all of Exelon's nominees were elected to the Board—under the current circumstances, Exelon's nominees would hold 50% of the directors on the expanded NRG Board. Under the terms of NRG's debt facilities, such an outcome could trigger an acceleration of NRG's approximately \$8 billion of outstanding corporate-level debt which would have serious negative consequences for NRG and all of its stockholders. Refinancing such a substantial amount of debt, whether done by NRG or Exelon, in the current capital market environment would, at best, be prohibitively expensive and, at worst, impossible to achieve.

Even an outcome which causes current NRG directors to hold a one vote majority poses a threat to NRG stockholders in that the debt acceleration provision could also be triggered by future events, such as the departure of even one current NRG director, for whatever reason.

Given that Exelon's Board expansion proposal could trigger an acceleration of NRG's debt and would create a Board that is unnecessarily large, unwieldy, ineffective and not consistent with best corporate practices, NRG believes that it is incumbent upon Exelon to rectify this situation by withdrawing its proposal to expand the Board.

"NRG believes that the Board expansion element of Exelon's proposal is imprudent and carries with it the risk of occurrence of an unintended event with serious value destructive consequences that would not be in the interest of NRG stockholders; nor is it clear what is gained for Exelon stockholders by Exelon management risking such an outcome," said Howard Cosgrove, NRG's Board Chairman. "Exelon should withdraw its expanded slate. If it does not, the Board of Directors of NRG will act to add an additional director to reduce the risk of an unintended triggering of NRG's debt facilities, which would put NRG and its stockholders at further risk. Consistent with NRG's normal standards, any such director would have the appropriate qualifications and substantial experience in the power industry."

¹ The 19 directors could be comprised of nine current NRG directors; either four incumbent or four new directors; Exelon's expanded slate of five director nominees; and one vacancy.

While NRG anticipates its stockholders will examine the risks and dynamics of this proposed expansion prudently, the Company feels compelled to highlight these issues early on in this proxy contest.

NRG Energy, Inc., a Fortune 500 company, owns and operates one of the country's largest and most diverse power generation portfolios. NRG's 48 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.

Important Information

This communication does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities or a solicitation of proxy of any stockholder of NRG Energy, Inc. ("NRG"). NRG plans to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and furnish to its stockholders a proxy statement and white proxy card in connection with its 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "2009 Annual Meeting"). **INVESTORS AND STOCKHOLDERS OF NRG ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT FOR THE 2009 ANNUAL MEETING IN ITS ENTIRETY WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE BECAUSE IT WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION.**

In response to the exchange offer proposed by Exelon Corporation referred to in this news release, NRG has filed with the SEC a Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9. **STOCKHOLDERS OF NRG ARE ADVISED TO READ NRG'S SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT ON SCHEDULE 14D-9 IN ITS ENTIRETY BECAUSE IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION.**

Investors and stockholders will be able to obtain free copies of NRG's proxy statement (when it becomes available), the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9, any other documents filed by NRG in connection with the exchange offer by Exelon Corporation, and other documents filed with the SEC by NRG at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Free copies of any such documents can also be obtained by directing a request to Investor Relations Department, NRG Energy, Inc., 211 Carnegie Center, Princeton, New Jersey 08540.

NRG and its directors and executive officers will be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in connection with its 2009 Annual Meeting. Information regarding NRG's directors and executive officers is available in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, which was filed with the SEC on February 12, 2009, and its proxy statement for its 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which was filed with the SEC on April 2, 2008. Detailed information regarding the names, affiliations and interests of individuals who will participate in the solicitation of proxies of NRG's stockholders will also be available in NRG's proxy statement for the 2009 Annual Meeting.

Forward-Looking Statements

This communication contains forward-looking statements that may state NRG's or its management's intentions, hopes, beliefs, expectations or predictions for the future. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions, 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, risks and uncertainties related to the capital markets generally.

The foregoing review of factors that could cause NRG's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the forward-looking statements included herein 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 SEC at www.sec.gov. Statements made in connection with the exchange offer are not subject to the safe harbor protections provided to forward-looking statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Contacts:

Media:

Meredith Moore
609.524.4522

Lori Neuman
609.524.4525

Dave Knox
713.795.6106 (Texas and Louisiana)

Investors:

Nahla Azmy
609.524.4526

Dave Klein
609.524.4527

Erin Gilli
609.524.4528