FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| 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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person* COBEN LAWRENCE S | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY INC [NRG] | | | | | | | | | heck a | ionship of Reporting P all applicable) Director | | | Person(s) to Issuer | | |
|--|--|---------|----------|-----------|---------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|--|----------|--------------------|---|---------------|-------------|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| (Last) | (Fi | , | /liddle) | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/01/2004 | | | | | | | | | | Office belov | er (give title v) | | Other (specify below) | | |
| NRG ENERGY, INC. 901 MARQUETTE AVE. | | | | | 4. If A | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| (Street) MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| (City) | (St | ate) (Z | Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transacti Date (Month/Day | | | | | | Execution Date, | | | Transaction Disposed O Code (Instr. and 5) | | | ities Acquired (<i>i</i> d Of (D) (Instr. 3 | | | 3, 4 Secu | | cially I | 6. Owr Form: (D) or Indired (Instr. | Direct | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | | (A) or (D) | Price | Repo Ce Trans | | | (mour | - , | (111541. 4) | |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share ⁽¹⁾ 06/01/20 | | | | | 004 | | | Α | | 2,091(1) | | A | (2) | | 8,158 | |] | 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) | rivative Conversion Date Execution Date, curity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any | | | ion Date, | 4. Transac Code (Ir 8) | | of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) o Dispo | r osed) r. 3, 4 | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Inst 3 and 4) | | ount | 8. Prio of Deriva Secur (Instr. | vative urity tr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Ow For Dir or (I) (| Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisab | | Expiration Date | Title | of | nber res | | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents Deferred Stock Units issued to Mr. Coben by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan.
- 2. Each Deferred Stock Unit is equivalent in value to one share of NRG Energy, Inc.'s Common Stock, par value \$0.01. Mr. Coben will receive from NRG Energy, Inc. one such share of Common Stock for each Deferred Stock Unit he owns upon termination of his service on NRG Energy, Inc.'s Board of Directors.

/s/ David T. Quinby, under power of attorney

06/07/2004

** 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.