| SEC Form 4 |
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Instruction 1(b).

FORM 4

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL

| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | | |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [*] Cox Heather | | Person [*] | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG] | (Checl | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | |
|---|----------|--|--|------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/01/2024 | | Director Officer (give title below) | 10% Owner Other (specify below) | | | | |
| 804 CARNEGI | E CENTER | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indi Line) | vidual or Joint/Group Fil | ng (Check Applicable | | | | |
| (Street) | | | | X | Form filed by One Re | porting Person | | | | |
| PRINCETON | NJ | 08540 | | | Form filed by More th Person | an One Reporting | | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication | | | | | | | |
| | | | Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. | | | | | | | |
| | | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | |

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Transaction Code (Instr. | | 4. Securities Disposed Of | | | | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (1130. 4) |
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share | 02/01/2024 | | A | | 202 | Α | \$0.0000 ⁽¹⁾ | 37,821 | D | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| | | | (0.9.) P | , | | | | optiono, t | | | ounnoo | 7 | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------|--|-------|--|---------------------|--|--|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transa Code (8) | | of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) o Dispo of (D (Instr | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | Expiration Date Amo Month/Day/Year) Secu Unde Deriv Secu | | | tion Date Amount of | | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | | | |

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. Includes 2,450 dividend equivalent rights.

| <u>Christine Zoino, by Power of</u> Attorney | 02/05/2024 | | |
|---|------------|--|--|
| ** 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.