

Hoffmann M Stephen
 Form 4
 January 06, 2009

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Hoffmann M Stephen

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 NRG ENERGY, INC., 211
 CARNEGIE CENTER
 (Street)

PRINCETON, NJ 08540

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 NRG ENERGY, INC. [NRG]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 01/02/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Sr VP & Pres, Western Region

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount (A) or (D) Price | | |
| Common Stock, par value .01 per share | 01/02/2009 | | A | | 1,900 (1) | A (2) | 8,523 (3) D |
| Common Stock, par value .01 per share | 01/03/2009 | | F | | 338 (4) | D | 8,185 D |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Underlying (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---|-----|
| | | | | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | |
| | | | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) |
| Non-Qualified Stock Options | \$ 23.64 | 01/02/2009 | | A | 15,800 | 01/02/2010 ⁽⁵⁾ | 01/02/2015 ⁽⁶⁾ | Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share | |
| Performance Units | <u>(7)</u> | 01/02/2009 | | A | 7,600 | 01/02/2012 ⁽⁷⁾ | 01/02/2012 | Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Hoffmann M Stephen NRG ENERGY, INC. 211 CARNEGIE CENTER PRINCETON, NJ 08540 | | | Sr VP & Pres, Western Region | |

Signatures

/s/ Brian Curci, under Power of Attorney

01/06/2009

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* 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).

(1) Represents Restricted Stock Units issued to Mr. Hoffmann by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan.

(2)

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Each Restricted Stock Unit is equivalent in value to one share of NRG Energy, Inc.'s Common Stock, par value \$0.01. Mr. Hoffmann will receive from NRG Energy, Inc. one such share of Common Stock for each Restricted Stock Unit on January 2, 2012.

- (3) Includes 340 shares acquired under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Employee Stock Purchase Plan on December 31, 2008.

On January 3, 2006, Mr. Hoffmann was issued 800 Restricted Stock Units ("RSU's") by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan (the "LTIP"). Each RSU is equivalent in value to one share of NRG's Common Stock, par value \$0.01. On January 3, 2009, the RSUs vested. Pursuant to the LTIP, Mr. Hoffmann elected to satisfy his tax withholding obligation upon the exchange of common stock for RSUs by surrendering a number of shares of common stock having a value on the date of the exchange equal to the tax withholding obligation. This form is being filed to reflect the surrender of 338 shares of common stock to satisfy the grantee's tax withholding obligation.

- (4) Pursuant to the Grant Agreement by and between NRG Energy, Inc. and Mr. Hoffmann, the Stock Options will vest and become exercisable as follows: 33 1/3% on January 2, 2010, 33 1/3% on January 2, 2011 and 33 1/3% on January 2, 2012.
- (5) Stock Options expire six years from the date of grant.

Mr. Hoffmann was issued 3,800 Performance Units by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan on January 2, 2009. Each Performance Unit will be paid out on January 2, 2012 if the closing price of NRG's Common Stock January 2, 2012 (the "Measurement Price") is equal to or greater than \$30.61 (the "Threshold Price"). The payout for each PU will be equal to a

- (7) pro-rated amount in between one-half and one share of common stock if the Measurement Price equals or exceeds the Threshold Price but less than \$33.21 (the "Target Price"). The payout for each PU will be equal to a pro-rated amount in between one and two shares of common stock if the Measurement Price is equal to the Target Price but less than \$38.84 (the "Maximum Price"). The payout for each PU will be equal to two shares of common stock if the Measurement Price is equal to or greater than the Maximum Price.

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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