

| OMB APPROVAL | |
|---|-------------------|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
| Expires: | December 31, 2014 |
| 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, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * CROPPER STEPHEN L <hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle) NRG ENERGY, INC., 901 MARQUETTE AVE. <hr/> (Street) MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402 <hr/> (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NRG ENERGY INC [NRG] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/01/2004 | |
| 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | |

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|----------------|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share ⁽¹⁾ | 06/01/2004 | | A | | 2,091 ⁽¹⁾ | A | ⁽²⁾ | 6,503 | 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) | 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 Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|-----|--|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Represents Deferred Stock Units issued to Mr. Cropper 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. Cropper 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 06/07/2004
power of attorney

** Signature of Reporting Date
Person

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.