

# NRG Energy, Inc. Reports Full Year Results and Maintains 2021 Guidance

- Aiding Texas communities and performing root-cause analysis
- Significant advancement of customer-focused strategy:
  - Closed Direct Energy acquisition on January 5, 2021
  - Closed on sale of Agua Caliente on February 3, 2021
  - $^{\circ}$  Announcing sale of 4.8GW of fossil generation assets
- Maintaining 2021 guidance

**PRINCETON, NJ - March 1, 2021** - NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) today reported full year 2020 income from continuing operations of \$510 million, or \$2.07 per diluted common share. Adjusted EBITDA for the full year of 2020 was \$2.0 billion, cash from continuing operations was \$1.8 billion and Free Cash Flow Before Growth (FCFbG) was \$1.5 billion.

"Our priority today is both helping our Texas communities recover and working with all necessary stakeholders to improve the resilience of the energy system," said Mauricio Gutierrez, NRG President and Chief Executive Officer. "We continue to advance our customer-focused strategy with the completion of the Direct Energy acquisition and today's announced sale of 4.8 GW non-core fossil generating assets. Our integrated platform performed well in 2020 and continues to perform through unprecedented conditions, further validating our business model."

#### Consolidated Financial Results<sup>a</sup>

	T	<b>Three Months Ended</b>			7	Twelve Mo	onths Ended					
(In millions)	12	12/31/20 12/31/19		12/31/20 12/31/19		12/31/20 12/31/19		12/31/19		12/31/20		2/31/19
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations	\$	(173)	\$	3,463	\$	510	\$	4,120				
Cash From Continuing Operations	\$	451	\$	516	\$	1,837	\$	1,405				
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	330	\$	384	\$	2,004	\$	1,977				
Free Cash Flow Before Growth Investments (FCFbG) <sup>b</sup>	\$	387	\$	539	\$	1,547	\$	1,212				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> In accordance with GAAP, 2019 results have been recast to reflect the discontinued operations of the South Central Portfolio and Carlsbad Energy Center

#### **Segment Results**

### **Table 1: Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations**

(In millions)	7	<b>Three Months Ended</b>				welve Mo	onths Ended		
Segment	12	2/31/20	12	2/31/19	12	/31/20	1	2/31/19	
Texas	\$	(1)	\$	215	\$	799	\$	972	
East		52		7		371		287	
West/Other <sup>a</sup>		(224)		3,241		(660)		2,861	
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations <sup>b</sup>	\$	(173)	\$	3,463		510	\$	4,120	

a. Includes Corporate Segment

Table 2: Adjusted EBITDA

(In millions)	Т	<b>Three Months Ended</b>			,	Twelve Mo	Months Ended			
Segment	12	2/31/20	12	2/31/19	1	2/31/20	1	2/31/19		
Texas	\$	231	\$	251	\$	1,319	\$	1,339		
East		86		103		459		484		
West/Other <sup>a</sup>		13		30		226		154		
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>b</sup>	\$	330	\$	384	\$	2,004	\$	1,977		

a. Includes Corporate Segment

**Texas:** Fourth quarter Adjusted EBITDA was \$231 million, \$20 million lower than fourth quarter of 2019. This decrease is driven by a reduction of load primarily due to weather, increase in bad debt expenses related to COVID-19; partially offset by lower supply costs.

**East:** Fourth quarter Adjusted EBITDA was \$86 million, \$17 million lower than fourth quarter of 2019. This decrease is driven by lower capacity revenues and higher operating expenses, partially offset by lower supply costs.

**West/Other:** Fourth quarter Adjusted EBITDA was \$13 million, \$17 million lower than fourth quarter of 2019. This decrease is driven by lower realized pricing at our Cottonwood facility.

b. In accordance with GAAP, 2019 results have been recast to reflect the discontinued operations of the South Central Portfolio and Carlsbad Energy Center

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## **Liquidity and Capital Resources Table 3: Corporate Liquidity**

(In millions)	2	2/26/21	1	2/31/20	1	2/31/19
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	1,923	\$	3,905	\$	345
Restricted Cash		12		6		8
Total	\$	1,935	\$	3,911	\$	353
Total credit facility availability		1,865		3,129		1,794
Total Liquidity, excluding collateral received	\$	3,800	\$	7,040	\$	2,147

As of December 31, 2020, NRG cash was at \$3.9 billion, and \$3.1 billion was available under the Company's credit facilities. Total liquidity was \$7.0 billion, including restricted cash. Overall liquidity as of year-end 2020 was approximately \$4.9 billion higher than at the end of 2019, driven by \$2.9 billion in financings and a \$1.5 billion increase in credit facilities to fund the Direct Energy acquisition of which \$1.4 billion was issued in the fourth quarter. The increases in credit facility and Put Option Agreement facility became available coincident with the closing of the Direct Energy acquisition. As of February 26, 2021, NRG had \$3.8 billion of liquidity available to continue to support its operations.

#### **NRG Strategic Developments**

#### Extreme weather event in Texas during February 2021

During February 2021, Texas experienced unprecedented cold temperatures for a prolonged duration, resulting in a power emergency, blackouts, and an estimated all-time peak demand of 77 GWs (without load shed). Ahead of the event, NRG launched residential customer communications calling for conservation across all of its brands, and initiated residential and commercial and industrial demand response programs to curtail customer load. The Company maximized available generating capacity and brought in additional resources to supplement in-state staff with technical and operating experts from the rest of its U.S. fleet. NRG is committed to working with all necessary stakeholders on a comprehensive, objective, and exhaustive root cause analysis of the entirety of the energy system.

The estimated financial impact is still preliminary, due to customer meter and settlement data not being finalized, as well as potential customer and counterparty risk and expected ERCOT default allocations. Based on a preliminary analysis, Winter Storm Uri's financial impact is expected to be within NRG's current guidance range. The Company separately stress-tested assumptions and although at a lower probability, this stress-test analysis indicated a potential plus or minus \$100 million to guidance ranges. NRG's integrated platform continues to deliver stable results through unprecedented events.

#### Sale of 4.8GW of fossil generation assets in East and West regions

On February 28, 2021 the Company entered into a definitive purchase agreement with Generation Bridge, an affiliate of ArcLight Capital Partners, to sell approximately 4,850 MWs of fossil generating assets from its East and West regions of operations for total proceeds of \$760 million, subject to standard purchase price adjustments and certain other indemnifications. As part of the transaction, NRG is entering into a tolling agreement for its 866 MW Arthur Kill plant in New York City through April 2025.

The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2021, and is subject to various closing conditions, approvals and consents, including Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), New York State Public Service Commission (NYSPSC), and antitrust review under Hart-Scott-Rodino.

#### Closed sale of remaining ownership in Agua Caliente

On November 19, 2020, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its 35% ownership in Agua Caliente to Clearway Energy for \$202 million. The sale of the solar project closed on February 3, 2021.

#### **Closed acquisition of Direct Energy**

On January 5, 2021, the Company closed on the Direct Energy acquisition, paying an aggregate purchase price of \$3.625 billion in cash, subject to a purchase price adjustment of \$77 million. As part of the acquisition, Direct Energy had cash and margin collateral totaling \$385 million. The Company funded the acquisition using \$715 million of cash on hand, \$166 million draw on its corporate revolver and approximately \$2.9 billion in newly issued secured and unsecured corporate debt. In addition, the Company completed the expansion of its liquidity facilities by \$3.4 billion.

#### COVID-19

NRG continues to remain focused on protecting the health and well-being of its employees, while supporting its customers and the communities in which it operates and assuring the continuity of its operations. In June 2020, summer-critical office employees returned to the offices and safety protocols were successfully implemented. The Company will continue to evaluate additional return to normal work operations on a location by location basis as COVID-19 conditions evolve.

#### 2021 Guidance

Following the closing of the Direct Energy acquisition, NRG updated 2021 guidance to reflect the combination of NRG and Direct Energy based on NRG's previously disclosed guidance. NRG is maintaining its Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Cash from Operations and Free Cash Flow before Growth Investments (FCFbG) guidance for 2021.

Table 4: 2021 Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Cash from Operations, and FCFbG Guidance

	2021
(In millions)	Guidance
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>a</sup>	\$2,400-\$2,600
Adjusted Cash From Operations	\$1,630-\$1,830
FCFbG	\$1,440-\$1,640

a. Non-GAAP financial measure; see Appendix Tables A-8 for GAAP Reconciliation to Net Income that excludes fair value adjustments related to derivatives. The Company is unable to provide guidance for Net Income due to the impact of such fair value adjustments related to derivatives in a given year

#### **Capital Allocation Update**

As part of the Company's long-term capital allocation policy, the return of capital to shareholders during the twelve months ending December 31, 2020 was comprised of a quarterly dividend of \$.30 per share, or \$295 million, and share repurchases of \$228 million at an average price of \$33.05 per share.

On January 21, 2021, NRG declared an 8% increase to its quarterly dividend on the Company's common stock from \$0.30 per share to \$0.325 per share, which was paid on February 16, 2021 to stockholders of record as of February 1, 2021, representing \$1.30 per share on an annualized basis. This increase is in-line with the Company's previously announced annual dividend growth rate target of 7-9% per share.

The Company's common stock dividend, debt reduction and share repurchases are subject to available capital, market conditions and compliance with associated laws and regulations.

### **Earnings Conference Call**

On March 1, 2021, NRG will host a conference call at 9:00 a.m. Eastern to discuss these results. Investors, the news media and others may access the live webcast of the conference call and accompanying presentation materials by logging on to NRG's website at <a href="http://www.nrg.com">http://www.nrg.com</a> and clicking on "Investors" then "Presentations & Webcasts." The webcast will be archived on the site for those unable to listen in real time.

#### **About NRG**

At NRG, we're bringing the power of energy to people and organizations by putting customers at the center of everything we do. We generate electricity and provide energy solutions and natural gas to millions of customers through our diverse portfolio of retail brands. A Fortune 500 company, operating in the United States and Canada, NRG delivers innovative solutions while advocating for competitive energy markets and customer choice, working towards a sustainable energy future. More information is available at www.nrg.com. Connect with NRG on Facebook, LinkedIn and follow us on Twitter @nrgenergy.

### Forward-Looking Statements

In addition to historical information, the information presented in this presentation includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. These statements involve estimates, expectations, projections, goals, assumptions, known and unknown risks and uncertainties and can typically be identified by terminology such as "may," "should," "could," "objective," "projection," "forecast," "goal," "guidance," "outlook," "expect," "intend," "seek," "plan," "think," "anticipate," "estimate," "predict," "target," "potential" or "continue" or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. Such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements about the Company's future revenues, income, indebtedness, capital structure, plans, expectations, objectives, projected financial performance and/or business results and other future events, and views of economic and market conditions.

Although NRG believes that its expectations are reasonable, it can give no assurance that these expectations will prove to be correct, and actual results may vary materially. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated herein include, among others, the potential impact of COVID-19 or any other pandemic on the Company's operations, financial position, risk exposure and liquidity, general economic conditions, hazards customary in the power industry, weather conditions and extreme weather events, competition in wholesale power markets, the volatility of energy and fuel prices, failure of customers or counterparties to perform under contracts, changes in the wholesale power markets, changes in government or market regulations, the condition of capital markets generally, our ability to access capital markets, cyberterrorism and inadequate cybersecurity, unanticipated outages at our generation facilities, adverse results in current and future litigation, failure to identify, execute or successfully implement acquisitions, repowerings or asset sales, our ability to implement value enhancing improvements to plant operations and company wide processes, our ability to achieve our net debt targets our ability to maintain investment grade credit metrics, our ability to proceed with projects under development or the inability to complete, the construction of such projects on schedule or within budget, the inability to maintain or create successful partnering relationships, our ability to operate our business efficiently, our ability to retain retail customers, our ability to realize value through our commercial operations strategy, the ability to successfully integrate businesses of acquired companies, including Direct Energy, our ability to realize anticipated benefits of transactions (including expected cost savings and other synergies) or the risk that anticipated benefits may take longer to realize than expected, and our ability to execute our Capital Allocation Plan. Achieving investment grade credit metrics is not a indication of or guarantee that the Company will receive investment grade credit ratings. Debt and share repurchases may be made from time to time subject to market conditions and other factors, including as permitted by United States securities laws. Furthermore, any common stock dividend is subject to available capital and market conditions.

NRG undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. The adjusted EBITDA and free cash flow guidance are estimates as of March 1, 2021. These estimates are based on assumptions the company believed to be reasonable as of that date. NRG disclaims any current intention to update such guidance, except as required by law. The foregoing review of factors that could cause NRG's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the forward-looking statements included in this presentation 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 Securities and Exchange Commission at www.sec.gov.

#### **Contacts:**

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### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	For the Year Ended Decembe					er 31,		
(In millions, except per share amounts)		2020		2019		2018		
Operating Revenues								
Total operating revenues	\$	9,093	\$	9,821	\$	9,478		
Operating Costs and Expenses								
Cost of operations		6,540		7,303		7,108		
Depreciation and amortization		435		373		421		
Impairment losses		75		5		99		
Selling, general and administrative costs		933		827		799		
Reorganization costs		_		23		90		
Development costs		8		7		11		
Total operating costs and expenses		7,991		8,538		8,528		
Other income - affiliate		_		_		_		
Gain on sale of assets		3		7		32		
Operating Income		1,105		1,290		982		
Other Income/(Expense)								
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates		17		2		9		
Impairment losses on investments		(18)		(108)		(15)		
Other income, net		67		66		18		
Loss on debt extinguishment, net		(9)		(51)		(44)		
Interest expense		(401)		(413)		(483)		
Total other expense		(344)		(504)		(515)		
Income from Continuing Operations Before Income Taxes		761		786		467		
Income tax expense/(benefit)		251		(3,334)		7		
Income from Continuing Operations		510		4,120		460		
Income from discontinued operations, net of income tax		_		321		(192)		
Net Income		510		4,441		268		
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest and redeemable interests				3				
Net Income Attributable to NRG Energy, Inc.	_	510	\$	4,438	\$	268		
Net Intome Attributable to INCO Energy, Inc.	Ψ	310	Ψ	7,730	Ψ	200		
Earnings/(Loss) Per Share Attributable to NRG Energy, Inc. Common Stockholders								
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding — basic		245		262		304		
Income from continuing operations per weighted average common share — basic	\$	2.08	\$	15.71	\$	1.51		
Income/(loss) from discontinued operations per weighted average common share — basic	\$	_	\$	1.23	\$	(0.63)		
Net Income per Weighted Average Common Share — Basic	\$	2.08	\$	16.94	\$	0.88		
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding — diluted	_	246	<u> </u>	264	_	308		
Income from continuing operations per weighted average common share — diluted		2.07	\$	15.59	\$	1.49		
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Income/(loss) from discontinued operations per weighted average common share — diluted	\$		\$	1.22	\$	(0.62)		
Net Income per Weighted Average Common Share — Diluted	\$	2.07	\$	16.81	\$	0.87		

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	For the	Year 1	Ended Dec	ember	31,
(In millions)	2020		2019		2018
Net Income	\$ 510	\$	4,441	\$	268
Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss), net of tax					
Unrealized gain on derivatives, net of income tax	_		_		23
Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of income tax	8		(1)		(11)
Available-for-sale securities, net of income tax	_		(19)		1
Defined benefit plans, net of income tax	(22)		(78)		(35)
Other comprehensive (loss)	(14)		(98)		(22)
Comprehensive Income	496		4,343		246
Less: Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests and redeemable noncontrolling interests			3		14
Comprehensive Income Attributable to NRG Energy, Inc.	\$ 496	\$	4,340	\$	232

### CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

		As of Dec	emb	er 31,
(In millions)	2	2020		2019
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,905	\$	345
Funds deposited by counterparties		19		32
Restricted cash		6		8
Accounts receivable, net		904		1,025
Inventory		327		383
Derivative instruments		560		860
Cash collateral posted in support of energy risk management activities		50		190
Prepayments and other current assets		257		245
Total current assets		6,028		3,088
Property, plant and equipment, net		2,547		2,593
Other Assets				
Equity investments in affiliates		346		388
Operating lease right-of-use assets, net		301		464
Goodwill		579		579
Intangible assets, net		668		789
Nuclear decommissioning trust fund		890		794
Derivative instruments		261		310
Deferred income taxes		3,066		3,286
Other non-current assets		216		240
Total other assets		6,327	1	6,850
Total Assets	\$	14,902	\$	12,531

### CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Continued)

Kurnellions, except share dash         2020         2019           LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY           Current Liabilities         \$ 1         \$ 88           Current portion of long-term debt and finance lease         \$ 1         \$ 88           Current portion of operating lease liabilities         69         73           Accounts payable         499         781           Cash collateral received in support of energy risk management activities         19         32           Accrued expenses and other current liabilities         678         663           Total current liabilities         678         663           Total current liabilities         8,691         5,803           Non-current operating lease liabilities         278         483           Non-current operating lease liabilities         385         483           Nuclear decommissioning reserve         303         298           Nuclear decommissioning trust liability         565         487           Deferred income taxes         19         17           Other non-current liabilities         1,066         1,084           Total other liabilities         11,007         8,494           Total other liabilities         11,007         8,494
Current Liabilities         Current portion of long-term debt and finance lease       \$ 1 \$ 88         Current portion of operating lease liabilities       69 73         Accounts payable       649 722         Derivative instruments       499 781         Cash collateral received in support of energy risk management activities       19 32         Accrued expenses and other current liabilities       678 663         Total current liabilities       1,915 2,359         Other Liabilities       278 483         Non-current operating lease liabilities       278 483         Nuclear decommissioning reserve       303 298         Nuclear decommissioning trust liability       565 487         Derivative instruments       385 322         Deferred income taxes       19 17         Other non-current liabilities       1,066 1,084         Total other liabilities       11,307 8,494         Total Liabilities       13,222 10,853
Current portion of long-term debt and finance lease       \$ 1       \$ 88         Current portion of operating lease liabilities       69       73         Accounts payable       649       722         Derivative instruments       499       781         Cash collateral received in support of energy risk management activities       19       32         Accrued expenses and other current liabilities       678       663         Total current liabilities       1,915       2,359         Other Liabilities       278       483         Non-current operating lease liabilities       278       483         Nuclear decommissioning reserve       303       298         Nuclear decommissioning trust liability       565       487         Derivative instruments       385       322         Deferred income taxes       19       17         Other non-current liabilities       1,066       1,084         Total other liabilities       11,307       8,494         Total Liabilities       13,222       10,853
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Other Liabilities         Long-term debt and finance lease       8,691       5,803         Non-current operating lease liabilities       278       483         Nuclear decommissioning reserve       303       298         Nuclear decommissioning trust liability       565       487         Derivative instruments       385       322         Deferred income taxes       19       17         Other non-current liabilities       1,066       1,084         Total other liabilities       11,307       8,494         Total Liabilities       13,222       10,853
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Deferred income taxes         19         17           Other non-current liabilities         1,066         1,084           Total other liabilities         11,307         8,494           Total Liabilities         13,222         10,853
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Total other liabilities         11,307         8,494           Total Liabilities         13,222         10,853
Total Liabilities         13,222         10,853
Redeemable noncontrolling interest in subsidiaries
Commitments and Contingencies
Stockholders' Equity
Common stock; \$0.01 par value; 500,000,000 shares authorized; 423,057,848 and 421,890,790 shares issued; and 244,231,933 and 248,996,189 shares outstanding at December 31, 2020 and 2019
Additional paid-in capital
Accumulated deficit
Treasury stock, at cost; 178,825,915 and 172,894,601 shares at December 31, 2020 and 2019 (5,232)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss
Total Stockholders' Equity         1,680         1,658
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	For the	Year I	Ended Dec	embe	er 31,
(In millions)	2020		2019	2	2018
Cash Flows from Operating Activities					
Net income	\$ 510	\$	4,441	\$	268
Income/(loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax			321		(192)
income from continuing operations	510		4,120		460
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:					
Distributions from and equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates	45		14		46
Depreciation and amortization	435		373		421
Accretion expense related to asset retirement obligations	45		51		38
Provision for credit losses	108		95		85
Amortization of nuclear fuel			52		48
Amortization of financing costs and debt discounts	48		26		29
Loss on debt extinguishment, net			51		44
Amortization of emission allowances, out-of-market contracts and REC retirements	70		72		71
Amortization of unearned equity compensation	22		20		25
Net gain on sale of assets and disposal of assets	(23	)	(23)		(49
Impairment losses	93		113		114
Changes in derivative instruments	137		34		37
Changes in deferred income taxes and liability for uncertain tax benefits	228		(3,353)		5
Changes in collateral deposits in support of risk management activities	127		105		(105
Changes in nuclear decommissioning trust liability	51		37		60
Oil lower of cost or market adjustment	29		_		2
GenOn settlement, net of insurance proceeds	. –				(63
Net loss on deconsolidation of Agua Caliente and Ivanpah projects	–		_		13
Cash provided/(used) by changes in other working capital, net of acquisition and disposition effects:					
Accounts receivable - trade	. –		5		(83
Inventory	27		22		29
Prepayments and other current assets	4		29		(41
Accounts payable	(56	)	(177)		113
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	(42	)	(75)		(192
Other assets and liabilities	(84	)	(186)		(104
Cash provided by continuing operations	1,837		1,405		1,003
Cash provided by discontinued operations			8		374
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	1,837		1,413		1,377
Cash Flows from Investing Activities					
Payments for acquisitions of assets, businesses and leases	(284	)	(355)		(243)
Capital expenditures	(230	)	(228)		(388
Net (purchases)/sales of emissions allowances	(10	)	11		19
Investments in nuclear decommissioning trust fund securities	(492	)	(416)		(572
Proceeds from sales of nuclear decommissioning trust fund securities	439		381		513
Proceeds from sale of assets, net of cash disposed and sale of discontinued operations, net of fees	81		1,294		1,564
Deconsolidations of Agua Caliente and Ivanpah projects	. –		_		(268
Changes in investments in unconsolidated affiliates	2		(91)		(39
Net contributions to discontinued operations	. –		(44)		(60
Other			6		(6
Cash (used)/provided by continuing operations	(494	)	558		520
Cash used by discontinued operations			(2)		(725
Net Cash (Used)/Provided by Investing Activities	. (494	)	556		(205
	For the	Vear I	Ended Dec	embe	er 31.
(In willians)	2020	. rear I	2019		2018
(In millions)	2020		2019		010
Cash Flows from Financing Activities	2.224		1 022		1 100
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt			1,833		1,100
Payments for short and long-term debt			(2,571)	(	(1,734)
Net (repayments)/proceeds of Revolving Credit Facility			83		(10)
Payments of debt issuance costs	(75	)	(35)		(19)

Payments of dividends to common stockholders	(295)	(32)	(37)
Payments for share repurchase activity	(229)	(1,440)	(1,250)
Payments for debt extinguishment costs	(5)	(26)	(32)
Purchase of and distributions to noncontrolling interests from subsidiaries	(2)	(2)	(16)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	1	3	21
Receivable from affiliate	_	_	(26)
Other	(7)	(4)	(4)
Cash provided/(used) by continuing operations	2,204	(2,191)	(1,997)
Cash provided by discontinued operations		43	471
Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Financing Activities	2,204	(2,148)	(1,526)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(2)		1
Change in Cash from discontinued operations		49	120
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents, Funds Deposited by Counterparties and Restricted Cash	3,545	(228)	(473)
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Funds Deposited by Counterparties and Restricted Cash at Beginning of Period	385	613	1,086
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Funds Deposited by Counterparties and Restricted Cash at End of Period	\$ 3,930	\$ 385	\$ 613

### Appendix Table A-1: Fourth Quarter 2020 Adjusted EBITDA Reconciliation by Operating Segment

The following table summarizes the calculation of Adj. EBITDA and provides a reconciliation to income/(loss) from continuing operations:

(In millions)	Τe	exas	East	West/Other1	Corp	/Elim	Total
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations	\$	(1)	\$ 52	\$ (67)	\$	(157)	\$ (173)
Plus:		=	_			_	
Interest expense, net		_	3	_		106	109
Income tax		_	(1)	_		35	34
Loss on debt extinguishment		_	2	5		_	7
Depreciation and amortization		60	42	7		8	117
ARO Expense		(4)	2	_		1	(1)
Contract amortization		1		_		_	1
EBITDA	-	56	100	(55)		(7)	94
Adjustment to reflect NRG share of adjusted EBITDA in unconsolidated affiliates		7	_	25		(1)	31
Acquisition-related transaction, integration costs, and costs to achieve		_	_	_		11	11
Reorganization costs		_		_		(2)	(2)
Deactivation costs		_	3	_		1	4
Gain on sale of business		_	_	3		_	3
Other non recurring charges		7	5	_		2	14
Impairments		14		33		(5)	42
Mark to market (MtM) (gains)/losses on economic hedges		147	(22)	8		_	133
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	231	\$ 86	\$ 14	\$	(1)	\$ 330

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes International, remaining renewables and Generation eliminations

Fourth Quarter 2020 condensed financial information by Operating Segment:

(In millions)		Texas	East	West	/Other1	Corj	p/Elim	T	Γotal
Operating revenues	\$	1,381	\$ 531	\$	101	\$	(2)	\$	2,011
Cost of sales		805	252		65		(2)		1,120
Economic gross margin <sup>2</sup>	-	576	279	-	36	-	_		891
Operations & maintenance and other cost of operations <sup>3</sup>		198	111		26		(2)		333
Selling, marketing, general & administrative		146	85		11		6		248
Other (income) <sup>4</sup>		1	(3)		(15)		(3)		(20)
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	231	\$ 86	\$	14	\$	(1)	\$	330

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes International, remaining renewables and Generation eliminations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Excludes MtM gains of \$133 million and contract amortization of \$1 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Excludes \$4 million of deactivation costs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Includes development costs. Excludes \$343 million of interest expense, income tax, depreciation and amortization, gain on sale of assets, acquisition-related transaction costs, integration costs, costs to achieve, reorganization costs, other non recurring charges, impairments and loss on debt extinguishment

The following table reconciles the condensed financial information to Adjusted EBITDA:

(In millions)	fin	ndensed nancial rmation	erest, tax, or., amort.	MtM	Deactiva	tion	Ot	her adj.	Adjusted EBITDA
Operating revenues	\$	2,027	\$ _	\$ (18)	\$	_	\$	2	\$ 2,011
Cost of operations		1,271	(1)	(151)		_		1	 1,120
Gross margin		756	1	133		_		1	891
Operations & maintenance and other cost of operations <sup>1</sup>		344	_	_		(4)		(7)	333
Selling, marketing, general & administrative <sup>2</sup>		262	_	_		_		(14)	248
Other expense/(income) <sup>3</sup>		323	(260)			_		(83)	 (20)
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations	\$	(173)	\$ 261	\$ 133	\$	4	\$	105	\$ 330

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Other adj. includes ARO expense

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Other adj. includes other non recurring charges

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Other adj. includes gain on sale of assets, acquisition-related transaction costs, integration costs, costs to achieve, reorganization costs, other non-recurring charges, impairments and loss on debt extinguishment

### Appendix Table A-2: Fourth Quarter 2019 Adjusted EBITDA Reconciliation by Operating Segment

The following table summarizes the calculation of Adjusted EBITDA and provides a reconciliation to income/(loss) from continuing operations:

(In millions)	Т	exas	East	West/Other1	Corp	p/Elim	,	Total
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations	\$	215	\$ 7	\$ (3)	\$	3,244	\$	3,463
Plus:		_	 -			_		
Interest expense, net		_	4	_		88		92
Income tax		_	2	_	(3	3,345)		(3,343)
Loss on debt extinguishment		_	_	3		1		4
Depreciation and amortization		63	34	7		8		112
ARO Expense		17	3	1		_		21
Contract amortization		3	_	_		_		3
EBITDA	=	298	50	8		(4)		352
Adjustment to reflect NRG share of adjusted EBITDA in unconsolidated affiliates		_	_	24		1		25
Acquisition-related transaction, integration costs & costs to achieve		_	_	_		1		1
Reorganization costs		1	_	_		6		7
Legal Settlements		_	_	_		1		1
Deactivation costs		(1)	6	2		3		10
Gain on sale of business		_	_	_		(6)		(6)
Other non recurring charges		(6)	3	(3)		(2)		(8)
Impairments		1	_	4		_		5
Mark to market (MtM) (gains)/losses on economic hedges		(42)	44	(5)		_		(3)
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	251	\$ 103	\$ 30	\$	_	\$	384

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes International, remaining renewables and Generation eliminations

Fourth Quarter 2019 condensed financial information by Operating Segment:

(In millions)		Texas	East	West	Other1	Corp	)/Elim		Total
Operating revenues	\$	1,542	\$ 550	\$	128	\$	(6)	\$	2,214
Cost of sales		982	257		76		2		1,317
Economic gross margin <sup>2</sup>	=	560	293	_	52	_	(8)	_	897
Operations & maintenance and other cost of operations <sup>3</sup>		193	109		26		(1)		327
Selling, marketing, general & administrative <sup>4</sup>		116	82		9		3		210
Other (income) <sup>5</sup>		_	(1)		(13)		(10)		(24)
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	251	\$ 103	\$	30	\$	_	\$	384

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes International, remaining renewables and Generation eliminations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Excludes MtM loss of \$3 million and contract amortization of \$3 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Excludes \$10 million of deactivation costs

 $<sup>^4\,</sup>$  Excludes legal settlements of \$1 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Includes development costs. Excludes \$3,204 million of interest expense, income tax, depreciation and amortization, gain on sale of assets, acquisition-related transaction costs, integration costs, costs to achieve, reorganization costs, other non-recurring charges, impairments and loss on debt extinguishment

The following table reconciles the condensed financial information to Adjusted EBITDA:

(In millions)	fina	densed ancial mation	Interest, depr., am	,	MtM	Deactivation	Other adj.	Adjusted EBITDA
Operating revenues	\$	2,195	\$	- \$	18	\$ —	\$ 1	\$ 2,214
Cost of operations		1,298		(3)	21	_	1	1,317
Gross margin	-	897	-	3	(3)	_	_	897
Operations & maintenance and other cost of operations <sup>1</sup>		418		_	_	(10)	(81)	327
Selling, marketing, general & administrative <sup>2</sup>		244		_	_	_	(34)	210
Other expense/(income) <sup>3</sup>		(3,228)	3,1	139	_	_	65	(24)
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations	\$	3,463	\$ (3,1	36) \$	(3)	\$ 10	\$ 50	\$ 384

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm I}$  Other adj. includes ARO expense and lease amortization

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Other adj. includes legal settlements and other non recurring charges
<sup>3</sup> Other adj. includes gain on sale of assets, acquisition-related transaction costs, integration costs, costs to achieve, reorganization costs, other non recurring charges, impairments and loss on debt extinguishment

### Appendix Table A-3: Full Year 2020 Adjusted EBITDA Reconciliation by Operating Segment

The following table summarizes the calculation of Adj. EBITDA and provides a reconciliation to income/(loss) from continuing operations:

(In millions)	7	Гexas	East	West/Other1	Corp/Elim	ı	Total
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations	\$	799	\$ 371	\$ 19	\$ (679)	\$	510
Plus:		=	 _				
Interest expense, net		_	13	3	377		393
Income tax		_	(1)	2	250		251
Loss on debt extinguishment		_	4	5	_		9
Depreciation and amortization		227	142	32	34		435
ARO Expense		25	16	4	_		45
Contract amortization		5	_	_	_		5
EBITDA	-	1,056	545	65	(18)		1,648
Adjustment to reflect NRG share of adjusted EBITDA in unconsolidated affiliates		9		97	(1)		105
Acquisition-related transaction, integration costs, and costs to achieve		2	_	_	23		25
Reorganization costs		_	_	_	(1)		(1)
Deactivation costs		2	5	2	_		9
Gain on sale of business		_	_	2	(19)		(17)
Other non recurring charges		9	2	_	12		23
Impairments		32	_	61	_		93
Mark to market (MtM) (gains)/losses on economic hedges		209	(93)	3	_		119
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	1,319	\$ 459	\$ 230	\$ (4)	\$	2,004

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes International, remaining renewables and Generation eliminations

Full Year 2020 condensed financial information by Operating Segment:

(In millions)		Texas	East	We	st/Other1	Corp	/Elim		Total
Operating revenues	\$	6,307	\$ 2,266	\$	437	\$	(12)	\$	8,998
Cost of sales		3,656	1,080		190		(6)		4,920
Economic gross margin <sup>2</sup>	_	2,651	1,186	_	247		(6)	-	4,078
Operations & maintenance and other cost of operations <sup>3</sup>		779	444		113		(6)		1,330
Selling, marketing, general and administrative		561	289		38		23		911
Other (income) <sup>4</sup>		(8)	(6)		(134)		(19)		(167)
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	1,319	\$ 459	\$	230	\$	(4)	\$	2,004

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes International, remaining renewables and Generation eliminations

 $<sup>^2\,</sup>$  Excludes MtM gain of \$119 million and contract amortization of \$5 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Excludes \$9 million of deactivation costs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Includes development costs. Excludes \$1,277 million of interest expense, income tax, depreciation and amortization, gain on sale of assets, acquisition-related transaction costs, integration costs, costs to achieve, reorganization costs, other non recurring charges, impairments and loss on debt extinguishment

The following table reconciles the condensed financial information to Adjusted EBITDA:

(In millions)	fin	densed ancial mation	erest, tax, or., amort.	MtM	Deac	ctivation	Other	adj.	Adjusted EBITDA
Operating revenues	\$	9,093	\$ _	\$ (95)	\$	_	\$	_	\$ 8,998
Cost of operations		5,139	(5)	(214)		_			 4,920
Gross margin		3,954	5	119		_		_	4,078
Operations & maintenance and other cost of operations <sup>1</sup>		1,401	_	_		(9)		(62)	1,330
Selling, marketing, general & administrative <sup>2</sup>		933	_	_		_		(22)	911
Other expense/(income) <sup>3</sup>		1,110	(1,079)	_		_		(198)	(167)
<b>Income from Continuing Operations</b>	\$	510	\$ 1,084	\$ 119	\$	9	\$	282	\$ 2,004

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Other adj. includes ARO expense and other non-recurring charges

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Other adj. includes legal settlements and other non-recurring charges
<sup>3</sup> Other adj. includes gain on sale of assets, acquisition-related transaction costs, integration costs, costs to achieve, reorganization costs, other non-recurring charges, impairments and loss on debt extinguishment

### Appendix Table A-4: Full Year 2019 Adjusted EBITDA Reconciliation by Operating Segment

The following table summarizes the calculation of Adjusted EBITDA and provides a reconciliation to income/(loss) from continuing operations:

(In millions)	Τ	Texas		East	West/Other1		corp/Elims		Total
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations	\$	972	\$	287	\$ 7	\$	2,854	\$	4,120
Plus:		-		_					_
Interest expense, net		_		17	9		368		394
Income tax		_		2	1		(3,337)		(3,334)
Loss on debt extinguishment		_		_	3		48		51
Depreciation and amortization		188		121	33		31		373
ARO Expense		28		11	13		(1)		51
Contract amortization		19		_	_				19
EBITDA		1,207	=	438	66		(37)	=	1,674
Adjustment to reflect NRG share of adjusted EBITDA in unconsolidated affiliates		12			104		(1)		115
Acquisition-related transaction, integration costs, and costs to achieve		1		1	_		1		3
Reorganization costs		6		_	_		17		23
Legal Settlements		3		6	2		2		13
Deactivation costs		(1)		12	7		9		27
Gain on sale of business		_		_	_		(6)		(6)
Other non recurring charges		(2)		2	(2)		(3)		(5)
Impairments		103		_	4		6		113
Mark to market (MtM) (gains)/losses on economic hedges		10		25	(15)				20
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	1,339	\$	484	\$ 166	\$	(12)	\$	1,977

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes International, remaining renewables and Generation eliminations

### Full Year 2019 condensed financial information by Operating Segment:

(In millions)		Texas		East	We	st/Other1	Corp	/Elim		Total
Operating revenues	\$	7,022	\$	2,348	\$	424	\$	(6)	\$	9,788
Cost of sales		4,484		1,162		233		(1)		5,878
Economic gross margin <sup>2</sup>	_	2,538	-	1,186		191		(5)	-	3,910
Operations & maintenance and other cost of operations <sup>3</sup>		742		420		112		(4)		1,270
Selling, marketing, general & administrative <sup>4</sup>		483		288		32		12		815
Other (income) <sup>5</sup>		(26)		(6)		(119)		(1)		(152)
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	1,339	\$	484	\$	166	\$	(12)	\$	1,977

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes International, remaining renewables and Generation eliminations

 $<sup>^2~</sup>$  Excludes MtM gain of \$20 million and contract amortization of \$19 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Excludes \$27 million of deactivation costs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Excludes legal settlements of \$13 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Includes development costs. Excludes \$2,277 million of interest expense, income tax, depreciation and amortization, gain on sale of assets, acquisition-related transaction costs, integration costs, costs to achieve, reorganization costs, other non-recurring charges, impairments and loss on debt extinguishment

The following table reconciles the condensed financial information to Adjusted EBITDA:

(In millions)	Conde finan inform	cial	Interest, depr., an		MtM	Deactiv	ation	Other adj.	djusted BITDA
Operating revenues	\$ 9	9,821	\$	0	\$ (33)	\$	_	\$ —	\$ 9,788
Cost of operations	4	5,950		(19)	(53)		_	_	5,878
Gross margin	3	3,871		19	20		0	0	3,910
Operations & maintenance and other cost of operations <sup>1</sup>	1	1,353		_	_		(27)	(56)	1,270
Selling, marketing, general & administrative <sup>2</sup>		827		_	_		_	(12)	815
Other expense/(income) <sup>3</sup>	(2	2,429)	2,	567			_	(290)	(152)
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations	\$ 4	4,120	\$ (2,	548)	\$ 20	\$	27	\$ 358	\$ 1,977

Other adj. includes ARO expense and lease amortization
 Other adj. includes legal settlements, acquisition-related transaction & integration costs and other non-recurring charges
 Other adj. includes gain on sale of assets, acquisition-related transaction costs, integration costs, costs to achieve, reorganization costs, other non-recurring charges, impairments and loss on debt extinguishment

## Appendix Table A-5: 2020 and 2019 Three Months Ended December 31 and Full Year Adjusted Cash Flow from Operations Reconciliations

The following table summarizes the calculation of adjusted cash flow operating activities providing a reconciliation to net cash provided by operating activities:

#### **Three Months Ended**

(In millions)	Decemb	oer 31, 2020	Decem	ber 31, 2019
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$	451	\$	516
Merger, integration and cost-to-achieve expenses <sup>1</sup>		11		20
Note repayment		_		5
Encina Site improvement		7		1
Proceeds from investment and asset sales		_		2
Adjustment for change in collateral		(32)		23
Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Liability <sup>2</sup>		(12)		_
Adjusted Cash Flow from Operating Activities		425		567
Maintenance CapEx, net		(35)		(25)
Environmental CapEx, net		(1)		(1)
Distributions to non-controlling interests		(2)		(2)
Free Cash Flow before Growth	\$	387	\$	539

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  2019 includes cost-to-achieve expenses associated with the Transformation Plan announced on July 2017 call

### **Twelve Months Ended**

(In millions)	December 31, 2020		December 31, 2019	
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$	1,837	\$	1,405
Merger, integration and cost-to-achieve expenses <sup>1</sup>		26		39
GenOn settlement <sup>2</sup>		_		18
Note repayment		_		5
Encina Site improvement		11		1
Proceeds from investment and asset sales		12		2
Adjustment for change in collateral		(127)		(97)
Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Liability <sup>3</sup>		(51)		_
Adjusted Cash Flow from Operating Activities		1,708		1,373
Maintenance CapEx, net		(156)		(156)
Environmental CapEx, net		(3)		(3)
Distributions to non-controlling interests		(2)		(2)
Free Cash Flow before Growth	\$	1,547	\$	1,212

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 2019 includes cost-to-achieve expenses associated with the Transformation Plan announced on July 2017 call

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 2019 includes \$10 million of Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Liability

 $<sup>^2\,</sup>$  2019 includes final restructuring fee of \$5 million and pension contribution of \$13 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 2019 includes \$37 million of Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Liability

### Appendix Table A-6: Full Year 2020 Sources and Uses of Liquidity

The following table summarizes the sources and uses of liquidity for the full year 2020:

(In millions)	= ==	Ionths Ended ber 31, 2020
Sources:	<del>-</del>	
Adjusted cash flow from operations	\$	1,708
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt		3,234
Increase in Credit Facility		1,335
Proceeds from asset sales		81
Collateral		127
Uses:	-	
Share repurchases		(229)
Corporate Debt payments		(335)
Revolver pay down		(83)
Financing Fees - Debt issuance and Debt extinguishment costs		(80)
Midwest Generation lease buyout		(260)
Growth investments and acquisitions, net		(120)
Maintenance and Environmental CapEx, net		(159)
Encina site improvement		(11)
Other Investing and Financing		(20)
Common Stock Dividends		(295)
Change in Total Liquidity	\$	4,893

### Appendix Table A-7: 2021 Adjusted EBITDA Guidance Reconciliation

The following table summarizes the calculation of Adjusted EBITDA providing reconciliation to net income:

	2021 Adjusted EBITDA				
(In millions)	Low			High	
Income from Continuing Operations <sup>1</sup>	\$	1,180	\$	1,380	
Income Tax		25		25	
Interest Expense		475		475	
Depreciation, Amortization, Contract Amortization and ARO Expense		555		555	
Adjustment to reflect NRG share of adjusted EBITDA in unconsolidated affiliates		70		70	
Other Costs <sup>2</sup>		95		95	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	2,400	\$	2,600	

For purposes of guidance, discontinued operations are excluded and fair value adjustments related to derivatives are assumed to be zero Includes deactivation costs and integration costs

#### Appendix Table A-8: 2021 FCFbG Guidance Reconciliation

The following table summarizes the calculation of Free Cash Flow before Growth providing reconciliation to Cash from Operations:

	2021
(In millions)	Guidance
Adjusted EBITDA	\$2,400 - \$2,600
Interest payments	(475)
Income tax	(25)
Working capital / other assets and liabilities	(300)
Cash From Operations	\$1,600 - \$1,800
Adjustments: Acquired Derivatives, Integration Costs, Return of Capital Dividends, Collateral, GenOn Pension and Other	30
Adjusted Cash flow from Operations	\$1,630 - \$1,830
Maintenance capital expenditures, net	(180) - (195)
Environmental capital expenditures, net	(5) - (10)
Free Cash Flow before Growth	\$1,440 - \$1,640

EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are non-GAAP financial measures. These measurements are not recognized in accordance with GAAP and should not be viewed as an alternative to GAAP measures of performance. The presentation of Adjusted EBITDA should not be construed as an inference that NRG's future results will be unaffected by unusual or non-recurring items.

EBITDA represents net income before interest (including loss on debt extinguishment), taxes, depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is presented because NRG considers it an important supplemental measure of its performance and believes debt-holders frequently use EBITDA to analyze operating performance and debt service capacity. EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider it in isolation, or as a substitute for analysis of our operating results as reported under GAAP. Some of these limitations are:

- EBITDA does not reflect cash expenditures, or future requirements for capital expenditures, or contractual commitments:
- EBITDA does not reflect changes in, or cash requirements for, working capital needs;
- EBITDA does not reflect the significant interest expense, or the cash requirements necessary to service interest or principal payments, on debt or cash income tax payments;
- Although depreciation and amortization are non-cash charges, the assets being depreciated and amortized will often have to be replaced in the future, and EBITDA does not reflect any cash requirements for such replacements; and
- Other companies in this industry may calculate EBITDA differently than NRG does, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

Because of these limitations, EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of discretionary cash available to use to invest in the growth of NRG's business. NRG compensates for these limitations by relying primarily on our GAAP results and using EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA only supplementally. See the statements of cash flow included in the financial statements that are a part of this news release.

Adjusted EBITDA is presented as a further supplemental measure of operating performance. As NRG defines it, Adjusted EBITDA represents EBITDA excluding impairment losses, gains or losses on sales, dispositions or retirements of assets, any mark-to-market gains or losses from accounting for derivatives, adjustments to exclude the Adjusted EBITDA related to the non-controlling interest, gains or losses on the repurchase, modification or extinguishment of debt, the impact of restructuring and any extraordinary, unusual or non-recurring items plus adjustments to reflect the Adjusted EBITDA from our unconsolidated investments. The reader is encouraged to evaluate each adjustment and the reasons NRG considers it appropriate for supplemental analysis. As an analytical tool, Adjusted EBITDA is subject to all of the limitations applicable to EBITDA. In addition, in evaluating Adjusted

EBITDA, the reader should be aware that in the future NRG may incur expenses similar to the adjustments in this news release.

Management believes Adjusted EBITDA is useful to investors and other users of NRG's financial statements in evaluating its operating performance because it provides an additional tool to compare business performance across companies and across periods and adjusts for items that we do not consider indicative of NRG's future operating performance. This measure is widely used by debt-holders to analyze operating performance and debt service capacity and by equity investors to measure our operating performance without regard to items such as interest expense, taxes, depreciation and amortization, which can vary substantially from company to company depending upon accounting methods and book value of assets, capital structure and the method by which assets were acquired. Management uses Adjusted EBITDA as a measure of operating performance to assist in comparing performance from period to period on a consistent basis and to readily view operating trends, as a measure for planning and forecasting overall expectations, and for evaluating actual results against such expectations, and in communications with NRG's Board of Directors, shareholders, creditors, analysts and investors concerning its financial performance.

Adjusted cash flow from operating activities is a non-GAAP measure NRG provides to show cash from operations with the reclassification of net payments of derivative contracts acquired in business combinations from financing to operating cash flow, as well as the add back of merger, integration, related restructuring costs and changes in the nuclear decommissioning trust liability. The Company provides the reader with this alternative view of operating cash flow because the cash settlement of these derivative contracts materially impact operating revenues and cost of sales, while GAAP requires NRG to treat them as if there was a financing activity associated with the contracts as of the acquisition dates. The Company adds back merger, integration related restructuring costs as they are one time and unique in nature and do not reflect ongoing cash from operations and they are fully disclosed to investors. The company excludes changes in the nuclear decommissioning trust liability as these amounts are offset by changes in the decommissioning fund shown in cash from investing.

Free cash flow (before Growth) is adjusted cash flow from operations less maintenance and environmental capital expenditures, net of funding, preferred stock dividends and distributions to non-controlling interests and is used by NRG predominantly as a forecasting tool to estimate cash available for debt reduction and other capital allocation alternatives. The reader is encouraged to evaluate each of these adjustments and the reasons NRG considers them appropriate for supplemental analysis. Because we have mandatory debt service requirements (and other non-discretionary expenditures) investors should not rely on free cash flow before Growth as a measure of cash available for discretionary expenditures.

Free Cash Flow before Growth is utilized by Management in making decisions regarding the allocation of capital. Free Cash Flow before Growth is presented because the Company believes it is a useful tool for assessing the financial performance in the current period. In addition, NRG's peers evaluate cash available for allocation in a similar manner and accordingly, it is a meaningful indicator for investors to benchmark NRG's performance against its peers. Free Cash Flow before Growth is a performance measure and is not intended to represent net income (loss), cash from operations (the most directly comparable U.S. GAAP measure), or liquidity and is not necessarily comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies.