

CRANE DAVID W  
Form 4  
January 04, 2012

**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 \*  
CRANE DAVID W

(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)  
01/02/2012

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)  
President & CEO

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	(D)	Price
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	01/02/2012		F		10,834	D	<u>(1)</u> 478,073 <u>(2)</u>

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 Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CRANE DAVID W NRG ENERGY, INC. 211 CARNEGIE CENTER PRINCETON, NJ 08540	X		President & CEO	

## Signatures

/s/ David Crane                      01/04/2012  
 \*\*Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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).

On January 2, 2009, Mr. Crane was issued 31,600 Restricted Stock Units ("RSUs") by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan ("LTIP"). Each RSU is equivalent in value to one share of NRG's Common Stock, par value \$0.01. On January 2,

(1) 2012, the RSUs vested. Pursuant to the LTIP, Mr. Crane elected to satisfy his tax withholding obligation upon the exchange of common stock for RSUs having a value on the date of the exchange equal to the withholding obligation. This form is being filed to reflect the surrender of 10,834 shares of common stock to satisfy the grantee's tax withholding obligation.

(2) Includes 957 shares acquired under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Employee Stock Purchase Plan since the Reporting Person's last filing.

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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