

NRG ENERGY, INC.
Form DEFA14A
July 08, 2009

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant
Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

NRG Energy, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
 - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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 - (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

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- Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
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 - (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

On July 8, 2009, NRG Energy, Inc. (NRG) sent the following letter to NRG stockholders:

[NRG ENERGY, INC. LETTERHEAD]

July 8, 2009

Dear NRG Stockholders:

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of your company, NRG Energy, is now less than two weeks away. At that meeting you will have the opportunity to vote both on Exelon's alternative slate of directors and on their proposal to increase the size of the Board to 19, nine of whom would be directors picked by Exelon for the purpose of achieving favorable consideration of Exelon's offer to acquire NRG. Exelon finally has acknowledged the extreme inadequacy of their offer and the erosion of NRG stockholder support for it. On July 2nd, they increased their offer from 0.485 to 0.545 Exelon shares for your shares in NRG. While their offer represents a move in the right direction, it still represents only a 7.9% premium over the closing share price of NRG on July 1st, the night before their offer. Exelon's revised proposal appears to be an acknowledgement of the obvious: that NRG is worth substantially more. This is a view that we have heard in many of our direct discussions with our largest institutional stockholders. Judging from the paltry 12% of NRG's outstanding shares that were tendered at the time Exelon postponed its third exchange offer, clearly many NRG stockholders share our view that NRG is worth substantially more than Exelon's current highly conditional proposal.

**NRG'S CURRENT DIRECTORS ARE PROVING EVERY DAY THAT THEY ARE DEDICATED TO
ENHANCING AND PROTECTING STOCKHOLDER VALUE**

We are pleased to report that NRG increased its full-year guidance for adjusted EBITDA to \$2.5 billion. In addition, based on the record strength of the Company's current liquidity, NRG's Board of Directors has authorized an increase in the Company's previously announced share buyback program to \$500 million, continuing NRG's long history of returning capital to shareholders. NRG intends to resume its common share repurchases later this year and will seek to complete the \$500 million in buybacks by the end of 2009.

The NRG Board also has given careful consideration to the revised offer from Exelon and the Board's response is reproduced in its entirety below. We are confident that you will find the decision and its reasoning as compelling as the Board itself found. The decision that you are being called upon to make now is whether you want the Directors who are the best suited to create and enhance the value of your holdings in NRG or whether you want to give over the Board to new directors nominated by Exelon?

NRG'S RESPONSE TO EXELON'S REVISED OFFER:

July 8, 2009

Dear Mr. Rowe:

The Board of Directors of NRG Energy, Inc., in consultation with its financial and legal advisors, has thoroughly reviewed and considered your revised offer, as detailed in your July 2nd news release, which as of yesterday's close represented \$27 per NRG share. The Board unanimously has rejected your proposal as it determined that the revised offer is not in the best interest of NRG stockholders in that it continues to substantially undervalue NRG. Indeed, by any objective analysis, the increase in your offer fails to adequately compensate NRG stockholders even for the value created by NRG since your original offer was launched. The Board also rejected this proposal due to the revised offer's extraordinary conditionality which remains unchanged from Exelon's original offer made last fall.

While your revised offer is not acceptable as is, it certainly represents a step in the right direction and is a welcome development after more than eight months of the 0.485 offer. The fact that you were able to increase your offer largely through over \$200 million per year of newfound synergies identified by your consultants leaves open the possibility that, if you would properly recognize the value created by NRG itself, you would be able to increase your current 0.545 offer by a substantial amount.

To reiterate, these value creating actions by NRG include, but are not limited to, the following:

NRG's Reliant Energy Acquisition Worth \$4.50 Per Share in Value:

Your economists ascribed less than \$1 per share to the value of Reliant Energy. You will note from NRG's revised guidance for 2009, we expect Reliant's adjusted earnings per share to approach \$1 per NRG share *just in the last eight months of 2009*. Reliant Energy's contribution to NRG's adjusted EBITDA over the same period is expected to be over \$400 million. The robust countercyclical earnings power of Reliant's retail franchise is just one of several reasons why the Reliant acquisition is worth significantly more than \$1 per NRG share. We are confident, based solely on the earnings guidance released today, that Exelon's economists will see it the same way.

NRG's Unique Position in Leading the Nuclear Renaissance:

In your most recent investor presentation, you explicitly ascribe zero value to NRG's nuclear development program. Yet Exelon has spent tens of millions of dollars over the past two years attempting to develop a *greenfield* nuclear plant in neighboring Victoria County. Surely Exelon, more than most, is in a position to appreciate and properly value our nuclear position in Texas, at the NRC and in the DOE loan guarantee program.

NRG's Repowering Initiative Advances Low and No Carbon Technologies:

Cedar Bayou unit 4, NRG's new 550 megawatt combined cycle plant in ERCOT's Houston Zone, our new wind farms, GenConn and eSolar are just the current lead projects in *Repowering* NRG and are representative of low carbon, asset-based EBITDA growth of a kind that is absent from the Exelon portfolio.

NRG's Significant Cost and Performance Improvements:

Since 2005, NRG has executed on its *FOR* NRG initiatives NRG's Companywide, multi-year initiative to increase the return on invested capital (ROIC) through operational performance improvements. This project has seen considerable success with over \$150 million of after-tax savings through December 2008 and planned after-tax savings that we expect to result in approximately \$300 million of annual additional recurring free cash flow improvements by 2012.

These value enhancing developments add to NRG's financial strength which your revised offer does not yet appreciate or properly value. NRG is a Company that is on track to produce annual EBITDA for 2009 of \$2.5

billion, which represents a compound annual growth rate in EBITDA over the past six years of 21% with a recurring free cash flow yield of 23%. It is the unanimously held view of NRG's Board of Directors that such a company is worth significantly more than the \$27 per share that your July 2nd offer represents.

As we told you when we first met last September, NRG is open to any proposal that properly reflects NRG's fundamental value and extraordinary growth prospects. If you wish to pursue a possible combination with NRG in a more cooperative fashion, you should increase your July 2nd offer by an amount that properly reflects the specific value of the NRG initiatives, especially in light of the additional information provided today. Our management team then would be pleased to sit down with you or your economists and consultants to validate and quantify the combination synergies summarized in your July 2nd presentation and to demonstrate further the full value of NRG's exceptional operating franchise and its unique growth initiatives so that Exelon could provide a reasonable measure of that value to NRG's stockholders.

Sincerely,

/s/ David Crane

/s/ Howard Cosgrove

David Crane

Howard Cosgrove

President and Chief Executive Officer

Chairman of the Board

cc: Board of Directors of Exelon Corporation, c/o Corporate Secretary, Exelon Corporation

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ENHANCE YOUR INVESTMENT IN NRG?

Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, NRG stockholders have the opportunity to tell Exelon that its offer is not acceptable and does not provide NRG stockholders with the fair value represented today nor the potential value of NRG in the future by voting the WHITE proxy card.

**VOTE FOR YOUR BOARD'S NOMINEES ON THE WHITE PROXY
CARD TODAY AND AGAINST THE BOARD EXPANSION PROPOSAL
SPONSORED BY EXELON**

We believe that Exelon's proposals for the Annual Meeting are merely a means to force through its inadequate and highly conditional exchange offer. Exelon should properly compensate NRG stockholders if they want to buy NRG.

To do your part in defeating Exelon's inadequate offer, please vote by phone or Internet following the instructions on your WHITE proxy card. You may also sign, date and return the enclosed WHITE proxy card promptly after you receive it. You may also vote by phone or Internet by following the instructions on your WHITE proxy card. Do not vote any Exelon proxy card at all as it may cancel your previous vote for NRG.

Your vote is important, no matter how many shares you own. If you have any questions or need any assistance voting your shares, please contact MacKenzie Partners, Inc., which is assisting NRG in this matter, at 800.322.2885.

On behalf of NRG's Board of Directors, we thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

David Crane

Howard Cosgrove

President and Chief Executive Officer

Chairman of the Board

Important Information

In connection with its 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the 2009 Annual Meeting), NRG Energy, Inc. (NRG) has filed a definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). INVESTORS AND STOCKHOLDERS OF NRG ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT FOR THE 2009 ANNUAL MEETING IN ITS ENTIRETY BECAUSE IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION. In response to the exchange offer proposed by Exelon Corporation referred to in this communication, NRG has filed with the SEC a Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9. STOCKHOLDERS OF NRG ARE ADVISED TO READ NRG 'S SOLICITATION/ RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT ON SCHEDULE 14D-9 IN ITS ENTIRETY BECAUSE IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION. This communication does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities of NRG.

Investors and stockholders will be able to obtain free copies of NRG 's definitive proxy statement, the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9, any amendments or supplements to the proxy statement and/or the Schedule 14D-9, any other documents filed by NRG in connection with the 2009 Annual Meeting and/or the exchange offer by Exelon Corporation, and other documents filed with the SEC by NRG at the SEC 's website at www.sec.gov. Free copies of the definitive proxy statement, the Solicitation/ Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9, and any amendments and supplements to these documents can also be obtained by directing a request to Investor Relations Department, NRG Energy, Inc., 211 Carnegie Center, Princeton, New Jersey 08540. NRG and its directors and executive officers will be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in connection with its 2009 Annual Meeting. Detailed information regarding the names, affiliations and interests of NRG 's directors and executive officers is available in the definitive proxy statement for the 2009 Annual Meeting, which was filed with the SEC on June 16, 2009.

Forward-Looking Statements

This communication contains forward-looking statements that may state NRG 's or its management 's intentions, hopes, beliefs, expectations or predictions for the future. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions, and typically can be identified by the use of words such as will, expect, estimate, anticipate, forecast, plan, believe and similar terms. Although NRG believes that its expectations are reasonable, it give no assurance that these expectations will prove to have been correct, and actual results may vary materially. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated above include, among others, risks and uncertainties related to the capital markets generally. The foregoing review of factors that could cause NRG 's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the forward-looking statements included herein 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 SEC at www.sec.gov. Statements made in connection with the exchange offer are not subject to the safe harbor protections provided to forward-looking statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Your vote is important, no matter how many or how few shares you own!

*If you have any questions, require assistance with voting your **WHITE** proxy card, or need additional copies of the NRG proxy materials, please contact:*

NRGproxy@mackenziepartners.com

(212) 929-5500 (Call Collect) or TOLL-FREE (800) 322-2885

To vote your shares, please vote the **WHITE** proxy card via telephone or internet by following the instructions on your proxy card. Or you may sign, date and mail the enclosed **WHITE** proxy card in the envelope provided.

We encourage you to disregard and not return any **BLUE** proxy cards that you receive from Exelon.