

Howell Kevin  
Form 4  
January 04, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 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 \*  
Howell Kevin

(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)  
01/03/2006

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)  
EVP, Commercial Operations

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 \$0.01 per share <sup>(1)</sup>	01/03/2006		A		2,200 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	<u>(2)</u> 165,200 D

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

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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)
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 47.95	01/03/2006		A	17,900	01/03/2007 <sup>(3)</sup> 01/03/2012 <sup>(4)</sup>	Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share
Performance Units	<u>(5)</u>	01/03/2006		A	9,000	01/03/2009 <sup>(5)</sup> 01/03/2009	Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Howell Kevin NRG ENERGY, INC. 211 CARNEGIE CENTER PRINCETON, NJ 08540			EVP, Commercial Operations	

## Signatures

/s/ Tanuja M. Dehne, under Power of Attorney  
Date: 01/04/2006  
\*\*Signature of 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).
- (1) Represents Restricted Stock Units issued to Mr. Howell by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan.
- (2) Each Restricted Stock Unit is equivalent in value to one share of NRG Energy, Inc.'s Common Stock, par value \$0.01. Mr. Howell will receive from NRG Energy, Inc. one such share of Common Stock for each Restricted Stock Unit on January 3, 2009.
- (3) Pursuant to the Grant Agreement by and between NRG Energy, Inc. and Mr. Howell, the Stock Options will vest and become exercisable as follows: 33 1/3% on January 3, 2007; 33 1/3% on January 3, 2008; and 33 1/3% on January 3, 2009.

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- (4) Stock Options expire six years from the date of grant.

Mr. Howell was issued 4,500 Performance Units by NRG Energy, Inc. under NRG Energy, Inc.'s Long Term Incentive Plan on January 3, 2006. Each Performance Unit will be paid out on January 3, 2009 if the average closing price of NRG Energy, Inc.'s Common Stock for the ten trading days prior to January 3, 2009 (the "Measurement Price") is equal to or greater than \$67.37 (the "Target Price"). The payout

- (5) for each Performance Unit will be equal to: (i) one share of Common Stock, if the Measurement Price equals the Target Price; (ii) a prorated amount in between one and two shares of Common Stock, if the Measurement Price is greater than the Target Price but less than \$79.49 (the "Maximum Price"); and (iii) 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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