NRG ENERGY, INC.

Form 10-K

February 28, 2014

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT

x OF 1934

For the Fiscal Year ended December 31, 2013.

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT

o OF 1934

For the Transition period from to

Commission file No. 001-15891

NRG Energy, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or

organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

211 Carnegie Center Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(609) 524-4500

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class Name of Exchange on Which Registered

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes o No x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No o Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§ 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o Smaller reporting company o

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes o No x As of the last business day of the most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of the common stock of the registrant held by non-affiliates was approximately \$7,506,455,756 based on the closing sale price of \$26.70 as reported on the New York Stock Exchange.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date.

Class Outstanding at February 26, 2014

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per 325,217,179

share

Documents Incorporated by Reference:

Portions of the Registrant's definitive Proxy Statement relating to its 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K

1

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
GLOSSARY OF TERMS	<u>2</u>
<u>PART I</u>	<u>6</u> <u>7</u>
<u>Item 1 — Business</u>	<u>7</u>
Item 1A — Risk Factors Related to NRG Energy, Inc.	<u>37</u>
<u>Item 1B — Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	<u>51</u>
<u>Item 2 — Properti</u> es	<u>52</u>
<u>Item 3 — Legal Proceedings</u>	<u>56</u>
<u>Item 4 — Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	<u>56</u>
PART II	57
Item 5 — Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equi	ity,
<u>Securities</u>	<u> </u>
<u>Item 6 — Selected Financial Data</u>	<u>59</u>
Item 7 — Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	<u>60</u>
<u>Item 7A — Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>Item 8 — Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	<u>103</u>
Item 9 — Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	<u>104</u>
<u>Item 9A — Controls and Procedures</u>	<u>104</u>
<u>Item 9B — Other Information</u>	<u>104</u>
PART III	<u>105</u>
<u>Item 10 — Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>Item 11 — Executive Compensation</u>	<u>108</u>
Item 12 — Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matt	<u>ter09</u>
Item 13 — Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	<u>109</u>
<u>Item 14 — Principal Accounting Fees and Services</u>	<u>109</u>
PART IV	<u>110</u>
<u>Item 15 — Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules</u>	<u>110</u>
EXHIBIT INDEX	<u>213</u>

Glossary of Terms

When the following terms and abbreviations appear in the text of this report, they have the meanings indicated

below:

2012 Form 10-K NRG's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012

Regulations promulgated by the EPA to implement a section of the Clean Water Act

316(b) Rule regulating cooling water intake structures

ARO Asset Retirement Obligation

ARRA American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

ASC

The FASB Accounting Standards Codification, which the FASB established as the

source of authoritative U.S. GAAP

ASU Accounting Standards Updates – updates to the ASC

AZNMSN Arizona, New Mexico and Southern Nevada

BACT Best Available Control Technology

Baseload Units expected to satisfy minimum baseload requirements of the system and produce

electricity at an essentially constant rate and run continuously

BTU British Thermal Unit

CAA Clean Air Act

CAIR Clean Air Interstate Rule

CAISO California Independent System Operator

Capital Allocation Program

NRG's plan of allocating capital between debt reduction, reinvestment in the business,

investment in acquisition opportunities, share repurchases and shareholder dividends

CCS-EOR Carbon Capture and Sequestration with Enhanced Oil Recovery project

CDWR California Department of Water Resources

C&I Commercial, industrial and governmental/institutional CFTC U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission

CO₂ Carbon dioxide

CPUC California Public Utilities Commission

CSAPR Cross-State Air Pollution Rule

CWA Clean Water Act

Solar power projects, typically less than 20 MW in size, that primarily sell power

Distributed Solar produced to customers for usage on site, or are interconnected to sell power into the

local distribution grid

DNREC Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

DSU Deferred Stock Unit
EME Edison Mission Energy
Energy Plus Holdings Energy Plus Holdings LLC

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency EPC Engineering, Procurement and Construction

ERCOT Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the Independent System Operator and the

regional reliability coordinator of the various electricity systems within Texas

ESEC El Segundo Energy Center LLC
ESPP Employee Stock Purchase Plan
EWG Exempt Wholesale Generator

Exchange Act The Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended

FASB Financial Accounting Standards Board

FCM Forward Capacity Market

FERC Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

FFB Federal Financing Bank
FPA Federal Power Act

FRCC Florida Reliability Coordinating Council

Fresh Start Reporting requirements as defined by ASC-852, Reorganizations

GenOn GenOn Energy, Inc.

GenOn Americas Generation GenOn Americas Generation, LLC

GenOn Americas Generation

GenOn Americas Generation's \$850 million outstanding unsecured senior notes

Senior Notes

Heat Rate

MISO

GenOn Senior Notes

consisting of \$450 million of 8.5% senior notes due 2021 and \$400 million of 9.125%

senior notes due 2031

GenOn Mid-Atlantic, LLC and, except where the context indicates otherwise, its

GenOn Mid-Atlantic subsidiaries, which include the coal generation units at two generating facilities under

operating leases

GenOn's \$2.0 billion outstanding unsecured senior notes consisting of \$725 million of

7.875% senior notes due 2017, \$675 million of 9.5% senior notes due 2018, and \$550

million of 9.875% senior notes due 2020 (\$575 million of 7.625% senior notes due

2014 were redeemed in June of 2013)

GenOn Holdings GenOn Energy Holdings, Inc.

GHG Greenhouse Gases

Green Mountain Energy Green Mountain Energy Company

GWh Gigawatt hour

A measure of thermal efficiency computed by dividing the total BTU content of the

fuel burned by the resulting kWh's generated. Heat rates can be expressed as either

gross or net heat rates, depending whether the electricity output measured is gross or

net generation and is generally expressed as BTU per net kWh

High Desert, LLC

High Desert's \$82 million non-recourse project level financing facility under the Note

Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement

ISO Independent System Operator, also referred to as Regional Transmission

Organizations, or RTO ISO-NE ISO New England Inc.

Kansas South NRG Solar Kansas South LLC

kWh Kilowatt-hours

LIBOR London Inter-Bank Offered Rate

LTIPs Collectively, the NRG Long-Term Incentive Plan and the NRG GenOn Long-Term

Incentive Plan

Marsh Landing NRG Marsh Landing, LLC (formerly known as GenOn Marsh Landing, LLC)

Mass Residential and small business

MATS Mercury and Air Toxics Standards promulgated by the EPA

MD PSC Maryland Public Service Commission
MDE Maryland Department of the Environment

Merger The merger completed on December 14, 2012 by NRG and GenOn pursuant to the

Merger Agreement

Merger Agreement The agreement by and among NRG, GenOn Energy, Inc. and Plus Merger

Corporation, dated as of July 20, 2012

Merit Order A term used for the ranking of power stations in order of ascending marginal cost

Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

MMBtu Million British Thermal Units MOPR Minimum Offer Price Rule

MSU Market Stock Unit

MW Megawatts

MWh Saleable megawatt hours net of internal/parasitic load megawatt-hours

MWt NAAQS NERC Megawatts Thermal Equivalent

National Ambient Air Quality Standards North American Electric Reliability Corporation

4

The net amount of electricity that a generating unit produces over a period of time

divided by the net amount of electricity it could have produced if it had run at full power over that time period. The net amount of electricity produced is the total

amount of electricity generated minus the amount of electricity used during generation

Net Exposure Counterparty credit exposure to NRG, net of collateral

The net amount of electricity produced, expressed in kWhs or MWhs, that is the total

Net Generation amount of electricity generated (gross) minus the amount of electricity used during

generation.

NINA Nuclear Innovation North America LLC

NJDEP New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

NOxNitrogen oxideNOLNet Operating LossNOVNotice of Violation

Net Capacity Factor

NPNS Normal Purchase Normal Sale NQSO Non-Qualified Stock Option

NRC U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

NRG GenOn LTIP NRG 2010 Stock Plan for GenOn Employees (formerly the GenOn Energy, Inc. 2010

Omnibus Incentive Plan, which was assumed by NRG in connection with the Merger)

NRG LTIP NRG Long-Term Incentive Plan

Reporting segment including the following projects: Alpine, Avenal, Avra Valley, AZ

NRG Yield DG Solar, Blythe, Borrego, CVSR, GenConn, Marsh Landing, PFMG DG Solar,

Roadrunner, South Trent and Thermal.

NRG Yield, Inc.

NRG Yield, Inc., the owner of 34.5% of NRG Yield LLC with a controlling interest,

and issuer of publicly held shares of Class A common stock

NRG Yield LLC, which owns, through its wholly owned subsidiary, NRG Yield

NRG Yield LLC Operating LLC, all of the assets contributed to NRG Yield LLC in connection with

the initial public offering of Class A common stock of NRG Yield, Inc.

NSPS New Source Performance Standards

NSR New Source Review

NYISO New York Independent System Operator NYSPSC New York State Public Service Commission

OCI Other comprehensive income

PADEP Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Peaking Units expected to satisfy demand requirements during the periods of greatest or peak

load on the system

PG&E Pacific Gas & Electric
PJM PJM Interconnection, LLC
PPA Power Purchase Agreement

PU Performance Unit