

NRG ENERGY, INC.  
Form 10-Q  
November 08, 2018

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the Quarterly Period Ended: September 30, 2018

Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Commission File Number: 001-15891

NRG Energy, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 41-1724239  
(State or other jurisdiction (I.R.S. Employer  
of incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

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

(609) 524-4500

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required 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  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted 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 such files).

Yes  No

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

Large accelerated Accelerated Non-accelerated filer o Smaller reporting Emerging growth  
filer  filer  company  company

(Do not check if a smaller  
reporting company)

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes  No

As of September 30, 2018, there were 289,930,024 shares of common stock outstanding, par value \$0.01 per share.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Index

<u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING INFORMATION</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>PART I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>ITEM 1 — CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND NOTES</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>ITEM 2 — MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS</u>	<u>67</u>
<u>ITEM 3 — QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK</u>	<u>102</u>
<u>ITEM 4 — CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES</u>	<u>104</u>
<u>PART II — OTHER INFORMATION</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>ITEM 1 — LEGAL PROCEEDINGS</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>ITEM 1A — RISK FACTORS</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>ITEM 2 — UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>ITEM 3 — DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>ITEM 4 — MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>ITEM 5 — OTHER INFORMATION</u>	<u>105</u>
<u>ITEM 6 — EXHIBITS</u>	<u>106</u>
<u>SIGNATURES</u>	<u>107</u>

#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of NRG Energy, Inc., or NRG or the Company, includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or Exchange Act. The words "believes," "projects," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "intends," "estimates" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause NRG's actual results, performance and achievements, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These factors, risks and uncertainties include the factors described under Item 1A — Risk Factors Related to NRG Energy, Inc., in Part I, Item 1A of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the following:

- NRG's ability to achieve the expected benefits of its Transformation Plan;
- NRG's ability to engage in successful sales and divestitures as well as mergers and acquisitions activity;
- The potential adverse effects of the GenOn Entities' filings under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code and restructuring transactions on NRG's operations, management and employees and the risks associated with operating NRG's business during the restructuring process;
- Risks and uncertainties associated with the GenOn Entities' Chapter 11 Cases including the ability to achieve anticipated benefits therefrom;
- NRG's ability to obtain and maintain retail market share;
- General economic conditions, changes in the wholesale power markets and fluctuations in the cost of fuel;
- Volatile power supply costs and demand for power;
- Changes in law, including judicial decisions;
- Hazards customary to the power production industry and power generation operations such as fuel and electricity price volatility, unusual weather conditions, catastrophic weather-related or other damage to facilities, unscheduled generation outages, maintenance or repairs, unanticipated changes to fuel supply costs or availability due to higher demand, shortages, transportation problems or other developments, environmental incidents, or electric transmission or gas pipeline system constraints and the possibility that NRG may not have adequate insurance to cover losses as a result of such hazards;
- The effectiveness of NRG's risk management policies and procedures, and the ability of NRG's counterparties to satisfy their financial commitments;
- Counterparties' collateral demands and other factors affecting NRG's liquidity position and financial condition;
- NRG's ability to operate its businesses efficiently and generate earnings and cash flows from its asset-based businesses in relation to its debt and other obligations;
- NRG's ability to enter into contracts to sell power and procure fuel on acceptable terms and prices;
- The liquidity and competitiveness of wholesale markets for energy commodities;
- Government regulation, including changes in market rules, rates, tariffs and environmental laws;
- Price mitigation strategies and other market structures employed by ISOs or RTOs that result in a failure to adequately and fairly compensate NRG's generation units;
- NRG's ability to mitigate forced outage risk for units subject to capacity performance requirements in PJM, performance incentives in ISO-NE, and scarcity pricing in ERCOT;
- NRG's ability to borrow funds and access capital markets, as well as NRG's substantial indebtedness and the possibility that NRG may incur additional indebtedness going forward;
- Operating and financial restrictions placed on NRG and its subsidiaries that are contained in the indentures governing NRG's outstanding notes, in NRG's Senior Credit Facility, and in debt and other agreements of certain of NRG subsidiaries and project affiliates generally;
- Cyber terrorism and inadequate cybersecurity, or the occurrence of a catastrophic loss and the possibility that NRG may not have adequate insurance to cover losses resulting from such hazards or the inability of NRG's insurers to provide coverage;
- NRG's ability to develop and build new power generation facilities;
- NRG's ability to develop and innovate new products as retail and wholesale markets continue to change and evolve;

• NRG's ability to implement its strategy of finding ways to meet the challenges of climate change, clean air and protecting natural resources while taking advantage of business opportunities;

• NRG's ability to increase cash from operations through operational and commercial initiatives, corporate efficiencies, asset strategy, and a range of other programs throughout NRG to reduce costs or generate revenues;

• NRG's ability to complete the sale of certain assets to Clearway Energy, Inc.;

• NRG's ability to achieve its strategy of regularly returning capital to stockholders;  
• NRG's ability to successfully evaluate investments and achieve intended financial results in new business and growth initiatives;  
• NRG's ability to successfully integrate, realize cost savings and manage any acquired businesses; and  
• NRG's ability to develop and maintain successful partnering relationships.

Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they were made, and NRG Energy, Inc. undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The foregoing review of factors that could cause NRG's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in any forward-looking statements included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should not be construed as exhaustive.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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

2017 Form 10-K	NRG's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017
2023 Term Loan Facility	The Company's \$1.9 billion term loan facility due 2023, a component of the Senior Credit Facility
Adjusted EBITDA	Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization
ARO	Asset Retirement Obligation
ASC	The FASB Accounting Standards Codification, which the FASB established as the source of authoritative GAAP
ASU	Accounting Standards Updates - updates to the ASC
Average realized prices	Volume-weighted average power prices, net of average fuel costs and reflecting the impact of settled hedges
BACT	Best Available Control Technology
Bankruptcy Code	Chapter 11 of Title 11 the U.S. Bankruptcy Code
Bankruptcy Court	United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division
BETM	Boston Energy Trading and Marketing LLC
BTU	British Thermal Unit
Business Solutions	NRG's business solutions group, which includes demand response, commodity sales, energy efficiency and energy management services
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAIR	Clean Air Interstate Rule
CAISO	California Independent System Operator
Carlsbad	Collectively, Carlsbad Energy Holdings LLC and Carlsbad Energy Center LLC
CASPR	Competitive Auctions with Sponsored Resources
CDD	Cooling Degree Day
CDWR	California Department of Water Resources
CEC	California Energy Commission
CenterPoint	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC
CFTC	U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Chapter 11 Cases	Voluntary cases commenced by the GenOn Entities under the Bankruptcy Code in the Bankruptcy Court
C&I	Commercial industrial and governmental/institutional
Cleco	Cleco Energy LLC
COD	Commercial Operation Date
ComEd	Commonwealth Edison
Company	NRG Energy, Inc.
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CSAPR	Cross-State Air Pollution Rule
CVSR	California Valley Solar Ranch
CWA	Clean Water Act
D.C. Circuit	U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
Distributed Solar	Solar power projects that primarily sell power to customers for usage on site, or are interconnected to sell power into a local distribution grid
DNREC	Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
DSI	Dry Sorbent Injection
Economic gross margin	Sum of energy revenue, capacity revenue, retail revenue and other revenue, less cost of fuels and other cost of sales

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El Segundo Energy Center	NRG West Holdings LLC, the subsidiary of Natural Gas Repowering LLC, which owns the El Segundo Energy Center project
EME	Edison Mission Energy
Energy Plus Holdings	Energy Plus Holdings LLC
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
EPC	Engineering, Procurement and Construction
EPSA	The Electric Power Supply Association
ERCOT	Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the Independent System Operator and the regional reliability coordinator of the various electricity systems within Texas
ESP	Electrostatic Precipitator
ESPP	NRG Energy, Inc. Amended and Restated Employee Stock Purchase Plan
ESPS	Existing Source Performance Standards
Exchange Act	The Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended
FASB	Financial Accounting Standards Board
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FGD	Flue gas desulfurization
Fresh Start	Reporting requirements as defined by ASC-852, Reorganizations
FTRs	Financial Transmission Rights
GAAP	Accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S.
GenConn	GenConn Energy LLC
GenOn	GenOn Energy, Inc.
GenOn Americas Generation	GenOn Americas Generation, LLC
GenOn Americas Generation Senior Notes	GenOn Americas Generation's \$395 million outstanding unsecured senior notes consisting of \$208 million of 8.5% senior notes due 2021 and \$187 million of 9.125% senior notes due 2031
GenOn Entities	GenOn and certain of its wholly owned subsidiaries, including GenOn Americas Generation, that filed voluntary petitions for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the Bankruptcy Court on June 14, 2017
GenOn Mid-Atlantic	GenOn Mid-Atlantic, LLC and, except where the context indicates otherwise, its subsidiaries, which include the coal generation units at two generating facilities under operating leases
GenOn Senior Notes	GenOn's \$1.8 billion outstanding unsecured senior notes consisting of \$691 million of 7.875% senior notes due 2017, \$649 million of 9.5% senior notes due 2018, and \$489 million of 9.875% senior notes due 2020
GenOn Settlement	A settlement agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the settlement among NRG, GenOn, and certain holders of senior unsecured notes of GenOn Americas Generation and GenOn, and certain of GenOn's direct and indirect subsidiaries
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIP	Global Infrastructure Partners
GW	Gigawatt
GWh	Gigawatt Hour
HAP	Hazardous Air Pollutant
HDD	Heating Degree Day
Heat Rate	A measure of thermal efficiency computed by dividing the total BTU content of the fuel burned by the resulting kWhs 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
HLBV	Hypothetical Liquidation at Book Value
IASB	International Accounting Standards Board

IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards
IPA	Illinois Power Agency
IPPNY	Independent Power Producers of New York

6

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ISO	Independent System Operator, also referred to as RTOs
ISO-NE	ISO New England Inc.
ITC	Investment Tax Credit
kWh	Kilowatt-hour
LaGen	Louisiana Generating, LLC
LIBOR	London Inter-Bank Offered Rate
LTIPs	Collectively, the NRG LTIP and the NRG GenOn LTIP
Marsh Landing	NRG Marsh Landing, LLC (formerly known as GenOn Marsh Landing, LLC)
Mass Market	Residential and small commercial customers
MATS	Mercury and Air Toxics Standards promulgated by the EPA
MDth	Thousand Dekatherms
Midwest Generation	Midwest Generation, LLC
MISO	Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.
MMBtu	Million British Thermal Units
MOPR	Minimum Offer Price Rule
MW	Megawatts
MWh	Saleable megawatt hour net of internal/parasitic load megawatt-hour
MWt	Megawatts Thermal Equivalent
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPGA	New England Power Generators Association
NEPOOL	New England Power Pool
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
Net Exposure	Counterparty credit exposure to NRG, net of collateral
Net Generation	The net amount of electricity produced, expressed in kWhs or MWhs, that is the total amount of electricity generated (gross) minus the amount of electricity used during generation
NOL	Net Operating Loss