

NRG ENERGY INC  
Form S-8  
March 29, 2004

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 29, 2004

Registration No. 333-\_\_\_\_

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

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**FORM S-8**

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

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**NRG ENERGY, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or  
organization)

**901 Marquette Avenue, Suite 2300  
Minneapolis, MN**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**41-1724239**

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

**55402**

(Zip Code)

**NRG Energy, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan**  
(Full title of the plan)

Scott J. Davido

Senior Vice President and General Counsel

NRG Energy, Inc.

901 Marquette Avenue, Suite 2300

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

(612) 373-5300

(Name and address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

with copies to:

Margaret A. Gibson, P.C.  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
200 E. Randolph Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 861-2000

Gerald T. Nowak  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
200 E. Randolph Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 861-2000

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

| <b>Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered</b> | <b>Amount to be Registered (1)</b> | <b>Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Share (2)</b> | <b>Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price</b> | <b>Amount of Registration Fee</b> |
|---|------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share                  | 4,000,000                          | \$ 21.10   | \$84,400,000                                     | \$10,694                          |

(1) In addition, pursuant to Rule 416(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement also covers an indeterminate amount of interests to be offered or sold pursuant to the employee benefit plan(s) described herein.

(2) Estimated pursuant to Rule 457(h) solely for purposes of calculating the aggregate offering price and the amount of the registration fee based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock reported in the over-the-counter market on March 24, 2004.

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**PART I**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(A) PROSPECTUS**

All information required by Part I to be contained in the prospectus is omitted from this registration statement in accordance with Rule 428 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ), and the Note to Part I of Form S-8.

**PART II**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

**Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.**

The Commission allows the Registrant to incorporate by reference the information it files with them, which means: incorporated documents are considered part of this Registration Statement,

the Registrant can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents,

information that the Registrant files with the Commission will automatically update this Registration Statement and

any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this registration statement to the extent that a statement contained in this registration statement or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement modifies or supersedes that statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this registration statement.

The Registrant incorporates by reference the documents listed below that were filed with the Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ):

- (a) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.
- (b) Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 7, 2004, January 30, 2004, March 2, 2004, March 11, 2004 and March 16, 2004.
- (c) The description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on December 10, 2003, as amended by Form 8-A/A filed on March 22, 2004.

All documents we subsequently file pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered by this registration statement have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of those documents.

**Item 4. Description of Securities.**

Not applicable.

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**Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.**

Not applicable.

**Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.**

***Delaware General Corporation Law***

Section 145(a) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe such person's conduct was unlawful.

Section 145(b) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Delaware Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Delaware Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

Section 145(c) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that to the extent that a director, officer, employee or agent of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in Section 145(a) and (b), or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith.

Section 145(d) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that any indemnification under Section 145(a) and (b) (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because such person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Section 145(a) and (b). Such determination shall be made (1) by a majority vote of the directors who were not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, or (2) if there are no such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (3) by the stockholders.

Section 145(e) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in Section 145. Such expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by other employees and agents may be so paid upon such terms and conditions, if any, as the board of directors deems appropriate.

Section 145(f) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that the indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, Section 145 shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise.



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Section 145(g) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that a corporation shall have the power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's capacity as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under Section 145.

***NRG Energy, Inc. Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and By-laws***

The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant provides, to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law and except as otherwise provided in its by-laws, no director of the Registrant shall be liable to it or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty. Furthermore, the Amended and Restated By-laws of the Registrant provide that each person who was or is made a party or is threatened to be made a party to or is otherwise involved (including involvement as a witness) in any action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or officer of the Registrant or a wholly owned subsidiary of the Registrant or, while a director or officer of the Registrant or a wholly owned subsidiary of the Registrant, is or was serving at the request of the Registrant or a wholly owned subsidiary of the Registrant as a director, officer, employee, partner, member, manager, trustee, fiduciary or agent of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust or other entity or enterprise, including service with respect to an employee benefit plan (an indemnitee), shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Registrant to the fullest extent authorized by Delaware Law, against all expense, liability and loss (including attorneys fees, judgments, fines, excise taxes or penalties and amounts paid in settlement) reasonably incurred or suffered by such indemnitee in connection therewith, and such indemnification shall continue as to an indemnitee who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee, partner, member, manager, trustee, fiduciary or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the indemnitee's heirs, executors and administrators. This right of indemnification includes our obligation to provide an advance of expenses, although the indemnitee may be required to repay such an advance if there is a judicial determination that the indemnitee was not entitled to the indemnification.

The Amended and Restated By-laws of the Registrant also permits the Registrant to purchase and maintain insurance on its own behalf and on behalf of any other person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the Registrant or a wholly owned subsidiary of the Registrant or was serving at request of the Registrant or a wholly owned subsidiary of the Registrant.

**Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.**

Not applicable.

**Item 8. Exhibits.**

See the Exhibit Index included elsewhere herein.

**Item 9. Undertakings.**

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

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(a)(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

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*provided, however*, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Minneapolis, State of Minnesota, on March 29, 2004.

**NRG ENERGY, INC.**

By: /s/ DAVID W. CRANE

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David W. Crane  
President and Chief Executive Officer

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Each of the undersigned whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints each of Scott J. Davido, David T. Quinby and Timothy W. O'Brien or any of them, each acting alone, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for such person and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign this Registration Statement on Form S-8 (including all pre-effective and post-effective amendments), and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, each acting alone, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming that any such attorney-in-fact and agent, or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

\* \* \* \* \*

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on March 29, 2004.

| <b><u>Signature</u></b>                                 | <b><u>Title</u></b>   |
|---|---|
| <u>/s/ DAVID W. CRANE</u><br>David W. Crane             | President, Chief Executive Officer<br>and Director<br>(Principal Executive Officer) |
| <u>/s/ GEORGE P.<br/>SCHAEFER</u><br>George P. Schaefer | Vice President and Treasurer<br>(Principal Financial Officer)                       |
| <u>/s/ WILLIAM T.<br/>PIEPER</u><br>William T. Pieper   | Vice President and Controller<br>(Principal Accounting Officer)                     |

/s/ HOWARD E.  
COSGROVE

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Chairman of the Board of Directors

Howard E. Cosgrove

/s/ RAMON  
BETOLAZA

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Director

Ramon Betolaza

/s/ JOHN F.  
CHLEBOWSKI

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Director

John F. Chlebowski

Director

---

Lawrence Coben

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| <b><u>Signature</u></b>                                 | <b><u>Title</u></b> |
|---|---------------------|
| <u>/s/ STEPHEN L.<br/>CROPPER</u><br>Stephen L. Cropper | Director            |
| <u>/s/ HERBERT H.<br/>TATE</u><br>Herbert H. Tate       | Director            |
| <u>/s/ MARK R.<br/>PATTERSON</u><br>Mark R. Patterson   | Director            |
| <u>/s/ FRANK S.<br/>PLIMPTON</u><br>Frank S. Plimpton   | Director            |
| <u>/s/ THOMAS<br/>WEIDEMEYER</u><br>Thomas Weidemeyer   | Director            |
| <u>/s/ WALTER R.<br/>YOUNG</u><br>Walter R. Young       | Director            |

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| <b>Exhibit<br/>Number</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|---------------------------|---|
| 3.1                       | Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of NRG Energy, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of NRG Energy, Inc. s annual report on Form 10-K filed on March 16, 2004. |
| 3.2                       | Amended and Restated By-laws of NRG Energy, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of NRG Energy, Inc. s annual report on Form 10-K filed on March 16, 2004.                      |
| 4                         | NRG Energy, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan.  |
| 5                         | Opinion of Kirkland & Ellis LLP.  |
| 23.1                      | Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.  |
| 23.2                      | Consent of Kirkland & Ellis LLP (included in Exhibit 5).  |
| 24                        | Power of Attorney (included on the signature page of this Registration Statement).  |