



November 15, 2021

Via email to: Christine.Zoino@nrg.com

Christine A. Zoino
VP, Deputy General Counsel & Corporate Secretary
NRG Energy, Inc.
804 Carnegie Center Blvd, Princeton, NJ 08540

Dear Ms. Zoino:

The Unitarian Universalist Association, a long-time shareowner of NRG Energy (the “Company”), is hereby submitting the attached proposal (the “Proposal”) pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Commission’s Rule 14a-8 to be included in the proxy statement of the “Company” for its 2022 annual meeting of shareholders. The resolution requests that the board conduct an evaluation and issue a report describing how NRG’s lobbying activities (both direct and indirect) align with the ultimate goal of the Paris Agreement to limit average global warming to 1.5° Celsius.

The Unitarian Universalist Association (“UUA”) is a faith community of more than 1000 self-governing congregations that brings to the world a vision of religious freedom, tolerance, and social justice. With roots in the Jewish and Christian traditions, Unitarianism and Universalism have been forces in American spirituality from the time of the first Pilgrim and Puritan settlers. The UUA is also an investor with an endowment valued at approximately \$267 million, the earnings from which are an important source of revenue supporting our work in the world. The UUA takes its responsibility as an investor and shareowner very seriously. We view the shareholder resolution process as an opportunity to bear witness to our values at the same time that we enhance the long-term value of our investments.

The UUA, through its Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund, has been a shareholder continuously since and including January 4, 2020, holding at least \$2,000 in market value and will continue to hold at least the requisite number of shares for proxy resolutions through the annual shareholders’ meeting. Verification of this ownership will be sent under separate cover.

The UUA is available to meet with the Company via teleconference on any time between 10:00 AM and noon Eastern time on Thursday, December 2,

2021. Alternatively, I would be happy to arrange for a call to discuss our proposal at a mutually convenient time.

If you have questions or wish to discuss the proposal, please contact me at (617) 620-0574 or tbrennan@uua.org.

Very truly yours,



Timothy Brennan,
Special Advisor on Responsible Investing

cc: Andrew McGeorge, Treasurer & CFO, UUA

Enclosure: Shareholder resolution



NRG Energy Inc.: Paris Agreement-aligned Climate Lobbying

RESOLVED: Shareholders request that the Board of Directors conduct an evaluation and issue a report (at reasonable cost, omitting proprietary information) describing if, and how, NRG Energy Inc.'s ("NRG's") lobbying activities (both direct and indirect) align with the ultimate goal of the Paris Agreement to limit average global warming to 1.5° Celsius, and how NRG plans to mitigate risks presented by any misalignment.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Scientists assert that greenhouse gas emissions must decline by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 to limit global warming to 1.5°C.¹

The United Nations Environment Programme reports that critical gaps remain between government commitments and the actions required to prevent the worst effects of climate change.² Companies have an important and constructive role to play in enabling policymakers to close these gaps.

NRG has voiced support for the goals of the Paris Agreement and set science-based emissions targets aligned with the 1.5°C objective. But it is unclear to proponents how NRG's direct lobbying and policy advocacy through trade associations and other politically focused nonprofits align with the Paris Agreement's aims. NRG does not disclose a comprehensive list of its trade association memberships or policy organization involvement. NRG further does not disclose how it resolves any misalignment with such groups, noting: "Continued involvement does not imply agreement with all the views expressed by these organizations."³

Of particular concern are trade associations and other politically active organizations that speak for business but too often present forceful obstacles to progress in addressing the climate crisis.

Corporate lobbying that is inconsistent with the Paris Agreement presents increasingly material risks to companies and investors, including systemic risks to our financial systems, as delays in emissions reductions increase the compounding physical risks of climate change, threaten economic stability, and heighten uncertainty and volatility in investment portfolios.⁴ We believe that Paris-aligned climate lobbying, and assessments to ensure alignment, help to mitigate these risks, and enhance the long-term value of companies.

As investors, we view fulfillment of the Paris Agreement's goal as an imperative to discharging our fiduciary duties. We are convinced that unabated climate change will have a devastating impact on political stability and infrastructure, impair access to finance and insurance, exacerbate health risks and costs, disrupt energy availability, and impact the value of our investments. "Business as usual" climate scenarios of 3-4°C or more are unacceptable and uninvestable.

¹ <https://unfccc.int/news/updated-ndc-synthesis-report-worrying-trends-confirmed>

² <https://www.unep.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-2021>

³ <https://www.nrg.com/energy-policy.html>

⁴ <https://www.occ.gov/news-issuances/speeches/2021/pub-speech-2021-116.pdf?source=email>

Investors' focus on the misalignment between companies' policies or commitments and their public policy advocacy has intensified recently,⁵ as has concern regarding broader corporate actions to stall short- and medium-term progress on the Paris Agreement's objectives.

Highlighting selective examples of NRG's or its trade groups' limited actions for emissions progress is insufficient. We support a comprehensive review of corporate lobbying and the degree of alignment with the Paris Agreement's objectives, as well as plans for actions to address any misalignment.

⁵ <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/04/20/investors-corporate-climate-lobbying-activity-483429>