



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### NRG Energy, Inc. Sells Its Ownership Interest in German Plant Schkopau

**PRINCETON, NJ; July 17, 2012**—NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) has sold its minority ownership interest in Schkopau, the 900 MW (400 MW net to NRG) coal-fueled power station near Halle, Germany, to Energeticky a prumyslovy holding, a.s. (EPH), a Czech Republic-based coal mining and electricity company.

"Schkopau has been a solid performer in our conventional fleet for many years now," said David Crane, NRG President and CEO. "However, given NRG's focus on retail electricity, conventional generation in our core domestic markets, and fast-growing clean energy businesses, we can use the sale of non-core assets like Schkopau to invest in initiatives that leverage our core facilities and operations."

Schkopau is jointly owned by NRG (through its wholly owned subsidiary, Saale Energie GmbH (SEG)) and German partner E.ON Kraftwerke GmbH. SEG owns 41.9% of Kraftwerk Schkopau GbR (the plant) and 44.4% of Kraftwerk Schkopau Betriebsgesellschaft mbH (the plant's operating company). EPH is purchasing 100% of SEG from NRG. With the sale of Schkopau, NRG fully exits the European market.

EPH also acquired MIBRAG, an integrated coal mining and power generating business, from NRG in 2009. MIBRAG's Profen mine contractually supplies the lignite coal to Schkopau.

The purchase price paid by EPH was approximately EUR 141 million. After taking into account fees, foreign exchange costs and other transaction expenses, NRG expects to be able to repatriate approximately USD 174 million in net proceeds prior to the end of 2012. The net proceeds received by NRG arising out of this transaction increase its restricted payment availability under its senior notes and credit facility by an equivalent amount. Deutsche Bank served as financial advisor to NRG.

#### **About NRG**

NRG is at the forefront of changing how people think about and use energy. A Fortune 500 company, NRG is a pioneer in developing cleaner and smarter energy choices for our customers: whether as one of the largest solar power developers in the country, or by building the first privately funded electric vehicle charging infrastructure or by giving customers the latest smart energy solutions to better manage their energy use. Our diverse power generating facilities can support more than 20 million homes and our retail electricity providers – Reliant, Green Mountain Energy Company and Energy Plus – serve more than two million customers. More information is available at [www.nrgenergy.com](http://www.nrgenergy.com).

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