



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NRG Raises More than \$120,000 for the Mercer Street Friends Food Bank**

***-Annual Fundraising Event Brings Employees, Family and Friends Together  
to Fight Hunger in NJ-***

**PRINCETON, NJ; October 1, 2008** — In New Jersey, nearly 750,000 residents live in households earning less than the federal poverty level. Stagnant wages, along with rising costs for healthcare, gasoline, housing and groceries, are making it increasingly difficult for some less fortunate families to buy food.

NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG), a Princeton-based wholesale energy provider, recently held its annual picnic and charity fundraiser to address this year-round concern. Through silent and live auctions and a raffle, NRG's employees raised \$60,000 for Mercer Street Friends Food Bank, a regional food bank that helps families who reside in Mercer County. Additionally, NRG Global Giving matched the contribution dollar for dollar, and will present \$120,000 to the food bank.

"Our hearts go out to NRG for making the Mercer Street Friends Food Bank the beneficiary of this year's charity event," commented Phyllis Stoolmacher, Director, Mercer Street Friends Food Bank. "On behalf of the 18,000 people at risk for hunger in Mercer County who are assisted by our programs, I would like to extend my deepest thanks."

"Mercer Street Friends is an inspiring organization with unyielding dedication to fighting hunger in Mercer County," said David Crane, President and Chief Executive Officer, NRG Energy, Inc. "Programs like this really resonate with our employees. We work closely with Phyllis and her team to lend a hand not only financially, but as volunteers when extra help is needed."

The Mercer Street Friends Food Bank is a part of the New Jersey Federation of Food Banks, and just one project currently being funded through NRG's Global Giving initiative. NRG is also the statewide sponsor of the organization's Check-Out Hunger campaign which kicks-off in participating supermarkets this fall.

###

### **About Mercer Street Friends**

Founded by Quakers and promulgating the values of tolerance, equality of all people, social justice and nonviolent resolution of conflict, Mercer Street Friends works tirelessly to touch the lives of more than 30,000 people a year and help them overcome the debilitating effects of poverty, hunger, neglect and health concerns. This year marks fifty years that Mercer Street Friends has been providing essential services to the needy of Mercer County.

### **About NRG Energy, Inc.**

NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG), a *Fortune* 500 company, owns and operates one of the country's largest and most diverse power generation portfolios. NRG's 48 plants provide approximately 24,000 megawatts of generation capacity—enough to power nearly 20 million homes. In November 2007, NRG won two of the industry's highest honors—Platts Industry Leadership and Energy Company of the Year awards.

Headquartered in Princeton, NJ, NRG is a member of the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), a group of business and environmental organizations calling for mandatory legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and a founding member of "3C—Combat Climate Change," a global initiative taking a leadership role in designing the road map to a low carbon society. For more information on NRG Energy, please visit [www.nrgenergy.com](http://www.nrgenergy.com).

# # #

### **Media Contacts:**

Janina Atkins  
Mercer Street Friends  
609 396 1506

Lori Neuman  
NRG Energy, Inc.  
609.524.4525