

WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS
 Form 4
 January 22, 2009

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
MOORE WILLIAM B

(Last) (First) (Middle)

818 S KANSAS AVENUE

(Street)

TOPEKA, KS 66612

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS [WR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 01/21/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 President and CEO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D) Price		
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	01/21/2009		F ⁽¹⁾		44 D \$ 19.75	147,842 ⁽²⁾	D
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	01/21/2009		G ⁽³⁾		94 D \$ 0	147,748 ⁽²⁾	D
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	01/21/2009		G ⁽³⁾		94 A \$ 0	77,410	I By trust ⁽⁴⁾
Common Stock, par						1,173	I By trust ⁽⁵⁾

value \$5.00

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 5)
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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MOORE WILLIAM B 818 S KANSAS AVENUE TOPEKA, KS 66612	X		President and CEO	

Signatures

Cynthia S. Couch by power of attorney
Date: 01/22/2009

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Forfeiture of 44 shares for the payment of taxes upon the distribution of previously-deferred share units earned as reinvested dividend equivalents and reported in 2004. The distribution was made pursuant to a deferral election made previously by the reporting person.
- (2) Includes 35,300 restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture.
- (3) Previously-deferred and directly-held shares were distributed into the reporting person's trust account, of which the reporting person is both a co-trustee and a beneficiary.

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- (4) Shares are held in a trust of which the reporting person is both a co-trustee and a beneficiary.
- (5) Shares are held in a trust of which the reporting person is a co-trustee.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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