

WHITING RICHARD M

Form 4

February 02, 2006

FORM 4
UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
WHITING RICHARD M

(Last) (First) (Middle)

701 MARKET STREET

(Street)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63101-1826

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol

PEABODY ENERGY CORP [BTU]

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

01/31/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
____X____ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)

EVP - Sales and Trading

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
____X____ 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	01/31/2006		M	3,458 A	\$ 14.595 63,956	D ⁽¹⁾	
Common Stock	01/31/2006		M	6,542 A	\$ 20.975 70,498	I ⁽¹⁾	By Trust
Common Stock	01/31/2006		S ⁽²⁾	10,000 D	\$ 98.5 60,498	I ⁽¹⁾	By Trust
Common Stock					4,556	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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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)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.595	01/31/2006		M		3,458		01/02/2006	01/02/2013	Common Stock	3,458
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 20.975	01/31/2006		M		6,542		01/02/2005	01/02/2014	Common Stock	6,542

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WHITING RICHARD M 701 MARKET STREET ST. LOUIS, MO 63101-1826			EVP - Sales and Trading	

Signatures

Richard M. Whiting By: Joseph W. Bean,
Attorney-in-Fact

02/02/2006

__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) Pursuant to the Rule 10b5-1 trading plan referred to in footnote 2, upon exercise of the options the shares are immediately transferred to a trust.
- (2) This sale was effected pursuant to a pre-existing Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person.
- (3) The numbers reported in this column 9 of Table II do not include an additional 296,608 options with different expiration dates and exercise prices.

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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