JAMES WILLIAM E

Form 4

December 10, 2007

FORM 4

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

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

0.5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

January 31, Expires: 2005

OMB APPROVAL

Estimated average

burden hours per

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

response...

See Instruction

obligations

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * JAMES WILLIAM E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

STREET, 18TH FLOOR

C/O ROCKPORT CAPITAL

Symbol

PEABODY ENERGY CORP [BTU]

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

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

_X__ Director 10% Owner Other (specify

12/06/2007

Officer (give title

PARTNERS, LLC, 160 FEDERAL

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

BOSTON, MA 02110-1776

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	le I - Non-I	Derivative	Secur	ities Acqui	red, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)		ed of (` ′	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/06/2007		M(1)	20,000	A	\$ 3.3001	21,861	D	
Common Stock	12/06/2007		S(1)	20,000	D	\$ 58.014	1,861	D	
Common Stock							7,520	I	By Trust

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

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displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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 ionDerivative 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 Share
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 3.3001	12/06/2007		M <u>(1)</u>		20,000	11/19/2007	05/19/2008	Common Stock	20,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
comporting of the control of the con	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
JAMES WILLIAM E C/O ROCKPORT CAPITAL PARTNERS, LLC 160 FEDERAL STREET, 18TH FLOOR BOSTON, MA 02110-1776	X					

Signatures

William E. James By: Kenneth L. Wagner
Attorney-in-Fact
12/10/2007

**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) This exercise/sale was effected pursuant to a pre-existing Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Does not include an additional 31,745 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. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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