FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPR	OVAL							
OMB Number:	3235-0287							
Estimated average burden								
hours per response:	0.5							

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  MOORE WILLIAM B							2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS [ WR ]									all app	licable) tor	g Person(s) to Issu 10% Owr Other (sp below)		ner
(Last) (First) (Middle) 818 S. KANSAS AVE.					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/02/2005										Officer (give title below)  EVP		ресіту			
(Street) TOPEKA			56612 Zip)			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 01/04/2005									5. Indiv ine) X	lividual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable  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. Transacti Date (Month/Day						Execution Date,					. Securities Acquired (A) o			and 5) Secur Benef Owne		cially I Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
							Code	v	Amount	(A (C	() or ()	Price		Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)				mstr. 4)		
Common Stock, Par Value \$5.00 01/02/2							05		F <sup>(1)</sup>		23,693(1	.)	D	\$22.835		139,718(2)		D		
Common Stock, Par Value \$5.00																9	982 <sup>(3)</sup>	I		Зу Гrust <sup>(4)</sup>
	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. Deer Execution if any (Month/I	n Date, Transa Code			of Deri Secu Acqu (A) o Disp of (E (Inst	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		Exerci on Da Day/Y		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instrand 4)		ı	Deri Seci	rice of ivative curity ctr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction( (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4	hip o B D) C ect (I	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership Instr. 4)
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable		Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares							

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. 10,982 shares were forfeited for the payment of taxes upon the vesting and distribution of 34,375 restricted share units granted to the Reporting Person under the Issuer's Long Term Incentive and Share Award Plan. In addition, 12,711 shares were forfeited for the payment of taxes upon the distribution of previously vested and deferred restricted share units. The grant of the restricted share units was previously reported in a Form 4 filed by the Reporting Person.
- 2. Includes 83,532 restricted share units which are subject to forfeiture, 1,236 shares acquired pursuant to an employee stock purchase plan and 944 shares acquired through the reinvestment of dividends.
- 3. Includes 37 shares acquired through the reinvestment of dividends.
- 4. Shares are held in a trust. The reporting person is a trustee of the trust.

## Remarks:

<u>Cynthia S. Couch by power of attorney</u>

02/17/2005

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- \* 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).

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

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 Number.