FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL											
OMB Number:	3235-0287										
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hours per response:	0.5										

ì	Check this box if no longer subject to								
	Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5								
J	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*  MORRISSEY MICHAEL F						2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS [ WR ]									5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
MORRISSET MICHAEL F					1										X Dire	ctor		10% O	wner	
(Last) (First) (Middle) 818 S. KANSAS AVE.						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/02/2009									Offi belo	cer (give title ow)	Other ( below)		(specify	
						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)					
(Street) TOPEKA KS 66612			66612													rm filed by One Reporting Person				
(City) (State) (Zip)															Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(=5)					<u> </u>															
		Tabl	e I - Non	-Deriva	ative	Sec	curitie	s Acc	quired,	Disp	osed o	f, or	Bene	ficia	ally Own	ed				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transar Date (Month/Da						Execution Dat			Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. 5)		ities Acquired (A) d Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4			nd Secu Bene	ficially ed Following	Fori (D)	wnership m: Direct or Indirect Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
									Code	v	Amount	() (I	A) or D)	Price	Trans	action(s) 3 and 4)			(111501.4)	
Common Stock, Par Value \$5.00 01/02/						/2009			A <sup>(1)</sup>		2,000 A		A	\$0	(1)	13,921		D		
		Та	ble II - D (e								sed of, onvertib				y Owned	I				
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	ative Conversion Date Execution Date, ity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any			Date,	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		of		Expiration (Month/Da	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)		Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisab		Expiration Date	Title	of Shai	res						

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. Stock award received as a partial retainer fee.

## Remarks:

Cynthia S. Couch by power of attorney

01/05/2009

\*\* 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.