FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPRO	VAL				
OMB Number:	3235-0287				
Estimated average burd	en				
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*						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS [WR]										all app Direc	olicable) ctor		Owner
(Last) 818 S. K.	ast) (First) (Middle) 8 S. KANSAS AVE.					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/07/2004									X	Officer (give title below) VP, Reg		below	(specify ()
(Street) TOPEKA			56612 Zip)		4. If	Line) X Form filed b										n filed by One n filed by Mor	int/Group Filing (Check Applicable ed by One Reporting Person ed by More than One Reporting		
		Tabl	e I - Nor	n-Deriv	ative	Se	curitie	es Ac	quired,	Dis	posed o	f, or	Bene	eficia	ally	Owne	ed		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da						ar)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		Code	Transaction Code (Instr.		4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5)			4 and Secur Benef		cially I Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
				Code	v	Amount			(A) or D)	Price	Transa		action(s) 3 and 4)		(Instr. 4)			
Common	Stock, Par	Value \$5.00	ue \$5.00 12/07/2004 s ⁽¹⁾ 265 D \$22.1 21,994 ⁽²⁾ D																
Common	mon Stock, Par Value \$5.00															2,676		I	Held in 401(k) Plan
	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. Deem Execution if any (Month/Da	Date, ny/Year) <u>-</u>	4. Transa Code (8)		of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) o Disp of (D	r osed) r. 3, 4	and 4)		Amount of Surities Selectiving Selectiving Selectiving Selectivity (Instr. 3 I 4)		Deri Secu	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) Security Repo Trans (Instr		Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Shares sold for the payment of taxes related to restricted share units that vested during 2004.
- $2. \ Includes \ 10{,}766 \ restricted \ share \ units \ which \ are \ subject \ to \ for feiture.$

Remarks:

Kelly B. Harrison

12/09/2004

** 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.