# 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

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

OWB APPRC	VAL
OMB Number:	3235-0287
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hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <sup>*</sup> STERBENZ DOUGLAS R			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS</u> [ WR ]		tionship of Reporting Persor all applicable) Director	10% Owner	
(Last) (First) (Middle) 818 SW KANSAS AVENUE		(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/24/2010	Х	Officer (give title below) EVP & Chief Operatin	Other (specify below) ng Officer	
(Street) TOPEKA	KS	66612	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Indiv Line) X	idual or Joint/Group Filing (( Form filed by One Reporti Form filed by More than C	ing Person	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			Person		

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

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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)					5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(Instr. 4)	
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	02/24/2010		A <sup>(1)</sup>		14,500	A	\$ <mark>0</mark>	108,329(2)	D		
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	02/24/2010		A <sup>(3)</sup>		14,500	A	\$ <mark>0</mark>	122,829(4)	D		
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	02/24/2010		A <sup>(5)</sup>		14,500	A	\$ <mark>0</mark>	137,329(6)	D		
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	02/24/2010		A <sup>(7)</sup>		10,875	A	\$ <mark>0</mark>	148,204 <sup>(8)</sup>	D		
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	02/24/2010		A <sup>(9)</sup>		7,250	A	\$ <mark>0</mark>	155,454 <sup>(10)</sup>	D		
Common Stock, par value \$5.00								11,708	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. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		unsaction de (Instr. (Instr. (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	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. Grant of restricted share units that will vest on 12/31/2010 if the reporting person remains employed with the issuer through the vesting date. Restricted share units are subject to forfeiture under certain conditions.

2. Includes 17,600 restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture.

3. Grant of restricted share units that will vest on 12/31/2011 if the reporting person remains employed with the issuer through the vesting date. Restricted share units are subject to forfeiture under certain conditions.

4. Includes 32,100 restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture.

5. Grant of restricted share units that will vest on 12/31/2012 if the reporting person remains employed with the issuer through the vesting date. Restricted share units are subject to forfeiture under certain conditions.

6. Includes 46,600 restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture.

7. Grant of performance-based restricted share units that will vest on 12/31/2010 if the reporting person remains employed with the issuer through the vesting date. Restricted share units are subject to forfeiture under certain conditions. Additional shares may be earned based on performance determined at a specified time.

8. Includes 57,475 restricted share units and performance-based restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture.

9. Grant of performance-based restricted share units that will vest on 12/31/2011 if the reporting person remains employed with the issuer through the vesting date. Restricted share units are subject to forfeiture under certain conditions. Additional shares may be earned based on performance determined at a specified time.

10. Includes 64,725 restricted share units and performance-based restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture.

### **Remarks:**

# <u>Douglas R. Sterbenz</u>

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

02/26/2010 Date

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

 $^{\ast}$  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.