SEC Form 4

FORM 4

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

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

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* EDWARDS ROY A (Last) (First) (Middle) 818 S. KANSAS AVE. (Street) TOPEKA KS 66612 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS [WR] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/02/2004 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director ... 10% Owner ... Officer (give title below) ... Other (specify below) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X 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. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock, Par Value $5.00	01/02/2004		A[1]		936	A	$0[1]	13,010[2]	D	
Common Stock, Par Value $5.00	01/02/2004		A[3]		914	A	$0[3]	13,924[2]	D	
Common Stock, Par Value $5.00								1,963[4]	I	Held by spouse

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 Derivative 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 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				
Stock Units	$0[5]	01/02/2004		A		677		[6]	[6]	Common Stock	677	$0	5,382	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Restricted share units received as a partial retainer fee. The units vest ratably by one-third on each anniversary of the grant date for three years.

2. Includes 2,656 restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture and 155 shares acquired through the reinvestment of dividends in October of 2003 and January of 2004.

3. Stock award received as a partial retainer fee.

4. Includes 38 shares acquired through the reinvestment of dividends in October of 2003 and January of 2004.

5. Units convert into common stock on a one for one basis.

6. Share units received as partial retainer and meeting fees pursuant to a deferred compensation plan for directors.

Remarks:

Cynthia S. Couch by power of attorney ... 01/06/2004

** 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.