

Ford Eric
Form 4
March 07, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Ford Eric

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
PEABODY ENERGY CORP [BTU]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
701 MARKET STREET

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/03/2011

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Exec. VP & COO

ST. LOUIS, MO 63101

(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 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 | 03/03/2011 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 14,415 A \$ 35.6481 | 77,763 ⁽²⁾ | D | |
| Common Stock | 03/03/2011 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 5,411 A \$ 26.84 | 83,174 ⁽²⁾ | D | |
| Common Stock | 03/03/2011 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | 19,826 D \$ 68 | 63,348 ⁽²⁾ | D | |

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

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number.

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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 35.6481 | 03/03/2011 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 14,415 | 03/06/2008 | 03/06/2017 | Common Stock | 14,415 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 26.84 | 03/03/2011 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 5,411 | 01/05/2010 | 01/05/2019 | Common Stock | 5,411 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Ford Eric 701 MARKET STREET ST. LOUIS, MO 63101 | | | Exec. VP & COO | |

Signatures

Eric Ford By: Kenneth L. Waagner
Attorney-in-Fact
Date: 03/07/2011

**Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) This exercise/sale was effected pursuant to a pre-existing Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person.
- (2) Includes 2,647 shares held by the reporting person in the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Does not include employee stock options with different expiration dates and exercise prices.

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