ENGELHARDT IRL F

Form 4

December 21, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Estimated average

burden hours per

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Expires: January 31, 2005

0.5

OMB APPROVAL

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

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response...

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * ENGELHARDT IRL F | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PEABODY ENERGY CORP [BTU] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | | |
|--|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| (Last) | (Last) (First) (Middle | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction | (Check all applicable) | | |
| 701 MARKET | STREET | | (Month/Day/Year) 12/19/2005 | _X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Chairman and CEO | | |
| | (Street) | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check | | |
| ST. LOUIS, MO 63101-1826 | | | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Tabl | le I - Non-I | Derivative (| Securi | ities Acqu | iired, Disposed of | f, or Beneficial | ly Owned |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-----------------|---|--------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or | | 5. Amount of Securities Ownership Beneficially Form: Direct Owned (D) or Following Indirect (I) Reported (Instr. 4) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | | Code V M | Amount 13,000 | (D) | Price \$ 7.145 | 310,118 | D (1) | |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | | S(2) | 400 | D | \$ 83.07 | 309,718 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | | S(2) | 100 | D | \$ 83.05 | 309,618 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | | S(2) | 300 | D | \$ 83.02 | 309,318 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | | S(2) | 100 | D | \$ 83.01 | 309,218 | I (1) | By Family Trust |

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| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 300 | D | \$ 83 | 308,918 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
|-----------------|------------|------|-------|---|-------------|---------|-------|--------------------|
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 400 | D | \$ 82.99 | 308,518 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 200 | D | \$ 82.96 | 308,318 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 300 | D | \$ 82.95 | 308,018 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 800 | D | \$ 82.94 | 307,218 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 1,700 | D | \$ 82.84 | 305,518 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 1,800 | D | \$ 82.65 | 303,718 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 1,200 | D | \$ 82.6 | 302,518 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 300 | D | \$ 82.52 | 302,218 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 300 | D | \$ 82.45 | 301,918 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 600 | D | \$ 82.44 | 301,318 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 1,300 | D | \$ 82.43 | 300,018 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 500 | D | \$ 82.42 | 299,518 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 100 | D | \$ 82.37 | 299,418 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 200 | D | \$ 82.31 | 299,218 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | 12/19/2005 | S(2) | 2,100 | D | \$ 82.3 | 297,118 | I (1) | By Family Trust |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 15,626 | D (3) | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 8,358 | I | By 401(k) Plan |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 2,200 | I | By Spouse |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not

(9-02)

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required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control 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) | Secur Secur Acqu or Di (D) | rities ired (A) sposed of : 3, 4, | 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) | \$ 7.145 | 12/19/2005 | | M | | 13,000 | 05/22/2001 | 05/19/2008 | Common Stock | 13,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| 1 | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | | |
| ENGELHARDT IRL F 701 MARKET STREET ST. LOUIS, MO 63101-1826 | X | | Chairman and CEO | | | | | |

Signatures

Irl F. Engelhardt By: Joseph W. Bean, Attorney-in-Fact

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

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) Pursuant to the Rule 10b5-1 trading plan referred to in footnote 2, upon exercise of the options the shares are immediately transferred to a family trust.
- (2) This sale was effected pursuant to a pre-existing Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person.
- (3) Includes 2,166 shares acquired under the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Does not include an additional 1,136,006 options with different expiration dates and exercise prices.

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

Reporting Owners 3

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