RUSNACK WILLIAM C

Form 4

January 05, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

3235-0287 Number:

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OMB APPROVAL

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response...

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

RUSNACK WILLIAM C Issuer Symbol PEABODY ENERGY CORP [BTU] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify C/O PEABODY ENERGY 01/03/2006 below) CORPORATION, 701 MARKET **STREET** (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting ST. LOUIS, MO 63101 (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Indirect (I) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 01/03/2006 435 D \$0 A 435 D Stock Common 3,816 (1) I By Trust Stock

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

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisab Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year		7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 86.2	01/03/2006		A	1,133	01/03/2007(2)	01/02/2016	Common Stock	1,133

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
	Director	10% Owner	Officer		

RUSNACK WILLIAM C C/O PEABODY ENERGY CORPORATION 701 MARKET STREET ST. LOUIS, MO 63101



Signatures

William C. Rusnack by Joseph W. Bean, Attorney-in-Fact

01/05/2006

Other

**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) The number of shares has been adjusted to reflect the 2-for-1 stock split effected by the Company in March 2005.
- (2) The options vest in three equal annual installments beginning January 3, 2007.
- (3) Does not include an additional 12,238 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. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

Reporting Owners 2