

Schoch Alexander C
 Form 4
 January 06, 2010

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 *
 Schoch Alexander C

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)
 01/04/2010

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

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)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code	V	Amount	
Common Stock	01/06/2010 ⁽¹⁾		M	A	\$ 8,614	10,070 ⁽²⁾	D
Common Stock	01/06/2010 ⁽¹⁾		M	A	\$ 12,665	22,735 ⁽²⁾	D
Common Stock	01/06/2010 ⁽¹⁾		M	A	\$ 26.84	30,046 ⁽²⁾	D
Common Stock	01/06/2010 ⁽¹⁾		S	D	\$ 50	1,546 ⁽²⁾	D
Common Stock	01/06/2010 ⁽¹⁾		S	D	\$ 50.02	1,456 ⁽²⁾	D

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

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(9-02)

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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 47.87	01/04/2010		A	11,097	⁽³⁾ 01/04/2020	Common Stock 11
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 39.1584	01/06/2010 ⁽¹⁾		M	8,614	⁽⁵⁾ 10/16/2016	Common Stock 8
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 34.9553	01/06/2010 ⁽¹⁾		M	12,665	⁽⁶⁾ 01/03/2017	Common Stock 12
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 26.84	01/06/2010 ⁽¹⁾		M	7,311	01/05/2010 01/05/2019	Common Stock 7

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Schoch Alexander C 701 MARKET STREET ST. LOUIS, MO 63101			Exec VP & CLO	

Signatures

Alexander C. Schoch By: Kenneth L. Wagner
Attorney-in-fact

01/06/2010

__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) This exercise/sale was effected pursuant to a pre-existing Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person.
- (2) Includes 1,456 shares held by the reporting person in the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) The options vest in three equal annual installments beginning January 5, 2011.
- (4) Does not include employee stock options with different expiration dates and exercise prices.
- (5) 4,307 options vested on January 3, 2009 and 4,307 options vested on January 3, 2010.
- (6) 6,332 options vested on January 3, 2009 and 6,333 options vested on January 3, 2010.

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.