

KARN ROBERT B III
 Form 4
 January 05, 2006

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 *
KARN ROBERT B III

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O PEABODY ENERGY CORPORATION,, 701 MARKET STREET

(Street)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63101-1826

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
01/03/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 01/03/2006 | | A | 435 D \$ 0 | 435 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 7,256 ⁽¹⁾ | I | By Trust |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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. 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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 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 Other

KARN ROBERT B III
C/O PEABODY ENERGY CORPORATION,
701 MARKET STREET
ST. LOUIS, MO 63101-1826

X

Signatures

Robert B. Karn III by Joseph W. Bean,
Attorney-in-Fact

01/05/2006

__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 8,648 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.

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