

LaVecchia Jean M  
Form 4  
December 18, 2009

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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**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 \*  
LaVecchia Jean M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NORTHEAST UTILITIES [NU]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director      \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)      \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
VP Human Resources

(Last)      (First)      (Middle)  
C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES, 107 SELDEN STREET

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/16/2009

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

(Street)  
BERLIN, CT 06037

(City)      (State)      (Zip)

**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)
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D) Price		
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	12/16/2009		M		2,680 <sup>(1)</sup> A \$ 21.03	29,859 <sup>(2)</sup>	D
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	12/16/2009		S		2,680 D \$ 26	27,179 <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	D
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	12/17/2009		M		1,820 <sup>(1)</sup> A \$ 21.03	28,999 <sup>(2)</sup>	D

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Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	12/17/2009	S	1,820	D	\$ 26	27,179 <u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>	D	
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	12/17/2009	M	4,500 <u>(1)</u>	A	\$ 21.03	31,679 <u>(2)</u>	D	
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	12/17/2009	S	4,500	D	\$ 26	27,179 <u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>	D	
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value						2,284 <u>(4)</u>	I	401k Plan

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

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SEC 1474  
(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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 21.03	12/16/2009		M	2,680	<u>(1)</u> 02/27/2011	Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	2,680
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 21.03	12/17/2009		M	1,820	<u>(1)</u> 02/27/2011	Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	1,820

Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 21.03	12/17/2009	M	4,500	(1)	02/27/2001	Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	4,500
Phantom Shares	(5)				(5)	(5)	Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	0 (5)

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LaVecchia Jean M C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES 107 SELDEN STREET BERLIN, CT 06037			VP Human Resources	

## Signatures

Jean M.  
LaVecchia 12/18/2009

\*\*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 vested options exercised to purchase 9,000 Northeast Utilities Common Shares at \$21.03 in separate exercises of 2,680, 1,820 and 4,500, were granted on February 27, 2001. The options exercised and consequent sales of Common Shares were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by Ms. LaVecchia on May 13, 2009.
  - (2) Includes restricted share units and reinvested dividend equivalents.
  - (3) Sale in connection with cashless exercise of stock options.
  - (4) Shares held in trust under the Northeast Utilities Service Company 401k Plan, a qualified plan, as of December 17, 2009, according to information supplied by the Plan's record keeper.
  - (5) The reporting person holds phantom shares of NU common under the Northeast Utilities Deferred Compensation Plan for Executives, a non-qualified deferred compensation plan (the DCP), made as matching contributions under the DCP. Each phantom share represents the right to receive the cash value of one share of NU common upon a distribution event, following vesting. Additional phantom shares are issued upon the automatic reinvestment of dividend-equivalents exempt from line item reporting under SEC Rule 16a-11.

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.