

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* IRICK LARRY D			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS [WR]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) VP, Gen Counsel and Corp Sec		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/20/2012			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
818 S. KANSAS AVE.			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)					
(Street)	TOPEKA	KS	66612					
(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock Par Value \$5.00	01/20/2012		A ⁽¹⁾		6,562	A	\$0	70,925 ⁽²⁾	D	
Common Stock Par Value \$5.00	01/20/2012		F ⁽³⁾		2,064	D	\$28.915	68,861 ⁽²⁾	D	

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

Explanation of Responses:

- Vesting and distribution of 6,562 performance-based restricted share units that were granted on February 24, 2010, with a vesting date of January 1, 2012. Under the terms of the grant, the number of shares to be received by the Reporting Person at vesting is increased or decreased based on the Issuer's Total Shareholder Return as compared to the Total Shareholder Return for a defined Peer Group of companies for the defined Performance Period. The determination that the performance criteria relating to the grant had been met and the calculation of the number of shares to be distributed were completed on January 20, 2012.
- Includes 14,625 restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture.
- Forfeiture of 2,064 shares for the payment of taxes upon the vesting and distribution of 6,562 performance-based restricted share units granted on 2/24/10 and described in this report.

Remarks:

Larry D. Irick 01/20/2012

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* 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).

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.