McHale David R Form 4 February 11, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

OMB APPROVAL OMB

3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average

burden hours per response... 0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

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

Check this box

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

value

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

See Instruction

| McHale David R | | | Symbol NORTHEAST UTILITIES [NU] | | | | | (Check all applicable) | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|--|-------|-------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES, 107 SELDEN STREET | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/10/2009 | | | | | Director 10% Owner Selfow) Delow) Exec. VP and CFO | | | | |
| | (Street) | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person | | | |
| BERLIN, C | T 06037 | | | | | | | Form filed by N Person | More than One Re | porting | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | Tabl | e I - Non-D | erivative | Secur | ities Acq | uired, Disposed of | f, or Beneficial | ly Owned | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction I (Month/Day/Ye | nsaction Date 2A. Deemed h/Day/Year) Execution Data any (Month/Day/Y | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or Amount (D) Price | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) 6. Ownersh Form: Direct (D) or (Instr. 4) Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| Common Shares, \$5.00 par value | 02/10/2009 | | | A | 8,294 (1) | A | \$ 23.74 | 60,345 (2) | D | | | |
| Common Shares, \$5.00 par | | | | | | | | 4,935 <u>(3)</u> | I | 401K Plan | | |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of **SEC 1474** information contained in this form are not (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 | 2. | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 5. | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Title a | and | 8. Price of | 9. Nu |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------|--------|
| Derivative | Conversion | (Month/Day/Year) | r) Execution Date, if Transact | | ctionNumber Expiration Date | | ate | Amount | of | Derivative | Deriv |
| Security | or Exercise | | any | Code | of | (Month/Day/ | Year) | Underly | ing | Security | Secui |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Derivative | e | | Securitie | es | (Instr. 5) | Bene |
| | Derivative | | | | Securities | | (Instr. 3 | and 4) | | Owne | |
| | Security | | | | Acquired | | | | | | Follo |
| | | | | | (A) or | | | | | | Repo |
| | | | | | Disposed | | | | | | Trans |
| | | | | | of (D) | | | | | | (Instr |
| | | | | | (Instr. 3, | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 4, and 5) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | mount | | |
| | | | | | | Date | Expiration e Date | or Title Number of | | | |
| | | | | | | Exercisable | | | | | |
| | | | | C 1 W | (A) (D) | | | | | | |
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | | | S | hares | | |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

McHale David R C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES 107 SELDEN STREET BERLIN, CT 06037

Exec. VP and CFO

Signatures

David R. 02/11/2009

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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) Grant of restricted share units which vest in equal portions on February 25, 2010, 2011 and 2012. Restricted share units are distributable in Northeast Utilities common shares on a one-for-one basis.
- (2) Includes restricted share units and reinvested dividend-equivalents.
- (3) Shares held in trust under the Northeast Utilities Service Company 401k Plan, a qualified plan, as of February 10, 2009, according to information supplied by the plan's record keeper.

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.

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