

BUTLER GREGORY B
Form 4
November 18, 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 *
BUTLER GREGORY B

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES, 56
PROSPECT STREET**

(Street)

HARTFORD, CT 06103

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
11/16/2010

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)
Sr VP and General Counsel

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price |
| Common Shares, \$5.00 par value | 11/16/2010 | | A | | 48,077 (1) | A | \$ 31.2 |
| Common Shares, \$5.00 par value | | | | | 122,832.544 (2) | D | |
| | | | | | 3,645.936 (3) | I | By 401(k) Plan Trustee |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not

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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
| | | | | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Phantom Shares | (4) | | | | | (4) | (4) | Common Shares, \$5.00 par value | 369.473 (4) |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BUTLER GREGORY B C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES 56 PROSPECT STREET HARTFORD, CT 06103 | | | Sr VP and General Counsel | |

Signatures

/s/ Gregory B. Butler
11/18/2010
**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).
Grant of restricted share units pursuant to the terms of the NU Incentive Plan representing an award to Mr. Butler that is scheduled to vest in full: (i) three years from the closing date under the merger agreement between Northeast Utilities and NSTAR; (ii) on involuntary termination of employment prior to such date (subject to reduction for severance payments); and (iii) upon earlier death or disability. Upon vesting, the holder of the restricted share units is entitled to receive Northeast Utilities common shares on a one-for-one basis, less applicable withholding.
- (2) Includes restricted share units and dividend equivalents thereon, including 44,251 shares that Mr. Butler holds jointly with his spouse.

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- (3) Shares held in trust under the Northeast Utilities Service Company 401K Plan, a qualified plan, as of November 16, 2010, according to information supplied by the plan's record keeper.

- The reporting person holds phantom shares of NU common under the Northeast Utilities Deferred Compensation Plan for Executives, a non-qualified 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. Additional phantom shares are issued from the automatic reinvestment of dividend-equivalents exempt from line item reporting under SEC Rule 16a-11.
- (4)

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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