

SHIVERY CHARLES W  
Form 4  
April 12, 2012

**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 \*  
SHIVERY CHARLES W

(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)

04/10/2012

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)  
Non-Exec Chmn of Bd; Trustee

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 | 04/10/2012                           |  | A                              |   | 164,730 <sup>(1)</sup>  | A  | \$ 0 783,829 <sup>(2)</sup>       | D                      |
| Common Shares, \$5.00 par value | 04/10/2012                           |  | D                              |   | 17,011 <sup>(3)</sup>   | D  | \$ 0 766,818 <sup>(2)</sup>       | D                      |
| Common Shares, \$5.00 par value |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 2,318 <sup>(4)</sup>              | I                      |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  |                                   | By 401(k) Plan Trustee |

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

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(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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Phantom Shares                             | (5)  |                                      |  |                                |   | (5)  | (5)   | Common Shares, \$5.00 par value            | 9,714 (5)                  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |         |                              |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|------------------------------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other                        |
| SHIVERY CHARLES W<br>C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES<br>56 PROSPECT STREET<br>HARTFORD, CT 06103 |               |           |         | Non-Exec Chmn of Bd; Trustee |

## Signatures

/s/ Jeffrey C. Miller, authorized signatory for Mr. Shivery  
04/12/2012

\*\*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) This acquisition includes awards of shares of Northeast Utilities ("Issuer") common stock and/or restricted stock units made by the Issuer upon the consummation of the Issuer's merger with NSTAR, including pursuant to or in substitution for previously awarded performance-based awards, as further described in Item 11 of the Annual Report on Form 10-K filed by the Issuer on February 24, 2012

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under the caption "Executive Compensation-- Long-Term Incentive Programs". Such restricted stock units may be settled only in shares of Issuer common stock, and are in part subject to continuing-service vesting conditions.

- (2) Includes restricted share units and dividend equivalents thereon. Of the total shares owned, the reporting person holds 1,500 of these shares jointly with his spouse.
- (3) These unvested restricted stock units were forfeited by the reporting person upon retirement from his position as Issuer's executive Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer.
- (4) Shares held in trust under the Northeast Utilities Service Company 401k Plan, a qualified plan, according to information supplied by the plan's recordkeeper.
- (5) Matching contributions on reporting person's deferred compensation contributions under the Northeast Utilities Deferred Compensation Plan for Executives, a non-qualified deferred compensation plan, that are nominally invested as common shares. Each phantom share represents the right to receive cash value of one NU common share upon a distribution event, following vesting. Additional phantom shares are issued upon the automatic reinvestment of dividend-equivalents exempt from the 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.