

SHIVERY CHARLES W  
Form 4  
March 19, 2012

**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

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)  
03/15/2012

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)  
Chrmn of Bd, President & CEO / 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 or Price		
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	03/15/2012		F		15,192 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	\$ 36.74 614,686 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	03/16/2012		M		29,024 <sup>(3)</sup>	A	\$ 18.9 643,710 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	03/16/2012		S		29,024	D	\$ 36.397 <sup>(4)</sup> 614,686 <sup>(2)</sup>

Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	2,276 <sup>(5)</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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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)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.9	03/16/2012		M	29,024 <sup>(3)</sup>	06/11/2003 06/11/2012	Common Shares, \$5.00 par value 29,024
Phantom Shares	<sup>(6)</sup>					<sup>(6)</sup> <sup>(6)</sup>	Common Shares, \$5.00 par value 9,638 <sup>(6)</sup>

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SHIVERY CHARLES W C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES 56 PROSPECT STREET HARTFORD, CT 06103			Chrmn of Bd, President & CEO	Trustee

## Signatures

/s/ Jeffrey C. Miller, authorized signatory for Mr. Shivery 03/19/2012

\_\_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) Disposition of performance shares under the 2009 - 2011 Long Term Incentive Plan, previously reported on February 17, 2012, to satisfy tax withholding obligations.
- (2) Includes restricted share units and dividend equivalents thereon. In addition, of the total owned, the reporting person holds 1,500 of these shares jointly with his spouse.
- (3) The options exercised to purchase 29,024 common shares were granted on June 11, 2002, and were vested and approaching expiration on June 11, 2012.  
The transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$36.39 to \$36.431. The price reported above reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.
- (5) Shares held in trust under the Northeast Utilities Service Company 401k Plan, a qualified plan, according to information supplied by the plan's recordkeeper.  
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.
- (6)

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.