TONG CHRIS Form 4 January 05, 2012

FORM 4

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

SECURITIES

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

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 *

(State)

1(b).

(City)

TONG CHRIS

Symbol

CLOUD PEAK ENERGY INC.

[CLD]

(Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction _X_ Director _____ 10% Owner

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

(Month/Day/Year)

Officer (give title below)

Officer (give title below)

Officer (give title below)

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person

___ Form filed by More than One Reporting

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

GILLETTE, WY 82716 — For

(Zip)

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of 3. Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Beneficially Beneficial Disposed of (D) (D) or (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Indirect (I) Ownership (Instr. 8) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A) Reported
Transaction(s)
or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Common Stock 01/04/2012 A 3,785 A \$ 0 17,306 D

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 required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474

(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Estimated average

burden hours per

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)			ate	7. Title Amoun Under	int of lying ities	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene
	Derivative Security				Securities Acquired			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne Follo
					(A) or Disposed						Repo Trans
					of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						(Instr
					4, and 3)				Amount		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	or Number of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
1 8	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
TONG CHRIS							
505 S. GILLETTE AVE.	X						
GILLETTE, WY 82716							

Signatures

/s/ Amy J. Stefonick, attorney-in-fact for Chris
Tong
01/05/2012

**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) These shares represent restricted stock units which will be settled in common stock upon vesting. These restricted stock units vest as to 100% on the date the director retires or resigns from the Board of Directors of Cloud Peak Energy Inc.

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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