AYER WILLIAM S
Form 4
December 11, 2009

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 *
AYER WILLIAM S

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O ALASKA AIR GROUP INC, 19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD

(Street)

SEATTLE, WA 98188

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
ALASKA AIR GROUP INC [ALK]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/10/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)
__X__ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT & CEO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
COMMON STOCK	12/10/2009		M		17,090	A	$ 30.5	17,090	D	
COMMON STOCK	12/10/2009		S		17,090	D	$ 32.85	0	D	
COMMON STOCK	12/11/2009		M		20,100	A	$ 30.5	20,100	D	
COMMON STOCK	12/11/2009		S		20,100	D	$ 32.95	0	D	
COMMON STOCK								56,058	D	

COMMON STOCK (1)		73,058	D	
COMMON STOCK (2)		3,865	I	ESOP TRUST

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

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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 Amo Underlying Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title
EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RT TO BUY)	$ 30.5	12/10/2009		M			17,090	01/25/2004(3)	01/25/2010	COMMON
EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RT TO BUY)	$ 30.5	12/11/2009		M			20,100	01/25/2004(3)	01/25/2010	COMMON

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
AYER WILLIAM S C/O ALASKA AIR GROUP INC 19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD SEATTLE, WA 98188	X		CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT & CEO	

Signatures

KAREN A. GRUEN, ATTORNEY IN FACT FOR WILLIAM S. AYER	12/11/2009
**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) STOCK UNITS GRANTED UNDER THE 2004 LONG-TERM INCENTIVE EQUITY AND 2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLANS; NO LONGER SUBJECT FORFEITURE BUT NOT VESTED.

(2) SHARES HELD IN AN ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN TRUST AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2008.

(3) OPTIONS VESTED IN EQUAL INSTALLMENTS ON JANUARY 25, 2001, 2002, 2003 AND 2004.

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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