

CLEVELAND COTTON M  
Form 4  
November 25, 2008

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
CLEVELAND COTTON M

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES, 107 SELDEN STREET

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
11/24/2008

\_\_\_\_ Director  
\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Trustee

(Street)  
BERLIN, CT 06037

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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	11/24/2008		M		2,500 <sup>(1)</sup> \$ 14.94	29,965	D
Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	11/24/2008		S		2,500 D \$ 23.11	27,465 <sup>(2)</sup>	D

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

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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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.9375	11/24/2008		M	2,500	02/23/2000 <sup>(1)</sup> 02/23/2009	Common Shares, \$5.00 par value	2,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CLEVELAND COTTON M C/O NORTHEAST UTILITIES 107 SELDEN STREET BERLIN, CT 06037				Trustee

## Signatures

Cotton M. Cleveland, By: O. Kay  
Comendul/POA  
Date: 11/25/2008

\_\_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) The options exercised to purchase 2,500 Common Shares were granted on February 23, 1999 and vested 50% on that date and 50% on February 23, 2000.
- (2) Ms. Cleveland's total includes restricted share units receipt of which has been deferred, and dividend equivalents thereon, and shares and dividends thereon, receipt of which has been deferred.

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.