Welch Dennis E Form 3 February 03, 2012

FORM 3

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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

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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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER CO INC [AEP] Welch Dennis E (Month/Day/Year) 01/25/2012 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) AMERICAN ELECTRIC (Check all applicable) POWER, 1 RIVERSIDE PLAZA 10% Owner Director (Street) _X__ Officer Other 6. Individual or Joint/Group (give title below) (specify below) Filing(Check Applicable Line) **Executive Vice President** _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person COLUMBUS, OHÂ 43215 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities 3. 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 5) Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock 9,260.97 D

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

Title of Derivative Security nstr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
			Derivative	Security:	

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Restricted Stock Units	(1)	(1)	Common Stock	31,798.16	\$ (3)	D	Â
Restricted Stock Units	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	8,896	\$ <u>(3)</u>	D	Â
Career Shares (Phantom Stock) (4)	(4)	(4)	Common Stock	29,900	\$ 0	D	Â
AEP Stock Options	(5)	09/15/2015	Common Stock	10,000	\$ 38.65	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Welch Dennis E AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER 1 RIVERSIDE PLAZA COLUMBUS Â OHÂ 43215	Â	Â	Executive Vice President	Â		

Signatures

/s/ Thomas G. Berkemeyer, Attorney-in-Fact for Dennis E. Welch 02/03/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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 restricted stock units vest in three equal installments on May 1, 2012, May 1, 2013 and May 1, 2014
- (2) The restricted stock units vest in three equal installments on May 1, 2013, May 1, 2014 and May 1, 2015
- (3) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of AEP common stock
- (4) Career Shares become payable upon the reporting person's termination of employment with AEP.
- (5) Options are currently exercisable.

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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