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| AIKEN CHA | RLES S | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------|--|---|---|-----------------|------------|--|
| Form 4 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| July 26, 2012 | , | | | | | | | | | | |
| FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION | | | | | | | | | OMB APPROVAL | | |
| | UNITEDS | STATES | | ITIES A hington, | | | NGE (| COMMISSION | OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | |
| Check this if no long | er | | | | | | | | Expires: | January 31 | |
| subject to Section 16 Form 4 or | | | SECUR | ITIES | | | NERSHIP OF | Estimated burden hou response | irs per | | |
| Form 5 obligation may conti <i>See</i> Instru 1(b). | nue. Section 17(a |) of the] | | ility Hold | ling Com | pany | Act o | ge Act of 1934, f 1935 or Sectio 40 | n | | |
| (Print or Type R | esponses) | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol BUCKEYE TECHNOLOGIES INC [BKI] | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | | | |
| | | | | | | | | (Check all applicable) | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of (Month/D | | | f Earliest Transaction Day/Year) | | | | Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) | | | | |
| | TECHNOLOGIE ILLMAN STREI | | 07/24/20 | 012 | | | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | nergy/Sustainal | oility | |
| | | | | ndment, Date Original th/Day/Year) | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person | | | |
| MEMPHIS, | TN 38112 | | | | | | | Form filed by M Person | More than One R | eporting | |
| (City) | (State) (| Zip) | Table | I - Non-D | erivative S | Securi | ties Ac | quired, Disposed o | f, or Beneficia | lly Owned | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)2A. Deeme Execution I any (Month/Day/Year) | | on Date, if | Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |
| | | | | Code V | Amount | or | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2012 | | | A <u>(1)</u> | 1,710 | А | \$0 | 60,036 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2012 | | | A <u>(2)</u> | 4,441 | А | \$0 | 64,477 | D | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 14,721 | I | By Trust | |

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 formSEC 1474
(9-02)

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displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number on f 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 o Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | |
|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amoun or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 29.39 | 07/24/2012 | | А | 2,933 | 07/24/2013 <u>(3)</u> | 07/24/2022 | Common Stock | 2,933 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| AIKEN CHARLES S BUCKEYE TECHNOLOGIES INC 1001 TILLMAN STREET MEMPHIS, TN 38112 | | | Sr VP Energy/Sustainability | | | | |
| Signatures | | | | | | | |
| Charles S | | | | | | | |

Charles S. 07/26/2012 Aiken **Signature of

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).
- Restricted Stock ("RS") issued pursuant to the 2007 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan; the RS will vest in three equal installments (1) beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date.
- (2) Each Performance Share represents a contingent right to receive one share of the Company's common stock. The Performance Shares vest on June 30, 2015 upon achievement of certain performance criteria based on total shareholder return ("TSR") from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015 (the "Performance Period"). If the Company's TSR is in the 25th percentile of its Peer Grp TSR at the end of the Performance Period (the "Threshold"), then 25% of the Performance Shares will vest. If the Company's TSR is above the Threshold, but at or below the 50th percentile of the Peer Grp TSR at the end of the Performance Period, then the Performance Shares will vest as follows: 25% of

Reporting Person

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the Performance Shares plus an additional 1% of the Performance Shares for each full percentile that the Company's TSR exceeds the 25th percentile of the Peer Grp TSR at the end of the Performance Period. If the Company's TSR is above the 50th percentile of the Peer Grp TSR at the end of the Performance Period, but below the 75th percentile of the Peer Grp TSR at the end of the Performance Period, then the Performance Shares will vest as follows: 50% of the Performance Shares plus an additional 2% of the Performance Shares for each full percentile that the Company's TSR exceeds the 50th percentile of the Peer Grp TSR at the end of the Performance Period. If the Company's TSR equals or exceeds the 75th percentile of the Peer Grp TSR at the end of the Performance Period. If the 100% of the Performance Shares will vest.

(3) Options will vest and become exercisable in three equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of grant date.

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.