

PEABODY ENERGY CORP  
Form 8-K  
April 18, 2012

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported):

April 13, 2012

PEABODY ENERGY CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

1-16463

13-4004153

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

701 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri

63101-1826

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(314) 342-3400

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)  
 Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)  
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))  
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 1.04 Mine Safety - Reporting of Shutdowns and Patterns of Violations.**

On April 13, Big Ridge, Inc., a subsidiary of Peabody Energy Corporation, was issued an imminent danger order under section 107(a) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977. The mine involved was the Willow Lake Mine located in Saline County, Illinois. On that date, an inspector from the Mine Safety and Health Administration measured an excess accumulation of methane in a specific area of the mine. Management immediately implemented corrective measures and the methane was reduced to an acceptable level within 15 minutes.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

PEABODY ENERGY CORPORATION

*April 18, 2012*

By: *Kenneth L. Wagner*

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*Name: Kenneth L. Wagner*

*Title: Vice President, Assistant General Counsel and  
Assistant Secretary*