

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 3

Filing Date: **2005-05-02** | Period of Report: **2005-04-25**
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ISSUER

WESTMORELAND COAL CO

CIK: **106455** | IRS No.: **231128670** | State of Incorporation: **DE** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**
SIC: **1221** Bituminous coal & lignite surface mining

Mailing Address
2 N CASCADE AVE
14THFL
COLORADO SPRINGS CO
80903-1614

Business Address
2 NORTH CASCADE AVENUE
14TH FLOOR
COLORADO SPRINGS CO
80903
7194422600

REPORTING OWNER

Blair David J

CIK: **1324104**
Type: **3** | Act: **34** | File No.: **001-11155** | Film No.: **05788798**

Mailing Address
2 NORTH CASCADE AVENUE
14TH FLOOR
COLORADO SPRINGS CO
80903

Business Address
719-442-2600

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person Blair David J (Last) (First) (Middle) 2 NORTH CASCADE AVENUE, 14TH FLOOR (Street) COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80903 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 04/25/2005	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol WESTMORELAND COAL CO [wb]		
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) ___ Director ___ 10% Owner <u>X</u> Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below) Chief Financial Officer		5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check applicable line) <u>X</u> Form Filed by One Reporting Person ___ Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person		

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
SAR ⁽¹⁾	04/25/2006	04/24/2015	Common Stock ⁽²⁾	3,333	\$19.78	D	
SAR ⁽¹⁾	04/25/2007	04/24/2015	Common Stock ⁽²⁾	3,333	\$19.78	D	
SAR ⁽¹⁾	04/25/2008	04/24/2015	Common Stock ⁽²⁾	3,334	\$19.78	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- Stock Appreciation Right - subject to vesting and forfeiture
- Common Stock, \$2.50 par value per share

Signatures

/s/David J. Blair, Chief Financial Officer

** Signature of Reporting Person

05/02/2005

Date

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

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.