

FORM 4

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

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

OMB APPROVAL
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Eckert Johannes G (Last) (First) (Middle) 1 RIVERSIDE PLAZA (Street) COLUMBUS, OH 43215 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER CO INC [AEP]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) ___ Director ___ 10% Owner ___ X ___ Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below) Executive Vice President
3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) 2/17/2026		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) ___ Form filed by One Reporting Person ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY) (Leave blank)		

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans. Date	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Trans. 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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Restricted Stock Units (1)	2/17/2026		A		2,879	A	\$130.24	4,954	D	

Table II - Derivative Securities 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. Trans. Date	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Trans. 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	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V							

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Each restricted stock unit represents a right to receive AEP common stock upon vesting. The restricted stock units vest in three equal installments on February 21, 2027, February 21, 2028, and February 21, 2029.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Eckert Johannes G 1 RIVERSIDE PLAZA COLUMBUS, OH 43215			Executive Vice President	

Signatures

/s/ David C. House, Attorney-in-Fact for Johannes G. Eckert 2/19/2026
**Signature of Reporting Person 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 control number.