

CONSOL Energy Inc
Form S-8
August 03, 2012

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 3, 2012.

Registration No. 333-_____

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

FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

CONSOL Energy Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of

incorporation or organization)

CNX Center

51-0337383
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification Number)

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1000 CONSOL Energy Drive

Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Amended and Restated CONSOL Energy Inc. Equity Incentive Plan

(Full title of the plan)

P. Jerome Richey

Executive Vice President Corporate Affairs and Chief Legal Officer

CONSOL Energy Inc.

CNX Center

1000 CONSOL Energy Drive

Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317

(Name and address, including zip code, of agent for service)

(724) 485-4000

(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copy to:

Lewis U. Davis, Jr.

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

One Oxford Centre

301 Grant Street, 20th Floor

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1410

(412) 562-8800

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

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Large accelerated filer ☒

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐ (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company ☐

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities	Amount	Proposed	Proposed	Amount of
		Maximum	Maximum	
to be Registered	to be Registered	Offering Price	Aggregate	Registration Fee
		Per Share	Offering Price	
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (including associated preferred stock purchase rights)	8,000,000(1)(2)	\$28.51(3)	\$228,080,000(3)	\$26,137.97(3)

- (1) An aggregate of 31,800,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of CONSOL Energy Inc. may be offered or issued pursuant to the Amended and Restated CONSOL Energy Inc. Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan"), 6,500,000 of which (after taking into account the 2-for-1 stock split effected in May 2006) were previously registered on Form S-8 (File No. 333-87545), 6,500,000 of which (after taking into account the 2-for-1 stock split effected in May 2006) were previously registered on Form S-8 (File No. 333-113973), 5,200,000 of which (after taking into account the 2-for-1 stock split effected in May 2006) were previously registered on Form S-8 (File No. 333-126057), 733,001 of which were previously registered on Form S-4 (File No. 333-157894), 4,866,999 of which were previously registered on Form S-8 (File No. 333-160273) and 8,000,000 of which are registered on this Form S-8. This Registration Statement also applies to the associated preferred stock purchase rights under the Registrant's Rights Agreement, dated as of December 22, 2003, which are attached to and tradeable with the shares of Common Stock registered hereby. No registration fees are required for such rights as they will be issued for no additional consideration.
- (2) In addition, pursuant to Rule 416(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), this Registration Statement also covers an indeterminate number of shares of Common Stock that may be offered or issued by reason of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.
- (3) Pursuant to Rule 457(c) and 457(h) of the Securities Act, and solely for the purpose of calculating the amount of the registration fee, the proposed maximum offering price per share and the proposed maximum aggregate offering price are based on the average of the high and low sales prices of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange on July 27, 2012. Pursuant to General Instruction E of Form S-8, the registration fee is calculated with respect to the additional securities registered on this Form S-8 only.

INCORPORATION OF PRIOR REGISTRATION STATEMENTS BY REFERENCE

Pursuant to General Instruction E of Form S-8, the contents of the Registration Statements filed by CONSOL Energy Inc. (CONSOL Energy or the Company) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) (File No. 333-87545, File No. 333-113973, File No. 333-126057 and File No. 333-160273), with respect to securities offered pursuant to the Plan are hereby incorporated by reference.

All documents filed by CONSOL Energy Inc. pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), subsequent to the date of this Registration Statement and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment that indicates that all securities offered have been sold or that deregisters all securities remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145(a) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that the person's conduct was unlawful.

Section 145(b) of the Delaware General Corporation Law states that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which the person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Delaware Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, the person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses as the Delaware Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

Section 145(c) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that to the extent that a present or former director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of Section 145, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith.

Section 145(d) of the Delaware General Corporation Law states that any indemnification under subsections (a) and (b) of Section 145 (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the present or former director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of Section 145. Such determination shall be made with respect to a person who is a director or officer at the time of such determination (1) by a majority vote of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, (2) by a committee of such directors designated by majority vote of such directors, even though less than a quorum, (3) if there are no such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (4) by the stockholders.

Section 145(f) of the Delaware General Corporation Law states that the indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, the other subsections of Section 145 shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in such person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

Section 145(g) of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that a corporation shall have the power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under the provisions of Section 145.

Section 145(j) of the Delaware General Corporation Law states that the indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, Section 145 shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

CONSOL Energy's By-laws also provide that any present director, officer, employee or agent of CONSOL Energy shall be indemnified by CONSOL Energy as of right to the full extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law against any liability, cost or expense asserted against and incurred by such person by reason of his serving in such capacity. This right to indemnification included the right to be paid the expenses incurred in defending any action, suit or proceeding in advance of its final disposition. In addition, CONSOL has provided in its Restated Certificate of Incorporation that it shall eliminate the personal liability of its directors to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law. CONSOL maintains policies of directors' and officers' liability insurance which insures its directors against the cost of defense, settlement or payment of a judgment under certain circumstances.

CONSOL has also entered into agreements that provide for the indemnification by CONSOL of its directors, their executors, administrators or assigns for damages and expenses in connection with a threatened, pending or completed claim, action, or proceeding, whether brought by or in the right of CONSOL or by a third party or otherwise and whether of a civil, criminal, administrative or investigative nature, in which the director may be or may have been involved as a party or otherwise, by reason of the fact that the director is or was a director or officer of CONSOL, by reason of any actual or alleged error or misstatement or misleading statement or omission made or suffered by the director, by reason of any action taken by or any inaction on the part of the director while acting as such director or officer, or by reason of the fact that the director was serving at the request of CONSOL as a director, trustee, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, provided that a director acted in good faith and in a manner, which the director reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of CONSOL, and, in the case of a criminal proceeding, in addition, had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

Item 8. Exhibits.

EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION
4.1	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of CONSOL Energy Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Form 8-K (file no. 001-14901) filed on May 8, 2006.
4.2	Rights Agreement, dated as of December 22, 2003, between CONSOL Energy Inc., and Equiserve Trust Company, N.A., as Rights Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4 to Form 8-K (file no. 001-14901) filed on December 22, 2003.
5.1	Opinion of Counsel
23.1	Consent of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC (Included in Exhibit 5.1)
23.2	Consent of Ernst & Young, LLP
23.3	Consent of Netherland Sewell & Associates, Inc.
24.1	Powers of Attorney (Included in Signature Pages)
99.1	Amended and Restated CONSOL Energy Inc. Equity Incentive Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K (file no. 001-14901) filed on March 21, 2012.

Item 9. Undertakings.

The undersigned registrants hereby undertake:

(a)(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this Registration Statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the registrant with or furnished to the Commission pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Company pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Company has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Company of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Company in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Company will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Canonsburg, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on this 9th day of May 2012.

CONSOL Energy, Inc.

By: /s/ J. Brett Harvey

J. Brett Harvey

Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, Each of the undersigned directors and officers of CONSOL Energy Inc., a Delaware corporation, do hereby constitute and appoint J. Brett Harvey, Nicholas J. DeLuliis, William J. Lyons, P. Jerome Richey and Stephen W. Johnson, or any one of them, the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution in each, to do any and all acts and things in our name and on our behalf in our respective capacities as directors and officers and to execute any and all instruments for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, which said attorneys and agents, or either one of them, may deem necessary or advisable to enable said corporation to comply with the Securities Act, as amended, and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in connection with this registration statement, including specifically, but without limitation, power and authority to sign for us or any of us in our names in the capacities indicated below, any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments, whether pursuant to Rule 462(b) or otherwise) hereto, and each of the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that said attorneys and agents, or either one of them or any substitute, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. This Power of Attorney may be executed in any number of counterparts.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed below as of May 9, 2012 by the following persons in the capacities indicated:

Signature	Title
/s/ J. Brett Harvey J. Brett Harvey	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)
William J. Lyons	Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)
/s/ Philip W. Baxter Philip W. Baxter	Lead Independent Director
/s/ James E. Altmeyer, Sr. James E. Altmeyer, Sr.	Director
/s/ William E. Davis William E. Davis	Director
/s/ Raj K. Gupta Raj K. Gupta	Director
/s/ Patricia A. Hammick Patricia A. Hammick	Director
/s/ David C. Hardesty, Jr. David C. Hardesty, Jr.	Director
/s/ John T. Mills John T. Mills	Director
/s/ William P. Powell William P. Powell	Director
/s/ Joseph T. Williams Joseph T. Williams	Director

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, Each of the undersigned directors and officers of CONSOL Energy Inc., a Delaware corporation, do hereby constitute and appoint J. Brett Harvey, Nicholas J. DeLuliis, William J. Lyons, P. Jerome Richey and Stephen W. Johnson, or any one of them, the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution in each, to do any and all acts and things in our name and on our behalf in our respective capacities as directors and officers and to execute any and all instruments for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, which said attorneys and agents, or either one of them, may deem necessary or advisable to enable said corporation to comply with the Securities Act, as amended, and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in connection with this registration statement, including specifically, but without limitation, power and authority to sign for us or any of us in our names in the capacities indicated below, any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments, whether pursuant to Rule 462(b) or otherwise) hereto, and each of the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that said attorneys and agents, or either one of them or any substitute, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. This Power of Attorney may be executed in any number of counterparts.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed below as of August 1, 2012 by the following persons in the capacities indicated:

Signature	Title
J. Brett Harvey	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)
/s/ William J. Lyons William J. Lyons	Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)
Philip W. Baxter	Lead Independent Director
James E. Altmeyer, Sr.	Director
William E. Davis	Director
Raj K. Gupta	Director
Patricia A. Hammick	Director
David C. Hardesty, Jr.	Director
John T. Mills	Director
William P. Powell	Director
Joseph T. Williams	Director