

CREE INC  
Form 4  
September 04, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
PALMOUR JOHN W

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
C/O CREE, INC., 4600 SILICON DRIVE  
(Street)

DURHAM, NC 27703

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
CREE INC [CREE]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
09/02/2008

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Amount (D) Price  |  |                                   |
| COMMON STOCK                    | 09/02/2008                           |  | A <sup>(1)</sup>               | 6,000 A   | \$ 0 719,572 <sup>(2)</sup>   | D  |                                   |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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| 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. Transaction 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 (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Underlying (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|
| NONQUALIFIED STOCK OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)   | \$ 22.9  | 09/02/2008                           |  | A                              | 30,000  | 09/02/2009 <sup>(3)</sup> 09/02/2015                     | COMM STOCK                               |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                          |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                  | Other |
| PALMOUR JOHN W<br>C/O CREE, INC.<br>4600 SILICON DRIVE<br>DURHAM, NC 27703 | X             |           | EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT |       |

## Signatures

John W. Palmour  
 09/04/2008  
 \_\_Signature of Reporting Person                      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).
- Shares of restricted stock awarded under the Cree, Inc. 2004 Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan, as amended (the "Plan").
- (1) One-fifth of the shares awarded will vest on each of September 1, 2009, September 1, 2010, September 1, 2011, September 1, 2012 and September 1, 2013, provided the recipient continues service until such dates as an employee or director of Cree, Inc. or as an employee of a related "Employer" as defined in the Plan.
  - (2) Of the 719,572 shares reported, 679,572 are held by Dr. Palmour directly and 40,000 shares are held indirectly by Dr. Palmour's spouse.
  - (3) Option vests and becomes exercisable as to one-third of the shares on each of September 2, 2009, September 2, 2010 and September 2, 2011, provided the recipient continues service until such dates as an employee or director of Cree, Inc. or as an employee of a related "Employer" as defined in the Plan.

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.