#### HILLER NORBERT

Form 3

October 28, 2011

### FORM 3

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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

Expires:

response...

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

SECURITIES

Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person \* Statement CREE INC [CREE]  **HILLER NORBERT** (Month/Day/Year) 10/18/2011 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) C/O CREE, INC., Â 4600 (Check all applicable) SILICON DRIVE (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director \_X\_\_ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT Person DURHAM, NCÂ 27703 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock  $22,246 \frac{(1)}{}$ D Common Stock 181 I By Spouse Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

currently valid OMB control number.

1. Title of Derivative Security 2. Date Exercisable and 3. Title and Amount of 6. Nature of (Instr. 4) **Expiration Date** Securities Underlying Conversion Ownership Indirect Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) **Derivative Security** or Exercise Form of Ownership (Instr. 4) Price of Derivative (Instr. 5)

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	02/05/2011(2)	02/05/2015	Common Stock	60,000	\$ 31.12	D	Â
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	09/02/2011	09/02/2015	Common Stock	10,000	\$ 22.9	D	Â
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	09/01/2011(3)	09/01/2016	Common Stock	23,333	\$ 35.89	D	Â
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	09/01/2011(4)	09/01/2017	Common Stock	30,000	\$ 55.3	D	Â
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	09/01/2012(5)	09/01/2018	Common Stock	40,000	\$ 30.92	D	Â
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	09/02/2011	09/02/2015	Common Stock	333	\$ 22.9	I	By Spouse
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	09/01/2011(6)	09/01/2016	Common Stock	1,000	\$ 35.89	I	By Spouse
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	09/01/2011(7)	09/01/2017	Common Stock	1,555	\$ 55.3	I	By Spouse
Nonqualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	09/01/2012(8)	09/01/2018	Common Ctock	1,500	\$ 30.92	I	By Spouse

### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
1 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
HILLER NORBERT C/O CREE, INC. 4600 SILICON DRIVE DURHAM, NC 27703	Â	Â	EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT	Â	

## **Signatures**

Norbert Hiller 10/26/2011

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

#### **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- (1) Includes 15,400 shares of restricted stock vesting as to 5,250 shares on September 1, 2012; 4,450 shares on September 1, 2013; 3,450 shares on September 1, 2014; and 2,250 shares on September 1, 2015.
- (2) Option vests as to 20,000 shares on each of February 5, 2011, February 5, 2012 and February 5, 2013.

Reporting Owners 2

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- (3) Option vests as to 11,667 shares on September 1, 2011 and as to 11,666 shares on September 1, 2012.
- (4) Option vests as to 10,000 shares on each of September 1, 2011, September 1, 2012 and September 1, 2013.
- (5) Option vests as to 13,334 shares on September 1, 2012 and as to 13,333 shares on each of September 1, 2013 and September 1, 2014.
- (6) Option vests as to 500 shares on each of September 1, 2011 and September 1, 2012.
- (7) Option vests as to 519 shares on September 1, 2011 and as to 518 shares on each of September 1, 2012 and September 1, 2013.
- (8) Option vests as to 500 shares on each of September 1, 2012, September 1, 2013 and September 1, 2014.

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.