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Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund  
Form NSAR-B  
February 26, 2010

PAGE 1  
000 B000000 12/31/2009  
000 C000000 0001385763  
000 D000000 N  
000 E000000 NF  
000 F000000 Y  
000 G000000 N  
000 H000000 N  
000 I000000 6.1  
000 J000000 A  
001 A000000 NUVEEN CORE EQUITY ALPHA FUND  
001 B000000 811-220003  
001 C000000 3129178200  
002 A000000 333 WEST WACKER DRIVE  
002 B000000 CHICAGO  
002 C000000 IL  
002 D010000 60606  
002 D020000 1286  
003 000000 N  
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007 C010100 1  
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007 C010300 3  
007 C010400 4  
007 C010500 5  
007 C010600 6  
007 C010700 7  
007 C010800 8  
007 C010900 9  
007 C011000 10  
008 A000001 NUVEEN ASSET MANAGEMENT  
008 B000001 A  
008 C000001 801-14147  
008 D010001 CHICAGO  
008 D020001 IL  
008 D030001 60606  
008 D040001 1286  
008 A000002 ENHANCED INVESTMENT TECHNOLOGIES (INTECH)  
008 B000002 A  
008 C000002 801-60987  
008 D010002 PALM BEACH GARDENS  
008 D020002 FL  
008 D030002 33410  
012 A000001 EQUISERVE INC.  
012 B000001 84-05925  
012 C010001 PROVIDENCE  
012 C020001 RI  
012 C030001 02940  
PAGE 2  
013 A000001 PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP  
013 B010001 CHICAGO  
013 B020001 IL  
013 B030001 60606  
014 A000001 NUVEEN INVESTMENTS, LLC  
014 B000001 8-13464

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015 A000001 STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY  
015 B000001 C  
015 C010001 BOSTON  
015 C020001 MA  
015 C030001 02110  
015 E010001 X  
018 000000 Y  
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019 B000000 199  
019 C000000 NUVEENFUND  
020 A000001 DEUTSCHE BANK SECURITIES INC  
020 B000001 13-2730828  
020 C000001 23  
020 A000002 CREDIT SUISSE  
020 B000002 13-5659485  
020 C000002 19  
020 A000003 WEEDEN & CO  
020 B000003 13-3364318  
020 C000003 19  
020 A000004 MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH, INC  
020 B000004 13-5674085  
020 C000004 19  
020 A000005 GOLDMAN SACHS & CO  
020 B000005 13-5108880  
020 C000005 18  
020 A000006 ROSENBLATT SECURITIES  
020 B000006 13-2975865  
020 C000006 17  
020 A000007 BNY BROKERAGE  
020 B000007 13-3989198  
020 C000007 17  
020 A000008 CAPITAL INSTITUTIONAL  
020 B000008 75-1565705  
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020 A000009 GUZMAN & CO  
020 B000009 59-2764363  
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020 A000010 INSTINET  
020 B000010 13-3443395  
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021 000000 189  
022 A000001 MERRILL LYNCH  
022 B000001 13-5674085  
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022 D000001 36378  
PAGE 3  
022 A000002 DEUTSCHE BANK  
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022 A000003 LYNCH, JONES & RYAN  
022 B000003 13-3356934  
022 C000003 18944  
022 D000003 24699  
022 A000004 CREDIT SUISSE  
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022 C000004 16886  
022 D000004 21451  
022 A000005 WEEDEN & CO  
022 B000005 13-3364318  
022 C000005 17103  
022 D000005 20501

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022	A000006	GOLDMAN SACHS	
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054 B000000 N  
054 C000000 N  
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054 F000000 N  
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054 H000000 Y  
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054 M000000 Y  
054 N000000 N  
054 O000000 Y  
055 A000000 Y  
PAGE 6  
055 B000000 N  
056 000000 Y  
057 000000 N  
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069 000000 N  
070 A010000 Y  
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070 B010000 Y  
070 B020000 Y  
070 C010000 Y  
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070 D010000 N

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070	D020000	N	
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072BB000000	29804
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077 B000000	Y
077 Q020000	Y
078 000000	N
PAGE 9	
080 A000000	CHUBB GROUP OF INSURANCE COMPANIES
080 B000000	BERKLEY, GREAT AMERICAN, ST. PAUL & CNA
080 C000000	110000
081 A000000	Y
081 B000000	198
082 A000000	N
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084 B000000	0
085 A000000	Y
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086 A010000	0

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086 A020000	0
086 B010000	255
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087 A010000	COMMON STOCK
087 A020000	67090X107
087 A030000	JCE
088 A000000	N
088 B000000	N
088 C000000	N
088 D000000	N
SIGNATURE	STEPHEN D. FOY
TITLE	V.P. & CONTROLLER