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Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund  
Form NSAR-A  
August 30, 2011

PAGE 1  
000 A000000 06/30/2011  
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  
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008 B000001 A  
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012 A000001 EQUISERVE INC.  
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013 A000001 PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP  
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014 A000001 NUVEEN INVESTMENTS, LLC  
014 B000001 8-13464

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015 A000001 STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY  
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015 C020001 MA  
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087 A020000 67090X107  
087 A030000 JCE  
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088 C000000 N  
088 D000000 N  
SIGNATURE STEPHEN D. FOY  
TITLE V.P. & CONTROLLER