Gerlich Michael A Form 4 March 19, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

1(b).

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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Gerlich Michael A Issuer Symbol GASTAR EXPLORATION LTD (Check all applicable) [GST] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner _X__ Officer (give title . _ Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 1331 LAMAR, SUITE 650 03/15/2012 Chief Financial Officer & VP (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting HOUSTON, TX 77010 Person (Ctota)

(City)	(State) (2	Table	I - Non-De	erivative S	Securiti	ies Acq	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if	3. Transactio	3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of		5. Amount of Securities	6. Ownership Form: Direct	7. Nature of Indirect	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(D)			Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8) Code V	(Instr. 3, Amount	(A) or (D)	5) Price	Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)
Restricted Shares	03/15/2012		F(1)	5,947	D	\$ 2.71	483,031	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4. Transacti	5. orNumber	6. Date Exerc Expiration D		7. Title a		8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/		Underly Securitie (Instr. 3	ring es	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title N	lumber		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Gerlich Michael A 1331 LAMAR, SUITE 650 HOUSTON, TX 77010

Chief Financial Officer & VP

Signatures

/s/ Michael A.

Gerlich 03/19/2012

**Signature of Date Reporting Person

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).
- (1) Shares forfeited to meet tax obligation of restricted share vesting.

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.

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