Porter J Russell Form 4 April 12, 2012

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 2005

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response...

may continue. See Instruction

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

0.5

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Porter J Russell

(Last)

Symbol Gastar Exploration USA, Inc.

[GST.PR.A]

(Check all applicable)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

_X__ Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)

1331 LAMAR STREET, SUITE 650 04/12/2012

President

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

HOUSTON, TX 77010

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) 5. Amount of 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership

(Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (Month/Day/Year) (A)

Indirect Beneficially Form: Beneficial Ownership Owned Direct (D) Following or Indirect (Instr. 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)

(Instr. 3 and 4)

8.625%

Series A Cumulative 164 18,528 04/12/2012 D Α

Preferred Securities

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.

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Title		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities	3		(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	•				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						•
					4, and 5)						
					, , , , ,						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
							•	Title	Number		
						Exercisable	Date		of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Porter J Russell 1331 LAMAR STREET, SUITE 650 HOUSTON, TX 77010	X		President				

Signatures

/s/ Michael A. Gerlich, As Attorney in Fact

04/12/2012

**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).

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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