

ABRAXAS PETROLEUM CORP  
 Form 4  
 February 17, 2005

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**WATSON ROBERT L G**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**ABRAXAS PETROLEUM CORP [ABP]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**500 N LOOP 1604 E**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**02/16/2005**

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**CEO/President/COB**

**SAN ANTONIO, TX 78232**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 \_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V                                                                 | Amount                                                                                        | (D)                                                      | Price                                                 |
| Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock  | 02/16/2005                           | 02/16/2005                                         | M                              |                                                                   | 29,999                                                                                        | A                                                        | \$ 0.66                                               |
| Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock  | 02/16/2005                           | 02/16/2005                                         | M                              |                                                                   | 30,001                                                                                        | A                                                        | \$ 2.06                                               |
| Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock  |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                   | 300                                                                                           | I                                                        | Retirement account                                    |

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

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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 Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                            |                                                        |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V (A) (D)                                                                               | Date Exercisable Expiration Date                         | Title Amount or Number of Shares                              |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 0.66                                                | 02/16/2006                           | 02/16/2005                                         | M                              | 29,999                                                                                  | 02/16/1999 02/16/2005                                    | Abraxas Common Stock 29,999                                   |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 2.06                                                | 02/16/2005                           | 02/16/2005                                         | M                              | 30,001                                                                                  | 02/16/1999 02/16/2005                                    | Abraxas Common Stock 30,001                                   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                  | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|                                                                 | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| WATSON ROBERT L G<br>500 N LOOP 1604 E<br>SAN ANTONIO, TX 78232 |               |           | CEO/President/COB |       |

## Signatures

Robert L. G.                      02/17/2005  
Watson

\_\_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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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