VOLKER JAMES J

Form 4

February 20, 2009

FORM 4

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

OMB

Check this box if no longer subject to

3235-0287 Number: January 31, Expires:

2005

OMB APPROVAL

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

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

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

obligations 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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **VOLKER JAMES J**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

WHITING PETROLEUM CORP [WLL]

(Check all applicable)

(Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300

(First)

(Street)

02/18/2009

below) Chairman, President and CEO

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

D

Person

below)

DENVER, CO 80290

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)

Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

(9-02)

(A) or

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

Common Stock

86,834

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 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 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. Transact Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of ionDerivative 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	7 (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 25.51	02/18/2009		A V	74,860	<u>(1)</u>	02/18/2019	Common Stock	74,860

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
VOLKER JAMES J 1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300 DENVER, CO 80290	X		Chairman, President and CEO			
Signatures						

Signatures

/s/ Bruce R. DeBoer, attorney-in-fact 02/20/2009

**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).

Grant to reporting person of option to buy shares of common stock under the Whiting Petroleum Corporation 2003 Equity Incentive Plan.

(1) The option vests and becomes exercisable as follows: 1/3 on 1st anniversary of the date of grant, 2/3 on 2nd anniversary of the date of

(1) The option vests and becomes exercisable as follows: 1/3 on 1st anniversary of the date of grant, 2/3 on 2nd anniversary of the date of grant and 3/3 on 3rd anniversary of the date of grant.

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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