

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO
 Form 4
 March 15, 2016

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
 Williams David R

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO
 [NWN]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 220 NW SECOND AVENUE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 03/11/2016

____ Director
 Officer (give title below)
 ____ 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)
 Vice President

PORTLAND, OR 97209

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price |
| Common Stock | 03/11/2016 | | M | | 2,000 | A | \$ 44.48 |
| Common Stock | 03/11/2016 | | S | | 2,000 | D | \$ 51.3434 <u>(1)</u> |
| Common Stock | | | | | 2,374.0265 | I | See Footnote <u>(2)</u> |
| Common Stock | | | | | 3,871.023 | I | See Footnote <u>(3)</u> |

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

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

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) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option to Buy | \$ 44.48 | 03/11/2016 | | M | 2,000 | ⁽⁴⁾ 02/28/2017 | Common Stock | 2,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Williams David R 220 NW SECOND AVENUE PORTLAND, OR 97209 | | | Vice President | |

Signatures

Shawn M. Filippi,
Attorney-in-Fact

03/15/2016

 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).

This transaction was executed in multiple trades on reported date with prices ranging from \$51.31 - \$51.39, resulting in an average price of \$51.3434. Northwest Natural Gas Company will provide upon request by the Commission staff or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares purchased or sold at each separate price.

(2) Shares are held in reporting person's account under issuer's Retirement K Savings Plan as of February 29, 2016.

(3)

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Reflects shares that have been credited to reporting person's account under the issuer's Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors and Executives.

- (4) The option vested in four equal installments on February 21, 2008, and January 1, 2009, 2010, and 2011.
- (5) Option was granted as part of compensation for services. The option was exercised in a cashless exercise.

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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