Ross Rick A Mr. Form 4 January 20, 2012

### FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287

**OMB APPROVAL** 

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Check this box

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

Common

may continue.

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Ross Rick A Mr. Issuer Symbol WHITING PETROLEUM CORP (Check all applicable) [WLL] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X\_ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300 01/18/2012 Vice President (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 DENVER, CO 80290-2300 Person

(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 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Indirect (I) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount

(D)

Price

18,504 D Stock

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 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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number on f 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
Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 51.22	01/18/2012		A	1,731	<u>(1)</u>	01/18/2022	Common Stock	1,731
2011 Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 60.285					<u>(1)</u>	01/18/2021	Common Stock	4,100
Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 34.31					<u>(1)</u>	01/26/2020	Common Stock	2,572
Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 12.755					<u>(1)</u>	02/18/2019	Common Stock	8,318

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Ross Rick A Mr. 1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300 DENVER, CO 80290-2300			Vice President			

## **Signatures**

/s/ Bruce R. DeBoer,
attorney-in-fact

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

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## **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 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.