BROWN JAMES T Form 4

February 21, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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obligations may continue.

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

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **BROWN JAMES T** Issuer Symbol WHITING PETROLEUM CORP (Check all applicable) [WLL] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner Other (specify X_ Officer (give title (Month/Day/Year) below) 1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300 02/18/2012 President and COO (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 Person

(City)	(State)	Zip) Table	I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acqu	uired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, i any (Month/Day/Year)		3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)			d of (D)	Beneficially (D) or Beneficially Owned Indirect (I) Own		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	02/18/2012		A	8,942 (2)	A	\$ 0	110,659	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2012		F	3,674	D	\$ 55.16	106,985	D	

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. oriNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Pric Deriva Securi (Instr.
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
2011 Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 60.285					<u>(1)</u>	01/18/2021	Common Stock	13,178	
Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 12.755					<u>(1)</u>	02/18/2019	Common Stock	33,270	
Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 34.31					<u>(1)</u>	01/26/2020	Common Stock	2,572	
Stock Option - Right to Purchase	\$ 51.22					<u>(1)</u>	01/18/2022	Common Stock	9,695	

Reporting Owners

**Signature of Reporting Person

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
Topy come of the control of the cont	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BROWN JAMES T 1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300 DENVER, CO 80290			President and COO				
Signatures							
/s/ Bruce R. DeBoer, Attorney-in-Fact	02/2	1/2012					

Date

Reporting Owners 2

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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.
- Vesting to reporting person of restricted stock under the Whiting Petroleum Corporation 2003 Equity Incentive Plan upon attainment of performance criteria.

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.