

Cobalt International Energy, Inc.
 Form 4
 May 13, 2010

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 *
GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Cobalt International Energy, Inc. [CIE]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 200 WEST STREET
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/05/2010

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

NEW YORK, NY 10282

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, par value \$0.01 | 05/05/2010 | | P | | 2,300 | A | \$ 10.4 | 74,870,448 I | See footnotes (1) (2) |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.01 | 05/05/2010 | | S | | 2,300 | D | \$ 10.4 | 74,868,148 I | See footnotes (1) (2) |
| Common Stock, par value \$0.01 | 05/10/2010 | | P | | 481 | A | \$ 9.1 | 74,868,629 I | See footnotes (1) (2) |
| Common Stock, par | 05/10/2010 | | S | | 481 | D | \$ 9.1 | 74,868,148 I | See footnotes |

value \$0.01

(1) (2)

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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(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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC 200 WEST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10282 | | X | | |
| GOLDMAN SACHS & CO 200 WEST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10282 | | X | | |

Signatures

/s/ Yvette Kusic,
Attorney-in-fact
05/13/2010
Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

/s/ Yvette Kusic,
Attorney-in-fact
05/13/2010
Date

**Signature of 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).

This statement is being filed by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. ("GS Group") and Goldman, Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs" and, together with GS Group, the "Reporting Persons"). The Reporting Persons may be deemed to beneficially own indirectly, in the aggregate 74,868,148 shares of Cobalt International Energy, Inc. (the "Company") common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("Common Stock"),

(1) through certain limited partnerships (the "Limited Partnerships"). Affiliates of GS Group and Goldman Sachs are the general partner, managing limited partner or managing partner of the Limited Partnerships. The Reporting Persons disclaim beneficial ownership of the securities reported herein except to the extent of their pecuniary interest therein.

The Common Stock of the Company reported herein as indirectly purchased and sold were beneficially owned directly by Goldman Sachs

(2) and may be deemed to have been beneficially owned indirectly by GS Group. Without admitting any legal obligation, Goldman Sachs or another wholly-owned subsidiary of GS Group will remit appropriate profits, if any, to the Company.

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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