

BROWN JAMES T  
Form 4  
February 22, 2011

**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 \*  
BROWN JAMES T

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
WHITING PETROLEUM CORP  
[WLL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
02/18/2011

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
President and COO

DENVER, CO 80290

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount (A) or (D) Price   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/18/2011                           |  | A                              |   | 4,471<br>(2)  | A  | \$ 0 45,252 D   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/18/2011                           |  | F                              |   | 1,837   | D  | \$ 124.08 43,415 D                                    |
| Common Stock                    | 02/21/2011                           |  | A                              |   | 1,623<br>(2)  | A  | \$ 0 45,038 D   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/21/2011                           |  | F                              |   | 667   | D  | \$ 124.08 44,371 D                                    |

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. Price of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title  | Amount or Number of Shares |
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Code   | V   | (A)  | (D)                        |
| 2011 Stock Option - Right to Purchase      | \$ 120.57  |                                      |  |                                |   | (1) 01/18/2021   |   | Common Stock                                     | 6,589                      |
| Stock Option - Right to Purchase           | \$ 25.51   |                                      |  |                                |   | (1) 02/18/2019   |   | Common Stock                                     | 16,635                     |
| Stock Option - Right to Purchase           | \$ 68.62   |                                      |  |                                |   | (1) 01/26/2020   |   | Common Stock                                     | 1,286                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                 | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| BROWN JAMES T<br>1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300<br>DENVER, CO 80290 |               |           | President and COO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Bruce R. DeBoer,  
Attorney-in-Fact

02/22/2011

\*\*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 grant and 3/3 on 3rd anniversary of the date of grant.

(2) 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.

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