

MOORE KENNETH E JR
 Form 4
 January 28, 2010

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

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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 *
 MOORE KENNETH E JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ONE BRIARLAKE PLAZA, SUITE 2000, 2000 WEST SAM HOUSTON PARKWAY SOUTH

(Street)

HOUSTON, TX 77042

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 MARINER ENERGY INC [ME]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 01/28/2010

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 VP-Onshore Land

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 01/28/2010 | | F | 919 D | 54,399 | 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)

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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. 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. P... Der... Sec... (Ins... |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 14 | | | | | 03/02/2006 03/11/2015 | Common Stock | 8,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| MOORE KENNETH E JR ONE BRIARLAKE PLAZA, SUITE 2000 2000 WEST SAM HOUSTON PARKWAY SOUTH HOUSTON, TX 77042 | | | VP-Onshore Land | |

Signatures

Kenneth E. Moore, Jr. by Teresa G. Bushman pursuant to Power of Attorney dated August 7, 2008 (previously filed as Exhibit 24 to Mr. Moore's Form 3 filed on August 12, 2008) 01/28/2010

**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).
- (1) On January 28, 2010, 2,156 shares of the issuer's common stock granted to the reporting person under the issuer's Stock Incentive Plan, as amended or restated from time to time (the "Plan"), vested. To satisfy withholding tax obligations in connection with the vesting, the issuer withheld the shares this Form reports were disposed. In accordance with the Plan, the number of shares withheld was determined by reference to the closing price per share of the issuer's common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on January 27, 2010 of \$15.80.
- 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.