

STOVER DAVID L  
Form 4  
February 05, 2013

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
STOVER DAVID L

(Last) (First) (Middle)

100 GLENBOROUGH DRIVE,  
SUITE 100

(Street)

HOUSTON, TX 77067

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NOBLE ENERGY INC [NBL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/01/2013

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)  
President & COO

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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock	02/01/2013		A		9,158 (2)	A	\$ 109.19 128,757
Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock	02/01/2013		A		18,316 (3)	A	\$ 109.19 147,073
Noble Energy,	02/01/2013		F		4,625 (4)	D	\$ 108.63 142,448

Inc.  
Common  
Stock

Noble  
Energy,  
Inc.  
Common  
Stock

02/01/2013

F

2,506  
(5)

D

\$  
108.63

139,942

D

Noble  
Energy,  
Inc.  
Common  
Stock

02/01/2013

F

1,248  
(6)

D

\$  
109.19

138,694

D

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

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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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option Grant (right to buy)	\$ 109.19	02/01/2013		A	47,092 <u>(1)</u>	02/01/2014	02/01/2023	Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock	0

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other

STOVER DAVID L  
100 GLENBOROUGH DRIVE, SUITE 100

President & COO

HOUSTON, TX 77067

## Signatures

Arnold J. Johnson,  
Attorney-in-Fact

02/05/2013

\_\_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) Options vest 1/3 each year for three years.

(2) Restricted shares of Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock subject to vesting 40% after year one and the final 60% after year two, granted under the 1992 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan.

(3) Performance restricted stock will vest three years after the date of grant upon, and subject to a formula related to, the Company's achievement of certain levels of total shareholder return (TSR) relative to a pre-determined industry peer group.

(4) This reported transaction reflects shares relinquished to Noble Energy, Inc. by the reporting person out of, and to cover estimated tax withholding for, restricted shares granted on February 1, 2010, and vesting on February 1, 2013. The stock price reflected in Table I Column 4 was determined based on "fair market value," defined in the Noble Energy, Inc. 1992 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan as the average of the reported high and low trading price of Noble Energy, Inc. common stock on the NYSE on February 1, 2013.

(5) This reported transaction reflects shares relinquished to Noble Energy, Inc. by the reporting person out of, and to cover estimated tax withholding for, restricted shares granted on February 1, 2011, and vesting on February 1, 2013. The stock price reflected in Table I Column 4 was determined based on "fair market value," defined in the Noble Energy, Inc. 1992 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan as the average of the reported high and low trading price of Noble Energy, Inc. common stock on the NYSE on February 1, 2013.

(6) This reported transaction reflects shares relinquished to Noble Energy, Inc. by the reporting person out of, and to cover estimated tax withholding for, restricted shares granted on February 1, 2012, and vesting on February 1, 2013. The stock price reflected in Table I Column 4 was determined based on "fair market value," defined in the Noble Energy, Inc. 1992 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan, as amended and restated effective April 26, 2011, for this transaction as the closing trading price of Noble Energy, Inc. common stock on the NYSE on February 1, 2013.

### Remarks:

Column 5 of Table I includes 55,108 restricted shares of Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock directly held by the reporting person.

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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