PDC ENERGY, INC.

Form 4

January 19, 2017

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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Check this box

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

1(b).

Common

Stock

01/17/2017

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Amidon Daniel Willson			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PDC ENERGY INC. IDDCE				5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
			PDC ENERGY, INC. [PDCE]				(Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1775 SHERMAN STREET, SUITE 3000			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/17/2017				Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) Sr. VP, General Counsel & Sec.			
	(Street)	4.]	4. If Amendment, Date Original				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
DENVER,	CO 80203	Filed(Month/Day/Year)				Applicable Line) _X_ 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									ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Da any (Month/Day/	ate, if Transaction	Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		
Common Stock	01/17/2017		M	9,640	A	(1)	64,589	D		
Common Stock	01/17/2017		F	4,491 (2)	D	\$ 74.57	60,098	D		

5,944

(3)

\$0

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

A

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66,042

D

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number.

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. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amou Underlying Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Nun of Shar
Performance Share Rights	(1)	01/17/2017		M		4,820	<u>(1)</u>	12/31/2016	Common Stock	4,8
Stock Appreciation Rights	\$ 74.57	01/17/2017		A	5,733		<u>(4)</u>	01/17/2027	Common Stock	5,7
Performance Share Units	<u>(5)</u>	01/17/2017		A	2,972		(5)	12/31/2019	Common Stock	2,9

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Amidon Daniel Willson 1775 SHERMAN STREET, SUITE 3000 DENVER, CO 80203

Sr. VP, General Counsel & Sec.

Signatures

/s/Daniel Willson
Amidon

**Signature of Reporting

Date

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).
- Each performance share/right represented a contingent right to receive shares of PDC Energy, Inc. (the "Company") common stock upon achievement of specified minimum thresholds of total shareholder return (TSR) compared to certain peers measured in December of 2016, as described in the related grant agreement. Shares granted represented a 200% payout on previously awarded performance shares/rights.
- (2) Represents shares of common stock surrendered to issuer to cover tax withholding obligation of the reporting person upon vesting of shares of Company common stock.
- (3) The restricted stock units vest in three pro rata installments on December 28, 2017, December 28, 2018, and January 17, 2020.

Reporting Owners 2

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- The Stock Appreciation Rights ("SARs") become exercisable in three pro rata installments on December 28, 2017, December 28, 2018, (4) and January 17, 2020. The reporting person also holds additional previously awarded SARs subject to different vesting, exercise price and other criteria.
 - Each performance share unit represents a contingent right to receive 0-200% of that number in shares of Company common stock. The amount reported represents the "target" number. The performance shares units vest upon continued employment and achievement of
- (5) specified thresholds of total shareholder return (TSR) compared to certain peers, as measured on December of 2019 and as described in the related grant agreement. Participant also holds additional previously awarded performance shares/rights and performance share units, all subject to different future vesting and 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.