

JOHNSON ARNOLD J  
Form 4  
February 03, 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 \*  
JOHNSON ARNOLD J

(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)  
01/30/2010

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)  
Sr. VP Gen. Counsel & Sec.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
\_X\_ 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) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock					2,643 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	401(k)
Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock	01/30/2010		F	473 <sup>(2)</sup> D \$ 74.98	28,756	D	
Noble Energy,	02/01/2010		A	7,251 <sup>(3)</sup> A \$ 0	36,007	D	

Inc.  
Common  
Stock

Noble  
Energy,  
Inc.

Common  
Stock

02/01/2010

F

2,301  
(5)

D

\$  
75.09

33,706

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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Employee Stock Option Grant (right to buy)	\$ 75.09	02/01/2010		A	17,719	02/01/2011 <sup>(4)</sup> 02/01/2020	Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

JOHNSON ARNOLD J  
100 GLENBOROUGH DRIVE, SUITE 100  
HOUSTON, TX 77067

Sr. VP Gen. Counsel & Sec.

## Signatures

Arnold J.  
Johnson

02/03/2010

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).
- Holdings under the Company's 401(k) Plan are reported in units by the plan administrator. The units represent shares of Company common stock. The number of shares represented by the units is based upon the plan statement as of February 1, 2010 and calculated by dividing the aggregate unit balance under the 401(k) by the closing price of the Company's common stock on that date.
- (1) 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 January 30, 2009, and vesting on January 30, 2010. 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 January 29, 2010.
  - (2) Restricted shares of Noble Energy, Inc. Common Stock subject to vesting 20% after year one, an additional 30% after year two and the final 50% after year three, granted under the 1992 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan.
  - (3) Options vest 1/3 each year for three years.
  - (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, 2007, and vesting on February 1, 2010. 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, 2010.
  - (5)

### Remarks:

Column 5 of Table 1 includes 18,618 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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