

Ekstrom Jack R
Form 4
January 28, 2011

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 *
Ekstrom Jack R

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)
01/26/2011

____ Director
 Officer (give title below)
____ 10% Owner
____ Other (specify below)
Vice President

DENVER, CO 80290

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

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)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	01/26/2011		F	71 D \$ 118.86	1,285	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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. Price of Deriva Security (Instr.	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
2011 Stock Option - \$ 120.57 Right to Purchase						<u>(1)</u>	01/18/2021	Common Stock	732

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Ekstrom Jack R 1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 2300 DENVER, CO 80290			Vice President	

Signatures

/s/ Bruce R. DeBoer, Attorney-in-Fact	01/28/2011
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__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.

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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