Beck John W Form 4 May 18, 2011

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

January 31, Expires: 2005

Form 5 obligations STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per 0.5 response...

may continue. See Instruction

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Beck John W | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Ardea Biosciences, Inc./DE [RDEA] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | | |
|---|----------|----------|--|---|--|--|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction | (Check all applicable) | | |
| | | | (Month/Day/Year) | Director 10% Owner | | |
| 4939 DIRECTORS PLACE | | | 05/16/2011 | _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) | | |
| | | | | SVP, Finance & Operations, CFO | | |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check | | |
| | | | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | Applicable Line) | | |
| SAN DIEGO, | CA 92121 | | | _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Tab | le I - Non-l | Derivative | Secu | rities Acqui | red, Disposed of, | or Beneficiall | y Owned |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------|------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|---|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8) | | sed of 4 and (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) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 05/16/2011 | | Code V $A_{\underline{(1)}}$ | Amount 1,500 | (D) | Price \$ 5.85 | 5,909 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/16/2011 | | M <u>(1)</u> | 1,100 | D | \$ 25.3432 (2) | 4,809 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/16/2011 | | M <u>(1)</u> | 400 | D | \$ 26.0388 (3) | 4,409 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/17/2011 | | A <u>(1)</u> | 1,000 | A | \$ 5.85 | 5,409 | D | |
| | 05/17/2011 | | M(1) | 1,000 | D | \$ 25 | 4,409 | D | |

Common Stock

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)

| 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. 5. Number Transaction Derivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) 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 (Right to Buy) | \$ 5.85 | 05/16/2011 | | M <u>(1)</u> | 1,500 | <u>(4)</u> | 06/14/2017 | Common Stock | 1,500 |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 5.85 | 05/17/2011 | | M <u>(1)</u> | 1,000 | <u>(4)</u> | 06/14/2017 | Common Stock | 1,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| | |

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Beck John W

4939 DIRECTORS PLACE SVP, Finance & Operations, CFO SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

Signatures

/s/ John W. 05/18/2011 Beck

Date

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**Signature of Reporting 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).
- (1) The stock option exercise and sale of common stock reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 plan dated as of June 2, 2010.
- (2) The range of sales prices received was \$25.00 to \$25.93. Upon request by the SEC staff, the issuer, or any security holder of the issuer, full information will be provided regarding the number of shares purchased or sold at each separate price.
- (3) The range of sales prices received was \$26.00 to \$26.095. Upon request by the SEC staff, the issuer, or any security holder of the issuer, full information will be provided regarding the number of shares purchased or sold at each separate price.
- (4) Immediately exercisable, subject to a right of repurchase on behalf of the Issuer that lapsed on January 2, 2008.

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.

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