

Diamondback Energy, Inc.
 Form 4
 February 21, 2017

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2015
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
Molnar Paul

 (Last) (First) (Middle)
500 WEST TEXAS, SUITE 1200

 (Street)
MIDLAND, TX 79701

 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Diamondback Energy, Inc. [FANG]

 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/16/2017

 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

 (Check all applicable)
 ___ Director ___ 10% Owner
X Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
VP Geoscience

 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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount (A) or Price (D) | | |
| Common Stock | 02/16/2017 | | A | | 14,666 <u>(1)</u> | A | \$ 0 45,126 D |
| Common Stock | 02/16/2017 | | A | | 11,700 <u>(2)</u> | A | \$ 0 56,826 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)

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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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Molnar Paul 500 WEST TEXAS, SUITE 1200 MIDLAND, TX 79701 | | | VP Geoscience | |

Signatures

/s/ Randall J. Holder, as attorney-in-fact for Paul Molnar 02/21/2017

__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) These securities are performance based restricted stock units for the performance period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016 that were granted under the issuer's equity incentive plan. All of these performance based restricted stock units vested as of December 31, 2016 upon certification by the issuer's compensation committee of attainment of the applicable performance conditions on February 16, 2017.
- (2) These securities are restricted stock units that were granted under the issuer's equity incentive plan. 3,900 of these restricted stock units vested on February 16, 2017, and the remaining 7,800 restricted stock units will vest in two equal annual installments beginning on February 16, 2018.

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.