

PDC ENERGY, INC.
Form 4
January 15, 2015

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 *
Amidon Daniel Willson

(Last) (First) (Middle)

1775 SHERMAN STREET, SUITE 3000

(Street)

DENVER, CO 80203

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
PDC ENERGY, INC. [PDCE]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
01/13/2015

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, General Counsel & Sec.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 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 (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 01/13/2015 | | M | 5,921 A \$ 56,152 | | D | |
| Common Stock | 01/13/2015 | | F | 2,016 (2) D \$ 39.63 | 54,136 | D | |
| Common Stock | 01/13/2015 | | A | 14,390 (3) A \$ 0 | 68,526 | D | |

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

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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. 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) | Amount or Number of Shares | |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Performance Share Rights | <u>(1)</u> | 01/13/2015 | | M | | <u>(1)</u> | 12/31/2014 | Common Stock | 3,545 |
| Stock Appreciation Rights <u>(4)</u> | \$ 39.63 | 01/13/2015 | | A | 9,436 | <u>(4)</u> | 01/13/2025 | Common Stock | 9,436 |
| Performance Share Units | <u>(5)</u> | 01/13/2015 | | A | 4,063 | <u>(5)</u> | 12/31/2017 | Common Stock | 4,063 |

Reporting Owners

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

01/15/2015

**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).

- Each performance share/right represented a contingent right to receive shares of Company stock upon achievement of specified minimum
- (1) thresholds of total shareholder return (TSR) compared to certain peers measured in December of 2014, as described in the related grant agreement. Shares granted represented a 167% 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 restricted stock pursuant to time-based vesting.
 - (3) The restricted stock units vest in three pro rata installments on December 30, 2015, December 30, 2016 and January 13, 2018.

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- (4) The SARs become exercisable in three pro rata installments on December 30, 2015, December 30, 2016 and January 13, 2018. 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 PDCE 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 in December of 2017 and as described in the related grant agreement. Participant also holds additional previously awarded performance shares/rights, 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.

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