

WILLIFORD CHRIS E  
Form 4  
March 24, 2011

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
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 \*  
WILLIFORD CHRIS E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ABRAXAS PETROLEUM CORP  
[AXAS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
18803 MEISNER DRIVE  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
03/22/2011

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
EVP/CFO

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78258

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	03/22/2011		M	20,000	A \$ 0.66	203,509	D
Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	03/22/2011		F	2,710	D \$ 4.87	200,799	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**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control 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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount Number Shares
Employee Stock Option	\$ 0.66	03/22/2011		M	20,000	03/21/2011 03/23/2011	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk 20,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 4.72					03/15/2012 03/15/2021	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock 30,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 2.09					03/16/2011 03/16/2020	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock 60,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 1.75					10/05/2010 10/05/2015	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk 66,930
Employee Stock Option	\$ 0.99					03/17/2010 03/17/2019	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk 50,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 3.6					08/28/2011 08/28/2017	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk 15,230
Employee Stock Option	\$ 4.59					09/13/2009 09/13/2015	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk 100,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 0.65					11/22/2006 11/22/2012	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk 43,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WILLIFORD CHRIS E 18803 MEISNER DRIVE SAN ANTONIO, TX 78258			EVP/CFO	

## Signatures

Chris E.  
Williford

03/24/2011

\_\_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).

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.