

GASTAR EXPLORATION INC.

Reported by
PORTER J RUSSELL

FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 08/03/17 for the Period Ending 08/01/17

Address	1331 LAMAR STREET SUITE 650 HOUSTON, TX 77010
Telephone	7137391800
CIK	0001431372
Symbol	GST
Fiscal Year	12/31

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person - Porter J Russell (Last) (First) (Middle)		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Gastar Exploration Inc. [GST]		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director _____ 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) Chief Executive Officer & Pres	
1331 LAMAR, SUITE 650 (Street)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) 8/1/2017		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	
HOUSTON, TX 77010 (City) (State) (Zip)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)			

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans. Date	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Trans. 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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	8/1/2017		A		2200000 (1)	A	\$0.00	4849598 (2)	D	
Common Stock								150000	I	Trust (3)

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g. , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Trans. Date	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Trans. 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		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

Explanation of Responses:

- The reported shares were acquired pursuant to a restricted share grant and will vest in five equal annual installments beginning on August 1, 2018.
- Includes 737,837 shares acquired on various dates pursuant to previously reported restricted share grants that will vest subject to previously disclosed vesting schedules.
- On July 10, 2014, the reporting person gifted 150,000 shares to his children in trusts for which the reporting person acts as the trustee as follows: The James Breckenridge Porter Trust of 2014 - 37,500 shares, The Grant Anderson Porter Trust of 2014 - 37,500 shares, The Addison Ann Porter Trust of 2014 - 37,500 shares and The Lily Madeline Porter Trust of 2014 - 37,500 shares. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares for the purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Porter J Russell 1331 LAMAR, SUITE 650 HOUSTON, TX 77010	X		Chief Executive Officer & Pres	

Signatures

/s/ J. Russell Porter, by Michael A. Gerlich as Attorney in Fact

8/3/2017

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

* 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.

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.