

GASTAR EXPLORATION INC.

Reported by
GERLICH MICHAEL A

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
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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 *		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)	
Gerlich Michael A		Gastar Exploration Inc. [GST]		____ Director ____ 10% Owner	
(Last) (First) (Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY)		__ X __ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)	
1331 LAMAR, SUITE 650		8/1/2017		Senior VP & CFO	
(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)	
HOUSTON, TX 77010				__ X __ Form filed by One Reporting Person	
(City) (State) (Zip)				____ 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. 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		1200000 (1)	A	\$0.00	2506043 (2)	D	

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)		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				

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) The reported shares were acquired pursuant to a restricted share grant and will vest in five equal annual installments beginning on August 1, 2018.
- (2) Includes 343,902 shares acquired on various dates pursuant to previously reported restricted share grants that will vest subject to previously disclosed vesting schedules.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Gerlich Michael A 1331 LAMAR, SUITE 650 HOUSTON, TX 77010			Senior VP & CFO	

Signatures

/s/ **Michael A. Gerlich**

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.