

CARTER HAROLD D  
 Form 4  
 May 11, 2012

**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, 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 \*  
 CARTER HAROLD D

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 05/04/2012

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

18803 MEISNER DRIVE

(Street)

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

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78258

(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		
				Code	V	Amount	

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 required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
			Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Code V				
Director Stock Option	\$ 2.9	05/04/2012	A	12,000	05/04/2012	05/04/2022	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	12,000
Director Stock Option	\$ 4.13				05/06/2011	05/05/2021	Abraxas Common Stock	10,500
Director Stock Option	\$ 2.36				05/20/2010	05/19/2020	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	10,000
Director Stock Option	\$ 4.5				05/21/2008	05/21/2018	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	10,000
Director Stock Option	\$ 1.06				05/21/2009	05/21/2019	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	10,000
Director Stock Option	\$ 0.99				03/17/2009	03/17/2019	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	50,000
Director Stock Option	\$ 4.32				06/26/2007	06/26/2017	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	10,000
Director Stock Option	\$ 4.51				05/25/2006	05/25/2016	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	10,000
Director Stock Option	\$ 2.75				06/01/2005	06/01/2015	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	10,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CARTER HAROLD D 18803 MEISNER DRIVE SAN ANTONO, TX 78258		X		

## Signatures

Harold D. Carter                      05/10/2012

\_\_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.

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