FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| STATEMENT | OF CHANGES | IN BENEFICIAL | OWNERSHIP |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average b | ourden | | | | | | | |

0.5

hours per response:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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* Pantermuehl Russell | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Diamondback Energy, Inc. [FANG] | | | | | | | | | heck all a | ship of Reporting pplicable) | ng Person | 10% C |)wner |
|---|---|--|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 500 WEST TEXAS, SUITE 1200 | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/19/2016 | | | | | | | | | ^ be | ficer (give title low) VP Reservo | ir Engin | Other (specify below) | |
| (Street) MIDLAI (City) | MIDLAND TX 79701 | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | ne) X Fo | · | | | |
| | | Tabl | le I - No | n-Deriv | ative | Sec | curitie | s Ac | quired, | Dis | posed o | f, or | Bene | eficia | lly Ow | ned | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da | | | | | Execution Date, | | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4) 5) | | | | d Sec Ben Owi | mount of urities eficially ned Following orted | 6. Owne Form: D (D) or In (I) (Instr. | rect direct | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount (A) or (D) | | Price | Trar | nsaction(s) tr. 3 and 4) | | | (1130.4) | |
| Common Stock 02/19/ | | | | /2016 | 2016 | | A | | 17,550 ⁽¹⁾ A | | \$0 | 77,514 | | D | | | | | |
| | | Та | | | | | | | | | sed of, onvertib | | | | / Owne | d | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deem Execution if any (Month/D | n Date, ay/Year) _ | 4. Transa Code (8) | | of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) o Dispo | r osed) r. 3, 4 | 6. Date E Expiration (Month/D | n Dat | e | Amou Secu Unde Deriv | rities rlying ative rity (Ins | ount nber | 8. Price of Derivativ Security (Instr. 5) | | Own Forn Direc or In (I) (Ir | ership 1: ct (D) direct 1str. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |

Explanation of Responses:

1. These securities are performance based restricted stock units that were granted under the issuer's 2012 Equity Incentive Plan for the performance period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015. All of these performance based restricted stock units vested as of December 31, 2015 upon certification by the issuer's compensation committee of attainment of the applicable performance conditions and settlement of these units on February 19, 2016.

Remarks:

<u>/s/ Randall J. Holder, as</u> attorney-in-fact for Russell

02/23/2016

<u>Pantermuehl</u>

** 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 Number.