

PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES CO  
 Form 4  
 March 20, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
 SHEFFIELD SCOTT D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES CO [PXD]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 5205 N. O'CONNOR BLVD.,  
 SUITE 200  
 (Street)  
 IRVING, TX 75039  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 03/16/2012  
 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 \_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below)  
 \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Chairman & CEO  
 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 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. 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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock					22,055 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	401(k)
Common Stock	03/16/2012		M		15,000	A	\$ 15.62
Common Stock	03/16/2012		S <sup>(2)</sup>		7,223	D	\$ 109.5931
Common Stock	03/16/2012		S <sup>(3)</sup>		7,777	D	\$ 110.2182

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

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**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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 15.62	03/16/2012		M	15,000	02/18/2012 02/18/2019	Common Stock 15

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SHEFFIELD SCOTT D 5205 N. O'CONNOR BLVD., SUITE 200 IRVING, TX 75039			Chairman & CEO	

## Signatures

Mark H. Kleinman, Attorney-in-Fact For Scott D. Sheffield  
03/20/2012

\_\_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).
- (1) Consists of shares beneficially owned as a result of reporting person's ownership of units in the Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc. 401(k) Plan  
This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$109.0083 to \$109.99. The price reported above reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person will provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.
- (3) This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$110.00 to \$110.52. The price reported above reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person will provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.

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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