

BERNS KENNETH N
 Form 4
 April 26, 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 *
 BERNS KENNETH N

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 PATTERSON UTI ENERGY INC
 [PTEN]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)
 Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 Senior Vice President

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 1801 CENTURY PARK
 EAST, SUITE 1111
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 04/24/2012

LOS ANGELES, CA 90067

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

(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 | | |
| Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share | 04/24/2012 | | A | 48,000 (1) | A | \$ 0 | 315,100 | D |

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

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 (9-02)

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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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Title Amount or Number of Shares |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 16.2 | 04/24/2012 | | A | 160,000 | (2) 04/23/2022 | Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share 160,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BERNS KENNETH N 1801 CENTURY PARK EAST SUITE 1111 LOS ANGELES, CA 90067 | X | | Senior Vice President | |

Signatures

By Gregory W. Pipkin pursuant to a Limited Power of Attorney filed with the SEC on 4/29/2010./s/Gregory W. Pipkin 04/26/2012
**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) One-third of the shares vest on April 24, 2013 and the remainder vests in equal monthly installments over the twenty-four months following April 24, 2013.
- (2) One-third of the options vest on April 24, 2013 and the remainder vests in equal monthly installments over the twenty-four months following April 24, 2013.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.