

DODSON MARK S  
Form 4  
January 17, 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 \*  
DODSON MARK S

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO  
[NWN]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
220 NW SECOND AVENUE  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/13/2012

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

PORTLAND, OR 97209

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	01/13/2012		G	V 2,374 D \$ 0	19,881.764	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock	01/13/2012		G	V 2,374 A \$ 0	8,007	I	By Trust (2)
Common Stock	01/13/2012		S	805 (3) D \$ 46.8095	19,076.764	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock					6.838	D	

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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)

Table with columns: 1. Title of Derivative Security, 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security, 3. Transaction Date, 3A. Deemed Execution Date, 4. Transaction Code, 5. Number of Derivative Securities, 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities, 8. Price of Derivative Security, 9. Number of Derivative Securities. Includes sub-headers for Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, and Title or Number of Shares.

Reporting Owners

Table with columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships (Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other). Row for DODSON MARK S, 220 NW SECOND AVENUE, PORTLAND, OR 97209 with 'X' in 10% Owner column.

Signatures

Shawn M. Filippi, Attorney-in-Fact, 01/17/2012. \*\*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) Reflects shares that have been credited to reporting person's account under the issuer's Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors and Executives.
(2) These shares are held in a trust for the benefit of the reporting person's spouse. The filing of this report is not an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of these securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
(3) These shares were issued in connection with the Reporting Person's election on 12/10/2007 to participate in Northwest Natural Gas Company Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors and Executives (DCP), which specifies that taxes shall be withheld from distributions. Pursuant to the Plan and the Reporting Person's election on 12/10/2007, these shares were sold to pay taxes on the DCP distribution made on 1/13/2012.

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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