

WILLIFORD CHRIS E

Form 4

March 24, 2011

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**WILLIFORD CHRIS E**

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)  
**18803 MEISNER DRIVE**  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**03/22/2011**

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**EVP/CFO**

**SAN ANTONIO, TX 78258**

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)
Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	03/22/2011		M	20,000	A \$ 0.66	203,509	D
Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	03/22/2011		F	2,710	D \$ 4.87	200,799	D

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**

SEC 1474  
(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 Number Shares
Employee Stock Option	\$ 0.66	03/22/2011		M	20,000	03/21/2011	03/23/2011	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk	20,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 4.72					03/15/2012	03/15/2021	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock	30,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 2.09					03/16/2011	03/16/2020	Abraxas Common Stock	60,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 1.75					10/05/2010	10/05/2015	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk	66,930
Employee Stock Option	\$ 0.99					03/17/2010	03/17/2019	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk	50,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 3.6					08/28/2011	08/28/2017	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk	15,230
Employee Stock Option	\$ 4.59					09/13/2009	09/13/2015	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk	100,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 0.65					11/22/2006	11/22/2012	Abraxas Petroleum Common Stockk	43,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WILLIFORD CHRIS E 18803 MEISNER DRIVE SAN ANTONIO, TX 78258			EVP/CFO	

## Signatures

Chris E.  
Williford

03/24/2011

\_\_\_\_\_  
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.

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.