

MELENDREZ JESUS G

Form 4

January 28, 2010

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 *
MELENDREZ JESUS G

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ONE BRIARLAKE PLAZA, SUITE
2000, 2000 WEST SAM HOUSTON
PARKWAY SOUTH

(Street)

HOUSTON, TX 77042

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol

MARINER ENERGY INC [ME]

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

01/28/2010

4. If Amendment, Date Original
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
X Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)
Sr VP Chief Com Ofr Acting CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
X 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. 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)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	01/28/2010		F	2,474 D	199,040	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
required to respond unless the form
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SEC 1474
(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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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)	8. F Der Sec (Ins
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				Code	V	(A)	(D)	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14					03/11/2008	03/11/2015	Common Stock
								40,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
MELENDREZ JESUS G ONE BRIARLAKE PLAZA, SUITE 2000 2000 WEST SAM HOUSTON PARKWAY SOUTH HOUSTON, TX 77042	Sr VP Chief Com Ofr Acting CFO

Signatures

Jesus G. Melendrez by Teresa G. Bushman pursuant to Power of Attorney dated March 21, 2006 (previously filed as Exhibit 24 to Mr. Melendrez's Form 4 filed on May 31, 2006)	01/28/2010 Date
__Signature of Reporting Person	

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) On January 28, 2010, 6,774 shares of the issuer's common stock granted to the reporting person under the issuer's Stock Incentive Plan, as amended and restated from time to time (the "Plan"), vested. To satisfy withholding tax obligations in connection with the vesting, the issuer withheld the shares this Form reports were disposed. In accordance with the Plan, the number of shares withheld was determined by reference to the closing price per share of the issuer's common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on January 27, 2010 of \$15.80.
- 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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