

VOLLMER JOHN E III  
 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 \*  
**VOLLMER JOHN E III**

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**5956 SHERRY LANE, SUITE 1365**  
 (Street)

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

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**Chief Financial Officer**

**DALLAS, TX 75225**

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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) |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|   |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  | (D)  | Price                             |
| Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share | 04/24/2012                           |  | A                              |   | 48,000<br>(1)   | A  | \$ 0 518,500                      |

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

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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 or Number of Shares |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 16.2  | 04/24/2012                           |  | A                              | 160,000   | (2) 04/23/2022   |   | Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share | 160,000                    |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                 | Other |
| VOLLMER JOHN E III<br>5956 SHERRY LANE<br>SUITE 1365<br>DALLAS, TX 75225 |               |           | Chief Financial Officer |       |

## 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.