

Ricks David D.
Form 4
July 19, 2010

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
Ricks David D.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ARENA RESOURCES INC [ARD]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
6555 S. LEWIS AVENUE

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
07/16/2010

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Vice President - Operations

TULSA, OK 74136

(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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 07/16/2010 | | D | 25,470 D | 0 | D | |

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)

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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. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Option | \$ 35.54 | 07/16/2010 | | D | 50,000 | <u>(2)</u> 05/07/2013 | Common Stock | 50,000 |
| Stock Option | \$ 45.68 | 07/16/2010 | | D | 50,000 | <u>(3)</u> 11/07/2013 | Common Stock | 50,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Ricks David D. 6555 S. LEWIS AVENUE TULSA, OK 74136 | | | Vice President - Operations | |

Signatures

David D. Ricks 07/16/2010

**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) Disposed of pursuant to merger agreement among the issuer, SandRidge Energy, Inc. and Steel Subsidiary Corporation in exchange for 121,672 shares of SandRidge common stock and other merger consideration, with an imputed value of \$35.93 per share.
- (2) This option was vested and deemed exercised in exchange for 3,339 shares of SandRidge Energy, Inc. common stock pursuant to merger agreement among the issuer, SandRidge and Steel Subsidiary Corporation.
- (3) This "out of the money" option was cancelled pursuant to the merger agreement among the issuer, SandRidge Energy, Inc. and Steel Subsidiary Corporation.

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.