

HERRON HAROLD F
 Form 4
 January 04, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
HERRON HAROLD F

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 877 NORTH 8TH WEST
 (Street)

RIVERTON, WY 82501

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
US ENERGY CORP [USEG]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 01/03/2005

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

SR VICE PRESIDENT

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
U.S. Energy Common Stock	01/03/2005		J		2,500	A (1)	\$ 0
U.S. Energy Common Stock					108,375	D (2) (3) (4)	
U.S. Energy Common Stock					812,915	I (5) (6) (7)	By Corporation
U.S. Energy Common Stock					4,500	I (8)	By Custodian For Child

U.S. Energy Common Stock	18,049	I ⁽⁹⁾	By ESOP
U.S. Energy Common Stock	155,811	I ⁽¹⁰⁾	By Trust

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

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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)

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	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Option 1 (Right to Buy)	\$ 2.88					12/04/1998	09/05/2008	U.S. Energy Common Stock	17,391
Employee Option 1a (Right to Buy)	\$ 2					12/04/1998	09/25/2008	U.S. Energy Common Stock	20,109
Employee Option 2 (Right to Buy)	\$ 2.4					01/10/2001	01/09/2011	U.S. Energy Common Stock	33,700
Employee Option 3 (Right to Buy)	\$ 3.9					12/07/2001	12/06/2011	U.S. Energy Common Stock	50,000
	\$ 2.25					08/08/2002	12/07/2011		48,500

Employee Option 4 (Right to Buy)									U.S. Energy Common Stock	
Employee Option 5 (Right to Buy)	\$ 2.46				07/01/2004	06/30/2014			U.S. Energy Common Stock	125,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HERRON HAROLD F 877 NORTH 8TH WEST RIVERTON, WY 82501	X		SR VICE PRESIDENT	

Signatures

By: Robert Scott Lorimer Attorney
in Fact

01/04/2005

__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) Shares issued to the Reporting Person under the USEG 2001 Stock Compensation Plan. The issuance of these shares is for the funding obligation under the plan for the first quarter of the calendar year ending December 31, 2005. The Issuer has agreed under the terms of the Plan to pay all taxes due. The Reporting Person has agreed not to sell these shares to the market or pledge them on obligations until after his (i) retirement; (ii) total disability or (iii) in the case of the death of the Reporting Person his estate may sell the shares of stock.
 - (2) Includes 50,425 shares held directly by the Reporting Person.
 - (3) Includes 11,000 shares held in an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) for the benefit of the Reporting Person.

Includes 16,950 shares issued under the Restricted Stock Bonus Plan and 30,000 shares issued under the 1996 Stock Award program all of which are subject to forfeiture by the Reporting Person. Shares issued under the 1996 Stock Award program vest over a 5-year period at the rate of 20% per year. The forfeitable shares issued under both plans are deemed 'earned out' by the Reporting Person: (i) if he is continuously employed by USEG until he retires; (ii) if he becomes disabled; (iii) upon his death, or (iv) if the shares are claimed within three years following the occurrence of (i) (ii) (iii). The treasurer of USEG holds the shares in trust for the benefit of the Reporting Person, while non-employee directors of USEG exercise shared voting and dispositive rights over all forfeitable shares. Distributions to the Reporting Person will not be separately reported. The acquisitions of the shares by the Reporting Person from both the Bonus Plan and the Award Program are exempt under Rule 16
 - (4) Includes 512,359 shares held by Crested Corp. (Crested), a majority-owned subsidiary of USEG. The Reporting Person is an Officer and/or Director of both USEG and Crested and is not a controlling shareholder and does not have or share investment control over these shares, and therefore does not have a pecuniary interest in the USEG shares held by Crested, under rule 16a-1(a)(2)(iii).
 - (5) Includes 175,000 shares held by Sutter Gold Mining Company (SGMC), a subsidiary of USEG. The Reporting Person is an Officer and/or Director of both USEG and SGMC and is not a controlling shareholder and does not have or share investment control over these shares, and therefore does not have a pecuniary interest in the USEG shares held by SGMC, under rule 16a-1(a)(2)(iii).
 - (6) Includes 125,556 shares held by Plateau Resources Limited (Plateau), a wholly owned subsidiary of USEG. The Reporting Person is an Officer and/or Director of both USEG and Plateau and is not a controlling shareholder and does not have or share investment control over these shares, and therefore does not have a pecuniary interest in the USEG shares held by Plateau, under rule 16a-1(a)(2)(iii).

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- (8) Includes 4,500 shares indirectly held by the Reporting Person as Custodian for minor children under the Wyoming Uniform Transfers to Minors Act. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial and pecuniary interest in these shares.
Shares held in the U.S. Energy Corp. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the 'ESOP') in an account established for the benefit of the
- (9) Reporting Person. Subsequent to the final year end close the number of shares issued to the Reporting Person's ESOP account has been adjusted from shares forfeited by Plan participants.
- (10) Includes shares held in the ESOP which are not allocated to accounts established for the benefit of specific plan participants. The Reporting Person, as an ESOP Trustee, exercises the voting powers with respect to such unallocated shares.
- (11) Includes stock options granted under the Issuer's 1998 Incentive Stock Option Plan and exempt under Rule 16b-3.
- (12) Includes stock options granted under the Issuer's 2001 Incentive Stock Option Plan and exempt under Rule 16b-3.

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.