FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:      | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|        | Check this box if no longer subject to |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| $\neg$ | Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| J      | obligations may continue. See          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|        | Instruction 1(b)                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  IRICK LARRY D    |  |      |               |          |  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS [ WR ] |   |  |         |     |   |                    |        |   | heck all ap<br>Dire  | plicable)<br>ctor  | g Person(s) to Issuer<br>10% Owner                        |  |  |
|--|--|------|---------------|----------|--|--|---|--|---------|-----|---|--------------------|--------|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 818 S KANSAS AVE.                  |  |      |               |          | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/16/2018                          |  |   |  |         |     |   |                    |        | A belo  | Officer (give title below)  VP, Gen Counsel                |  | her (specify<br>low)<br>rp Sec                            |  |  |
| (Street) TOPEKA  |  |      | 56612<br>Zip) |          | 4. If  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                 |   |  |         |     |   |                    |        |   | ne)<br>X Fori<br>Fori                                      | idual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable  Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting  Person |   |  |  |
|  |  | Tabl | e I - Noi     | n-Deriva | ative  | Se   | curitie   | es Ac  | quired, | Dis | posed o   | f, or l            | Bene   | eficia  | lly Own  | ed   |   |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da |  |      |               |          | Execution Date,  |  |   | Code (Instr.   5)  |         |     |   | (A) or<br>3, 4 an  | d Secu | ficially<br>d Following                             | 6. Ownersh<br>Form: Dire<br>(D) or Indir<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | of Indirect  | of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership                    |  |  |
|  |  |      |               |          |  |  |   |  | Code    | v   | Amount (A) or (D)   |                    | Price  | Trans   | action(s)<br>3 and 4)                                      |  | (111501.4)  |  |  |
| Common Stock Par Value \$5.00 03/2                         |  |      |               |          | /2018  |  | S   |  | 5,000 D |     | D   | \$ <del>5</del> 0. | 56 7   | 76,664 <sup>(1)</sup>                               |  |  |   |  |  |
|  |  | Та   |               |          |  |  |   |  |         |     | sed of,<br>onvertib   |                    |        |   | / Owned  |  |   |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)        |  |      | Date,         |          | sinsaction de (Instr. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |  | vative<br>irities<br>sired<br>r<br>osed<br>)<br>r. 3, 4<br>5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)  Date Expiration Exercisable Date |         |     | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)  Amoun or Numbe of Title Shares |                    | ount   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) |  | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)  | hip of Indirec<br>Beneficia<br>Ownershi<br>ect (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |

## Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes 15,815 restricted share units that are subject to forfeiture.

## Remarks:

Cynthia S. Couch by power of attorney

03/16/2018

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.