

DODSON MARK S  
Form 4  
August 10, 2010

**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 \*  
DODSON MARK S

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO  
[NWN]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
220 NW SECOND AVENUE  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
08/10/2010

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

PORTLAND, OR 97209

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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
Common Stock	08/10/2010		M			18,000	A	\$ 34.29	31,000 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	
Common Stock	08/10/2010		S			18,000	D	\$ 47.5153 <sup>(2)</sup>	13,000	D	
Common Stock									11,431	I	By Trust <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock									22,718.305	I	See Footnote <sup>(4)</sup>

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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)	Amount or Number of Shares	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option to Buy	\$ 34.29	08/10/2010		M	18,000	(5) 12/31/2011	Common Stock	18,000	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DODSON MARK S 220 NW SECOND AVENUE PORTLAND, OR 97209		X		

## Signatures

MardiLyn Saathoff,  
Attorney-in-Fact

08/10/2010

\*\*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) Mark S. Dodson exercised an option to purchase 18,000 shares at \$34.29 each and then sold those shares at an average price of \$47.5153 each on August 10, 2010 and now directly and indirectly holds a total of 47,149 shares.

(2) The sale of Northwest Natural Gas Company stock took place in 169 separate broker transactions occurring on 8/10/2010. The price in column 4 represents the weighted average sale price for the transactions reported on this line. The range of prices for these transactions was \$47.16-\$47.82. Northwest Natural Gas Company will provide upon request by the Commission staff or a security holder of Northwest Natural Gas Company full information regarding the number of shares purchased or sold at each separate price.

(3)

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These shares are held in a trust for the benefit of the reporting person's spouse. The filing of this report is not an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of these securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

- (4) Reflects shares that have been credited to reporting person's account under the issuer's Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors and Executives.

- (5) Option was granted for 25,000 shares pursuant to Northwest Natural Gas Company's Restated Stock Option Plan (the "Plan"). Pursuant to the Plan, the remaining 25,000 shares became fully exercisable upon Mr. Dodson's retirement on December 31, 2008. The option expires on December 31, 2011. This is the same option referred to in Footnote 1.

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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