

# 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 * Wright Christopher W			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Pacific Ethanol, Inc. [PEIX]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) ____ Director ____ 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) VP, Gen. Counsel & Secretary		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/01/2011					
400 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 2060								
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) 08/03/2011			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814								
(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			

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)

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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Stock Option (Right to Buy) (1)	\$ 0.86	08/01/2011		A	25,714	(2)	08/01/2021	Common Stock	25,714	\$ 0	25,714	D	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Wright Christopher W 400 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 2060 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814			VP, Gen. Counsel & Secretary	

## Signatures

/s/ Christopher W. Wright	04/02/2012
<small>Signature of Reporting Person</small>	<small>Date</small>

## 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) Disclosure of this grant was omitted from the reporting person's Form 4 for August 1, 2011 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 3, 2011.

(2) The option vests 33% on each of April 1, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

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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