## FORM 4

# Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See

Instruction 1(b).

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

## 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

| OMB APPROVAL |                    |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB          | 3235               |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number:      | 028                |  |  |  |  |  |
| Expires:     | November 30<br>201 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated    | average            |  |  |  |  |  |
| burden ho    | ours per           |  |  |  |  |  |
| response.    | 0.                 |  |  |  |  |  |

| (Print or Ty  | ype Respons   | ses)                   |  |  |             |   |   |                    |  |  |  |           |  |  |  |
|---|---|------------------------|--|--|-------------|---|---|--------------------|--|--|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| Name and Address of Reporting Person * Wright Christopher W |   |                        | Symbol                                       | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading<br>Symbol<br>Pacific Ethanol, Inc. [PEIX] |             |   |   |                    | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to<br>Issuer (Check all applicable)   |  |  |           |  |  |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle)<br>400 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 2060     |   |                        | 0  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction<br>(Month/Day/Year)<br>04/01/2014              |             |   |   |                    | Director 10% Owner Net of the control of the c |  |  |           | below)   |  |  |
| (Street) SACRAMENTO, CA 95814                               |   |                        |  | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)                           |             |   |   |                    | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |  |  |           | 1  |  |  |
| (City)  | (S  | zate) (Zip)            | Table I - N                                  | lon-Der  | ivati       | ive Secu  | rities  | Acqui              | red, Disposed  | of, or l   | Benefici                               | ally Owne | d  |  |  |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)                              |   |                        | Execution Date, if                           | Transaction<br>Code  |             | 4. Securities<br>Acquired (A) o<br>Disposed of (D<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and |   | (D) Beneficially ( |  | wned Form  |  |           | direct<br>eficial<br>ership  |  |  |
|   |   |                        |  | Code   | V           | Amoun   | (A)<br>or<br>t (D)                                |                    | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4  |  | or India<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4           | Ì         | : 4)   |  |  |
| Common  | n Stock   | 04/01/2014             |  | F  |             | 3,775<br>(1)  | D   | \$<br>17.9         | 39,059   |  | D                                      |           |  |  |  |
| Reminder:<br>directly or                                    |   | separate line for each | ch class of securities                       | benefic  | ially       | owned   |   |                    |  |  |  |           |  |  |  |
| ,   | Ţ   |                        |  |  | info<br>rec | ormatic<br>quired t   | on co<br>o res                                    | ntaine<br>pond     | nd to the colle<br>d in this forr<br>unless the fo<br>control num  | n are r<br>orm dis                                 | not                                    |           | C 1474<br>(9-02)   |  |  |
|   |   |                        | erivative Securities<br>g., puts, calls, war |  |             |   |   |                    |  | d  |  |           |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)         | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date    | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if             | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code   | actio       | 5. Numb of Deriva Securi Acquir (A) or Disposof (D) (Instr. 4, and    | 6. Date E and Expi (Month/I titve ties red sed 3, |                    | Exercisable biration Date (Day/Year)   | 7. Titl<br>Amou<br>Under<br>Secur<br>(Instr.<br>4) | ınt of<br>rlying                       |           | 9. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form of<br>Derivative<br>Security:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect | 11. Natur<br>of Indirec<br>Beneficia<br>Ownershi<br>(Instr. 4) |
|   |   |                        |  | Code   | e V         | (A)   | I   | Date<br>Exercisa   | Expiration<br>able Date  | Title  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |           |  |  |  |

#### **Reporting Owners**

| Panarting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships     |  |                         |       |  |  |  |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Director 10% Owne |  | Officer                 | Other |  |  |  |
| Wright Christopher W<br>400 CAPITOL MALL<br>SUITE 2060<br>SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 |                   |  | VP, Gen. Counsel & Secy |       |  |  |  |

## **Signatures**

| /s/ Christopher W. Wright     | 04/01/2014 |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| 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) Amount represents shares withheld upon vesting of restricted stock to cover withholding taxes.

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.