

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

## FORM 4

Statement of changes in beneficial ownership of securities

Filing Date: **2013-03-19** | Period of Report: **2013-03-15**  
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### REPORTING OWNER

**Gerlich Michael A**

CIK: **1348370**

Type: **4** | Act: **34** | File No.: **001-32714** | Film No.: **13700084**

Mailing Address  
*1331 LAMAR ST., SUITE  
HOUSTON TX 77010*

### ISSUER

**GASTAR EXPLORATION LTD**

CIK: **1170154** | IRS No.: **980570897** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**  
SIC: **1311** Crude petroleum & natural gas

Mailing Address  
*1331 LAMAR STREET  
SUITE 650  
HOUSTON TX 77010*

Business Address  
*1331 LAMAR STREET  
SUITE 650  
HOUSTON TX 77010  
7137391800*

# 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

### OMB APPROVAL

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## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <b>Gerlich Michael A</b>			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>GASTAR EXPLORATION LTD [GST]</b>			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) <b>Chief Financial Officer &amp; VP</b>		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <b>03/15/2013</b>					
1331 LAMAR, SUITE 650			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)			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		
(Street) <b>HOUSTON, TX 77010</b>								
(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			
Restricted Shares	03/15/2013		F	(D)	5,947	D	\$1.32	690,046	D	

**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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (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)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

### Explanation of Responses:

- Shares forfeited to meet tax obligation of restricted share vesting.

### Signatures

/s/ Michael A. Gerlich

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

03/19/2013

Date

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

\* 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.**