

RELIANT ENERGY INC  
Form 4  
May 18, 2007

**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 \*  
STAFF JOEL V

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
1000 MAIN STREET  
(Street)  
HOUSTON, TX 77002

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
RELIANT ENERGY INC [RRI]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
05/16/2007

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock                    | 05/16/2007                           |  | A                              | 6,000 A   | \$ 0 (1) 1,032,091  | D  |                                   |

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)**

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| 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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---------|--|------------------|---|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                | Code V  | (A)     | (D)  | Date Exercisable |   |
| Employee Stock Option-Right To Buy         | \$ 3.515   | 05/16/2007                           |  | D <sup>(2)</sup>               |   | 5,000   | <u>(2)</u>   | <u>(2)</u>       | Common Stock                                      |
| Employee Stock Option-Right To Buy         | \$ 3.515   | 05/16/2007                           |  | A <sup>(2)</sup>               | 5,000   |         | <u>(2)</u>   | <u>(2)</u>       | Common Stock                                      |
| Employee Stock Option-Right To Buy         | \$ 4.885   | 05/16/2007                           |  | D <sup>(2)</sup>               |   | 550,315 | <u>(2)</u>   | <u>(2)</u>       | Common Stock                                      |
| Employee Stock Option-Right To Buy         | \$ 4.885   | 05/16/2007                           |  | A <sup>(2)</sup>               | 550,315   |         | <u>(2)</u>   | <u>(2)</u>       | Common Stock                                      |
| Employee Stock Option-Right To Buy         | \$ 4.42  | 05/16/2007                           |  | D <sup>(2)</sup>               |   | 663,125 | <u>(2)</u>   | <u>(2)</u>       | Common Stock                                      |
| Employee Stock Option-Right To Buy         | \$ 4.42  | 05/16/2007                           |  | A <sup>(2)</sup>               | 663,125   |         | <u>(2)</u>   | <u>(2)</u>       | Common Stock                                      |
| Employee Stock Option-Right To Buy         | \$ 8.135   | 05/16/2007                           |  | D <sup>(2)</sup>               |   | 870,400 | <u>(2)</u>   | <u>(2)</u>       | Common Stock                                      |
| Employee Stock Option-Right To Buy         | \$ 8.135   | 05/16/2007                           |  | A <sup>(2)</sup>               | 870,400   |         | <u>(2)</u>   | <u>(2)</u>       | Common Stock                                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |           |         |       |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|                                | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |

STAFF JOEL V  
1000 MAIN STREET  
HOUSTON, TX 77002

X

## Signatures

Joel V. Staff

05/18/2007

          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) Comprised entirely of restricted stock. In accordance with the Director Compensation Program, each non-employee director of Reliant Energy, Inc. receives an annual grant of 6,000 shares under the terms of the Reliant Energy, Inc. 2002 Long Term Incentive Plan.
- The Compensation Committee approved the option amendments because Mr. Staff's retirement accelerated the expiration dates of a portion of the original grants to August 2007. The amendments extending the option exercise dates for several of Mr. Staff's option awards were also based on Mr. Staff's agreement to changes to two of his option awards that could shorten the exercise period for those
- (2) awards. Based on the amendments, all of Mr. Staff's option grants now expire on the earlier to occur of (i) two years after the date Mr. Staff leaves the Board, or (ii) the original expiration date of the option grant. The Committee believes that the exercise of the options in the August 2007 time frame would be inconsistent with the Company's policy regarding stock ownership and alignment with shareholder interests given Mr. Staff's continued service as Chairman of the Board.

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.