FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Washington, D.C. 20049

MB APP	ROVAL

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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).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* MACAULAY WILLIAM E			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NATIONAL OILWELL INC [NOI]								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)							
MACAULAY WILLIAM E													X Director	or	10% (Owner		
(Last) (First) (Middle) ONE LAFAYETTE PLACE				3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/11/2004								Officer below)	(give title	Other below	(specify)			
THIRD FLOOR				4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable					
(Street) GREENWICH CT 06830										- 1	Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person							
(City)	(\$	State)	(Zip)															
		Tab	le I - Nor	-Deriv	ative	Sec	curitie	s Ac	quired, D	isposed	l of, o	r Be	neficial	ly Owned	k			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transa Date (Month/D			action 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		e, Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. 5)			rities Acquired (A) ed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4		Benefici	ies cially Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership					
								Code V	Amou	nt	(A) oi (D)	Price	Transaci (Instr. 3	tion(s)		(Instr. 4)		
		7							uired, Dis , options	-			-	Owned				
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		te Execution I	Date, Tr. Cc	Transaction Code (Instr.		n of		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		Ame Sec Und Der	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	n Title	•	Amount or Number of Shares					
Non- Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$28.22	03/11/2004			A		2,500		03/11/2005	03/12/201		nmon ock	2,500	\$0	2,500	D		
Non- Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$28.22	03/11/2004			A		2,500		03/11/2006	03/12/201		nmon ock	2,500	\$0	5,000	D		
Non- Qualified Stock Option (right to	\$28.22	03/11/2004			A		2,500		03/11/2007	03/12/201		nmon ock	2,500	\$0	7,500	D		

Explanation of Responses:

By: M. Gay Mather For: William E. Macaulay

03/15/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

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.

^{*} 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).