

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO  
 Form 3  
 January 10, 2012

**FORM 3** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *<br>^ Weber David A.<br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><br>220 NW SECOND AVENUE<br>(Street)<br><br>PORTLAND, ^ OR ^ 97209<br>(City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement<br>(Month/Day/Year)<br>01/01/2012 | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br>NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO [NWN] | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br><br>(Check all applicable)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br>(give title below) (specify below)<br>Pres. & CEO of Issuer's Sub. | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned<br>(Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Common Stock                       | 323.051  | D   | ^  |
| Common Stock                       | 4,961.4625   | I   | See Footnote <sup>(1)</sup>                              |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
|---|---|--|---|---|--|

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|                              | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares | Security | Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) |   |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Employee Stock Option to Buy | Â (2)            | 02/29/2016      | Common Stock | 625                        | \$ 34.29 | D                                     | Â |
| Employee Stock Option to Buy | Â (3)            | 02/28/2017      | Common Stock | 2,000                      | \$ 44.48 | D                                     | Â |
| Employee Stock Option to Buy | Â (4)            | 03/06/2018      | Common Stock | 2,000                      | \$ 43.29 | D                                     | Â |
| Employee Stock Option to Buy | Â (5)            | 03/04/2019      | Common Stock | 2,000                      | \$ 41.15 | D                                     | Â |
| Employee Stock Option to Buy | Â (6)            | 03/02/2020      | Common Stock | 2,000                      | \$ 44.25 | D                                     | Â |
| Employee Stock Option to Buy | Â (7)            | 03/02/2021      | Common Stock | 3,000                      | \$ 45.74 | D                                     | Â |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                               | Relationships |           |                                |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                        | Other |
| Weber David A.<br>220 NW SECOND AVENUE<br>PORTLAND, OR 97209 | Â             | Â         | Â Pres. & CEO of Issuer's Sub. | Â     |

## Signatures

Shawn M. Filippi  
Attorney-in-Fact

01/10/2012

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) Held in reporting person's account under issuer's Retirement K Savings Plan as of December 31, 2011.
- (2) Option was granted pursuant to Northwest Natural Gas Company's Restated Stock Option Plan (the "Plan") and is fully vested.
- (3) Option was granted for 2,000 shares pursuant to Northwest Natural Gas Company's Restated Stock Option Plan (the "Plan") and is fully vested.
- (4) Option was granted for 2,000 shares pursuant to Northwest Natural Gas Company's Restated Stock Option Plan (the "Plan"). The option vests in installments of 500 shares on each February 27, 2009 and January 1, 2010, 2011 and 2012.
- (5) Option was granted for 2,000 shares pursuant to Northwest Natural Gas Company's Restated Stock Option Plan (the "Plan"). The option vests in installments of 500 shares on each February 25, 2010 and January 1, 2011, 2012 and 2013.
- (6) Option was granted for 2,000 shares pursuant to Northwest Natural Gas Company's Restated Stock Option Plan (the "Plan"). The option vests in installments of 500 shares on each February 24, 2011 and January 1, 2012, 2013 and 2014.
- (7) Option was granted for 3,000 shares pursuant to Northwest Natural Gas Company's Restated Stock Option Plan (the "Plan"). The option vests in installments of 750 shares on each February 23, 2012 and January 1, 2013, 2014 and 2015.

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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.