

Cobalt International Energy, Inc.  
 Form 4  
 February 14, 2012

**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 \*  
**GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**Cobalt International Energy, Inc. [CIE]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 200 WEST STREET  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/10/2012

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

NEW YORK, NY 10282

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

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

(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)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code	V	Amount	
Common Stock, par value \$0.01	02/10/2012		P	A	2,500	\$ 32.4548 (3) (5)	74,870,648 I See footnotes (1) (2)
Common Stock, par value \$0.01	02/10/2012		S	D	2,500	\$ 32.3614 (4) (5)	74,868,148 I See footnotes (1) (2)

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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**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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 5)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC 200 WEST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10282		X		
GOLDMAN SACHS & CO 200 WEST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10282		X		

## Signatures

/s/ Yvette Kusic,  
Attorney-in-fact  
02/14/2012  
\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

/s/ Yvette Kusic,  
Attorney-in-fact  
02/14/2012  
\*\*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) This statement is being filed by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. ("GS Group") and Goldman, Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs" and, together with GS Group, the "Reporting Persons"). The Reporting Persons may be deemed to beneficially own indirectly, in the aggregate, 74,868,148 shares of Cobalt International Energy, Inc. (the "Company") common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("Common Stock"), through certain limited partnerships (the "Limited Partnerships"). Affiliates of GS Group and Goldman Sachs are the general partner, managing limited partner or managing partner of the Limited Partnerships. The Reporting Persons disclaim beneficial ownership

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of the securities reported herein except to the extent of their pecuniary interest therein.

- The Common Stock of the Company reported herein as indirectly purchased and sold were beneficially owned directly by Goldman Sachs and may be deemed to have been beneficially owned indirectly by GS Group. Without admitting any legal obligation, Goldman Sachs or another wholly-owned subsidiary of GS Group will remit appropriate profits, if any, to the Company.
- (3) Reflects a weighted average purchase price of \$32.4548 per share, at prices ranging from \$32.40 to \$32.48 per share.
  - (4) Reflects a weighted average sale price of \$32.3614 per share, at prices ranging from \$32.27 to \$32.45 per share.
  - (5) Upon request by the staff of the Securities Exchange Commission, the Company, or a security holder of the Company, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price will be provided.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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