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HERRON HAROLD F

Form 5

July 15, 2002

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 5

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

() Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).

- () Form 3 Holdings Reported
- (X) Form 4 Transactions Reported

USA

- 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol U.S. ENERGY CORP. USEG
- 3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
- 4. Statement for Month/Year May 31, 2002
- 5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
- 6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) (X) Director (X) 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below) VICE PRESIDENT
- 7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check Applicable Line)
 - (X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
 - () Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Ta	Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned															
1.	Title	of :	Securit	ΣУ			ctior	n	or D	isposed	of (D) A/	′ I		 	Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	
CK	\$.01	PAR		COMMON					000		D 	NIL 		49), 486	
CK	\$.01	PAR	VALUE			12/07/ 01			000		A 	NIL 		71 	,013	
CK	\$.01	PAR	VALUE	COMMON	STO	N/A 	 	NON	IE			N/A		2 ,	895	
CK	\$.01	PAR	VLAUE	COMMON	STO	 N/A 	 	NON	IE		 	N/A 		17 17	7,149	
CK	\$.01	PAR	VALUE	COMMON	STO	N/A 		NON	1E		 	N/A 		12 	24,621	
CK	\$.01	PAR	VALUE	COMMON	STO	 N/A 	 	NON	IE			N/A 		15 	55,811	

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CK	\$.01	PAR	VALU	JE (COMM	ON S	STO 	N/A	.			NOI							N/2 	A		12	000			
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CK	\$.01		JLAV				 STO 				ĺ						 		N / I 			1,	581 			
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(R	ight	to B	uy)	(k)	1	า		I		1		I			1		/98	3	08		l		I		- 1	
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(R.	ight	to B	uy)	(k)	- 1			I		I		I			I		/98	3	/0	8	l		I		- 1	
Qu	alifi	ed S	tock	0p	tion	\$2	2.40	/sh	N/F	<i>A</i>							()1/	10	01/0	9	Common	Stoc	k 41	,667	N/A
(R	ight	to B	uy)	(k)	1			I		I		I			I		/01	L	/1	1	l		I		1	
No	n-Qua	lifi	ed St	coc	k Opt	= \$2	2.40	/sh	N/F	Α							()1/	10	01/	9	Common	Stoc	 k 55	, 233	N/A
		to B	uy)	(k										I										1		1
	ock 0;													00,000								Common k	Sto			

Explanation of Responses:

Attachment to Form 5 for preriod ended May 31, 2002.

- (a) Shares surrendered to Issuer as partial payment of debt to Issuer.
- (b) Consists of 38,486 shares held directly by the Reporting Person and 11,000 shares held in an Individual Retirement Account for the benefit of the Reporting Person.
- (c) Consists of 18,900 shares and 52,113 subject to forfeiture. The 18,900 shares, issued under the USEG Restricted Stock Bonus Plan, are deemed "earned out" by the Reorting Person: (i) if he is continuously employed by USEG until he retires; (ii) if he becomes disabled; (iii) upon his death, or (iv) if the shares are claimed within three years following the occurrence of (i), (ii) or (iii). The 52,113 shares, issued under the 1996 Stock Award

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program, vest at the rate of 20% each year over a five year period and are subject to the forfeiture conditions noted previously. The treasurer of USEG holds the shares in trust for the benefit of the Reporting Person, while the non-employee directors of USEG exercise shared voting and dispositive rights over all 71,013 shares. The shares do not come under the control of the Reporting Person until termination of employment. The total number of shares is presently reported; distributions to the Reporting Person will not be separately reported. The acquisitions of the shares by the Reporting Person from both the Bonus Plan and the Award Program are exempt under Rule 16b-3.

- (d) Consists of shares held directly by the Reporting Person's wife.
- (e) Consists of shares held in the U.S. Energy Corp. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the "ESOP") in an account established for the benefit of the Reporting Person.
- (f) Consists of shares held in ESOP accounts established to benefit members of the Reporting Person's "immediate family", as that term is defined in Rule 16a-1(e), in accordance with Rule 16a-8(b)(2).
- (g) Consists of shares held in the ESOP which are not allocated to accounts established for the benefit of specific plan participants. The Reporting Person, as an ESOP Trustee, exercises the voting powers with respect to such unallocated shares.
- (h) Consists of shares indirectly held by the Reporting Person through his minor children. The Reporting Person is Custodian over 3,000 shares, while his brother-in-law, Mark J. Larsen, is Custodian over 9,000 shares for the children under the Wyoming Uniform Transfers to Minors Act.
- (i) Consists of shares held by Plateau Resources Limited ("Plateau"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of USEG. The Reporting Person is an officer and director of both USEG and Plateau. The Reporting Person is not a controlling shareholder of Plateau, and therefore the Reporting Person does not have a pecuniary interest in the USEG shares held by Plateau, under Rule 16a-1(a)(2)(iii).
- (j) Consists of shares held by Northwest Gold, Inc. ("NWG"), a subsidiary of USEG. The Reporting Person is an officer and director of both USEG and NWG. The Reporting Person is not a controlling shareholder of NWG, and therefore the Reporting Person does not have a pecuniary interest in the USEG shares held by NWG, under Rule 16a-1(a)(2)(iii).
- (k) Stock options granted under the Issuer's 1998 Incentive Stock Option Plan, and exempt under Rule 16b-3.
- (1) Stock options granted under the Issuer's 2001 Incentive Stock Option Plan, and exempt under Rule 16b-3.

NOTE: Pursuant to SEC Rule 16a-1(a)(2), information on Plateau and NWG is not required, however, Registrant has undertaken

 $\,$ comprehensive disclosure and reports shares held by Plateau and NWG as indirectly owned by the Reporting Person.

/s/ HAROLD F. HERRON DATE

July 12, 2002