GASTAR EXPLORATION LTD Form SC 13D/A May 17, 2010

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 OMB APPROVAL

OMB

Number: 3235-0145 Expires: February 28,

2009

Estimated average

burden

hours per response 14.5

SCHEDULE 13D

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. 5)*

Gastar Exploration Ltd.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Shares, no par value

(Title of Class of Securities)

367299104

(CUSIP Number)

Warren T. Lazarow, Esq. O'Melveny & Myers LLP 2765 Sand Hill Road Menlo Park, CA 94025 (650) 473-2600 Paul S. Scrivano, Esq. O'Melveny & Myers LLP Times Square Tower 7 Times Square New York, NY 10036 (212) 326-2000

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

May 14, 2010

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of sections 240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f) or 140.13d-1(g), check the following box. [X]

Note: Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See section 240.13d-7 for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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 control number.

SEC 1746 (11-02) 9

Page 1 of

1. N			ames of Reporting Persons			
	Palo Alto Investors, Inc.					
2.	(b)	Check the Appropriate Box if a (a) X	n Member of a Group (See I	Instructions)		
	3	SEC Use 0	Only			
	4.	Source of Funds (See	Instructions)	AF		
5.	Check if	Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is	Required Pursuant to Items	s 2(d) or 2(e)		
	6.	Citizenship or Place of Or	ganization	California		
Number of	7.	Sole Voting Power	0			
Shares Beneficially Owned by	8.	Shared Voting Power	4,133,9	944		
Each Reporting Person With	9. 10.	Sole Dispositive Power Shared Dispositive Power	0 4,133,9 ²	1.1		
11.	10.	Aggregate Amount Beneficially O				
12.		Check if the Aggregate Amount in Instruction		in Shares (See		
13		Percent of Class Represented by	Amount in Row (11)	8.3%		
14.		Type of Reporting Person (S	ee Instructions)	CO, HC		

		1. Names	Names of Reporting Persons			
	Palo Alto Investors, LLC					
2.	(b)	Check the Appropriate Box if a Men (a) X	nber of a Group (See Instru	ctions)		
	3	SEC Use Only				
	4.	Source of Funds (See Instru	actions)	AF		
5.	Check if	Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Requ	ired Pursuant to Items 2(d)	or 2(e)		
	6.	Citizenship or Place of Organiz	ation Cal	ifornia		
Number of Shares	7.	Sole Voting Power	0			
Beneficially Owned by	8.	Shared Voting Power	4,133,944			
Each Reporting	9.	Sole Dispositive Power	0 4,133,944			
Person With	10.	Shared Dispositive Power Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned		4,133,944		
12.		Check if the Aggregate Amount in Roy Instructions)	v (11) Excludes Certain Sha	ares (See		
13		Percent of Class Represented by Amo	ount in Row (11)	8.3%		
14.		Type of Reporting Person (See In	structions)	IA, OO		

	1.		Names of Reporting Persons		
	William Leland Edwards				
	2.	Check (a) (b)	the Appropriate Box if	a Member of a Group	(See Instructions)
		3.	SEC Use	e Only	
	4.		Source of Funds (Se	e Instructions)	AF
5.	Chec	ck if Disclosure	of Legal Proceedings I	s Required Pursuant t	o Items 2(d) or 2(e)
	6.	Citiz	zenship or Place of Orga	anization	U.S.A
Number of Shares	7.	Sole Votin	ng Power	28,000	
Beneficially Owned by	8.	Shared Vo	oting Power		4,133,944
Each Reporting Person With	g 9. 10.	_	ositive Power Dispositive Power	4	28,000 1,133,944
11	l.	Aggregate	e Amount Beneficially (Owned by Each Repor	rting Person4,161,944
1:	2.	Check if	the Aggregate Amount Instructions		s Certain Shares (See
1	13.	Percent	t of Class Represented b	by Amount in Row (1	1) 8.3%
	14.	Тур	pe of Reporting Person ((See Instructions)	IN, HC

1.			Names of Reporting Pe	ersons	
Anthony Joonkyoo Yun, MD					
2.	(b)	Check the Appropriate B (a) X	Box if a Member of a Group	(See Instructions)	
	ζ.	3. SEC	C Use Only		
	4.	Source of Fund	ls (See Instructions)	AF	
5.	Check if	Disclosure of Legal Proceedi	ngs Is Required Pursuant to	o Items 2(d) or 2(e)	
	6.	Citizenship or Pla	ce of Organization	U.S.A.	
Number of	7.	Sole Voting Power	0		
Shares Beneficially Owned by	8.	Shared Voting Power	2	4,133,944	
Each Reporting	9.	Sole Dispositive Power	4	0	
Person With	10.	Shared Dispositive Power Aggregate Amount Benefici		,133,944 rting Person4,133,944	
12.		Check if the Aggregate Am Ins	nount in Row (11) Excludes structions)	Certain Shares (See	
13		Percent of Class Represer	nted by Amount in Row (11	8.3%	
1	14.	Type of Reporting Pe	rson (See Instructions)	IN, HC	

1.		1. Names of	Names of Reporting Persons		
Palo Alto Small Cap Master Fund, L.P.					
2.	(b)	Check the Appropriate Box if a Memb (a) X	er of a Group (See Instructions)		
	3	SEC Use Only			
	4.	Source of Funds (See Instruc	tions) AF		
5.	Check if	Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Require	ed Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e)		
(5 .	Citizenship or Place of Organization	Cayman Islands		
Number of Shares	7.	Sole Voting Power	0		
Beneficially Owned by	8.	Shared Voting Power	2,881,972		
Each Reporting Person With	9. 10.	Sole Dispositive Power Shared Dispositive Power	0 2,881,972		
11.		Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by	y Each Reporting Person2,881,972		
12.		Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (Instructions)	(11) Excludes Certain Shares (See		
13.		Percent of Class Represented by Amoun	nt in Row (11) 5.8%		
	14.	Type of Reporting Person (See In	astructions) PN		

		1.	Names of Reporting	Persons		
	Palo Alto Small Cap Fund, L.P.					
2	(b)	Check the Appropriate Bo	ox if a Member of a Grou	up (See Instructions)		
		3. SEC	Use Only			
	4.	Source of Funds	(See Instructions)	AF		
5.	Check i	f Disclosure of Legal Proceedin	gs Is Required Pursuant	to Items 2(d) or 2(e)		
	6.	Citizenship or Place	of Organization	Delaware		
Number of	7.	Sole Voting Power	0			
Shares Beneficially Owned by	8.	Shared Voting Power		2,549,104		
Each Reporting Person With	9. 10.	Sole Dispositive Power Shared Dispositive Power		0 2,549,104		
11.		Aggregate Amount Beneficia	lly Owned by Each Repo	orting Person2,549,104		
12.		Check if the Aggregate Amo	ount in Row (11) Exclude ructions)	es Certain Shares (See		
13		Percent of Class Represent	ed by Amount in Row (5.1%		
	14.	Type of Reporting Po	erson (See Instructions)	PN		

This Amendment No. 5 (this "Amendment No. 5") amends and supplements the Schedule 13D originally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 9, 2009, as amended by Amendment No. 1 on December 11, 2009, Amendment No. 2 on December 14, 2009, Amendment No. 3 on January 14, 2010, and Amendment No. 4 on January 19, 2010 (the "Amended Statement") (the Amended Statement, together with this Amendment No. 5, are collectively referred to herein as the "Statement"), by William Leland Edwards, Palo Alto Investors, LLC, Palo Alto Investors, Inc., Palo Alto Small Cap Master Fund, L.P., Palo Alto Small Cap Fund, L.P., and Anthony Joonkyoo Yun, MD (collectively, the "Filers"). Except as set forth in this Amendment No. 5, all information set forth in the Amended Statement remains unchanged and capitalized terms used but not defined in this Amendment No. 5 shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Amended Statement.

Item 5. Interest in Securities of the Issuer

(c) Listed below are all the transactions in the Stock by the Filers during the last 60 days. The sales were effected in open market transactions. There were no other transactions in the Stock by the Filers during such period.

			Purchased	Average Price Per
Filer	Date	Transaction	or Sold	Share
PAI, LLC	4/12/2010	Sale	28,000	\$5.27
			*	•
PALLIC	4/15/2010	Sale	4,100	\$5.38
PAI, LLC	4/16/2010	Sale	2,700	\$5.32
PAI, LLC	4/19/2010	Sale	200	\$5.28
PAI, LLC	4/20/2010	Sale	6,300	\$5.24
PAI, LLC	4/21/2010	Sale	1,700	\$5.23
PAI, LLC	4/22/2010	Sale	1,500	\$5.23
PAI, LLC	4/23/2010	Sale	5,900	\$5.28
PAI, LLC	4/26/2010	Sale	6,100	\$5.51
PAI, LLC	4/27/2010	Sale	69,900	\$5.25
PAI, LLC	4/28/2010	Sale	2,200	\$5.35
PAI, LLC	4/29/2010	Sale	2,000	\$5.32
PAI, LLC	4/30/2010	Sale	3,200	\$5.26
PAI, LLC	5/3/2010	Sale	3,300	\$5.44
PAI, LLC	5/4/2010	Sale	5,500	\$5.45
PAI, LLC	5/5/2010	Sale	5,200	\$5.61
PAI, LLC	5/6/2010	Sale	100	\$5.50
PAI, LLC	5/13/2010	Sale	5,200	\$4.52
PAI, LLC	5/14/2010	Sale	12,500	\$4.26
Small Cap Master	4/12/2010	Sale	64,200	\$5.27
Small Cap Master	4/15/2010	Sale	9,200	\$5.38
Small Cap Master	4/16/2010	Sale	6,200	\$5.32
Small Cap Master	4/19/2010	Sale	500	\$5.28
Small Cap Master	4/20/2010	Sale	14,100	\$5.24
Small Cap Master	4/21/2010	Sale	4,000	\$5.23

Small Cap Master	4/22/2010	Sale	3,400	\$5.23
Small Cap Master	4/23/2010	Sale	13,200	\$5.28
Small Cap Master	4/26/2010	Sale	13,800	\$5.51
Small Cap Master	4/27/2010	Sale	157,100	\$5.25
Small Cap Master	4/28/2010	Sale	5,000	\$5.35
Small Cap Master	4/29/2010	Sale	4,500	\$5.32
Small Cap Master	4/30/2010	Sale	7,200	\$5.26
Small Cap Master	5/3/2010	Sale	7,300	\$5.44
Small Cap Master	5/4/2010	Sale	12,300	\$5.45
Small Cap Master	5/5/2010	Sale	11,900	\$5.61
Small Cap Master	5/6/2010	Sale	400	\$5.50
Small Cap Master	5/7/2010	Sale	200	\$5.07
Small Cap Master	5/13/2010	Sale	12,100	\$4.52
Small Cap Master	5/14/2010	Sale	28,600	\$4.26

Page 8 of 9

CUSIP No. 367299104

SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: May 17, 2010

PALO ALTO INVESTORS, INC. PALO ALTO INVESTORS, LLC

By: /s/ Mark By: /s/ Mark

Shamia Shamia

Mark Shamia, Chief Operating Officer

Mark Shamia, Chief Operating Officer

PALO ALTO SMALL CAP MASTER FUND, PALO ALTO SMALL CAP FUND, L.P.

L.P. By: Palo Alto Investors, LLC, General

By: Palo Alto Investors, LLC, General Partner

Partner By: Palo Alto Investors, Manager

By: Palo Alto Investors, Manager By: /s/ Mark

By: /s/ Mark Shamia

Shamia Mark Shamia, Chief Operating Officer

Mark Shamia, Chief Operating Officer

/s/ Anthony Joonkyoo /s/ William Leland

Yun Edwards

Anthony Joonkyoo Yun, MD William Leland Edwards

Page 9 of 9