FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:      | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

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

|   |   |                       |   |  | or  | Sect    | ion 30(h   | n) of the Ir | nvestmen                                | t Con | npany Act o  | f 1940  |             |   |   |                |   |  |   |
|---|---|-----------------------|---|--|---|---------|--|--------------|---|-------|--|---------|-------------|---|---|----------------|---|--|---|
| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Ottoson Javan D |   |                       |   |  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ST MARY LAND & EXPLORATION CO   |         |  |              |   |       |  |         |             | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner |   |                |   |  |   |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 1776 LINCOLN ST. SUITE 700        |   |                       |   |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2008  4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) |         |  |              |   |       |  |         |             | X 6. Indiv  | X Officer (give title Other (below)  Exec VP & COO  6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applic |                |   |  |   |
| (Street) DENVER   | СО  | 8                     | 0203  |  |   |         |  |              |   |       |  |         |             |   | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting I                          |                |   |  | ,   |
| (City)  | (State)   | ) (Z                  | ip)   |  |   |         |  |              |   |       |  |         |             |   |   |                |   |  |   |
|   |   | T                     | able I - No   | n-Deri                                     | ivativ  | e Se    | curiti   | ies Acq      | uired,                                  | Dis   | osed of  | f, or B | Benefic     | ially Ow  | ned   |                |   |  |   |
|   |   |                       |   | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |   | ar)   i | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year)  |              | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |       | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 ar |         |             |   | and 5) Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Following  |                | Form  | nership<br>: Direct (D)<br>lirect (I)<br>. 4)                      | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |
|   |   |                       |   |  |   |         |  |              | Code                                    | v     | Amount   |         | A) or<br>D) | Price   | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)   |                |   |  | (Instr. 4)  |
| Common Stock; \$.01 Par Value                             |   |                       |   |  | /31/2008  |         |  |              | <b>J</b> (1)                            | V     | 251  | 1 A \$  |             | \$17.2635   | 8,810   |                | D   |  |   |
| Common Stock; \$.01 Par Value 0                           |   |                       |   |  | 28/2009   |         |  |              | М                                       |       | 24   |         | Α           | (2)   | 8,834   |                | D   |  |   |
| Common Stock; \$.01 Par Value 02                          |   |                       |   | 02/28                                      | 28/2009   |         |  |              | F                                       |       | 10   |         | D           | \$13.58   | 8,8   | .24            |   | D  |   |
| Common Stock; \$.01 Par Value 02/2                        |   |                       |   |  | 28/2009   |         |  |              | M                                       |       | 1,084  | 1       | Α           | (3)   | 9,908   |                | D   |  |   |
| Common Stock; \$.01 Par Value 02/                         |   |                       |   | 02/28                                      | 28/2009   |         |  | F            |   | 405   |  | D       | \$13.58 9,5 |   | 503   |                | D   |  |   |
|   |   |                       | Table II -  |  |   |         |  |              |   |       | sed of, o  |         |             |   | ed  |                |   |  |   |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>3)       | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | cise (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |  | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8)   |         | 5. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed<br>of (D) (Instr. 3,<br>4 and 5) |              | 6. Date E<br>Expiratio<br>(Month/D      | n Dat |  |         | erlying     | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)   | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficia Owned Following Reported                                    | e<br>s<br>ally | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |   |
|   |   |                       |   | C  | ode   | v       | (A) (E   | (D)          | Date<br>Exercisa                        |       | Expiration<br>Date   | Title   |             | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares   | nber  |                | ion(s)  |  |   |
| Restricted Stock<br>Units                                 | (2)   | 02/28/2009            |   |  | M   |         |  | 24           | 02/28/20                                | 09    | 02/28/2009   |         | nmon<br>ock | 24  | \$0   | 24             |   | D  |   |
| Restricted Stock<br>Units                                 | (3)   | 02/28/2009            |   |  | М   |         |  | 1,084        | 02/28/20                                | 09    | 02/28/2009   |         | nmon<br>ock | 1,084   | \$0   | 2,168          | 8   | D  |   |

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Mr. Ottoson purchased 251 shares of the issuer's common stock on December 31, 2008, through the issuer's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- 2. Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of stock. The restricted stock units were granted on February 28, 2007, are associated with fiscal year 2006, and vest in four equal installments beginning on the grant date. On the vesting dates, shares are issued to the reporting person, at which time all restrictions on the vested shares will lapse.
- 3. Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of stock. The restricted stock units were granted on February 28, 2008, are associated with fiscal year 2007, and vest in four equal installments beginning on the grant date. On the vesting dates, shares are issued to the reporting person, at which time all restrictions on the vested shares will lapse.

## Remarks:

Karin M. Writer (Attorney-In-Fact) 03/03/2009

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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).

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.