Abney Ryan Form 4 April 11, 2018

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005 Estimated average

0.5

Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

burden hours per response...

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

Abney Ryan

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

SAExploration Holdings, Inc.

[SAEX]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

VP - Finance

Issuer

(Last)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 04/09/2018

X_ Officer (give title below)

Director

10% Owner Other (specify

1160 DIARY ASHFORD ROAD, **SUITE 160**

(First)

(Street)

(State)

(City)

(Instr. 3)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

(Instr. 4)

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

HOUSTON, TX 77079

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

(Middle)

(Zip)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership

Reported Transaction(s)

or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

(A)

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 required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

(Instr. 4)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative

Conversion

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

5. Number of TransactionDerivative

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date**

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities**

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		(Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Restricted Stock Units (1)	(1)	04/09/2018		A	517,840		(2)	(2)	Common Stock	517,840

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
. 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Abney Ryan 1160 DIARY ASHFORD ROAD, SUITE 160 HOUSTON, TX 77079			VP - Finance			

Signatures

/s/ Ryan Abney 04/11/2018

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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).
- The Restricted Stock Units were issued pursuant to the SAExploration Holdings, Inc. (the "Company") 2018 Long Term Incentive Plan (the "2018 Plan") on April 9, 2018. The 2018 Plan became effective March 5, 2018. Restricted Stock Units will generally be settled in shares of Common Stock. However, the Compensation Committee will have discretion to pay Restricted Stock Units, upon settlement, in cash, shares of Common Stock, or a combination thereof.
- The Restricted Stock Units will vest as follows: (i) 25% on the 18-month anniversary of the consummation of the Restructuring, or July 29, 2019; (ii) 25% on the second anniversary of the consummation of the Restructuring, or January 29, 2020; and (iii) the remaining 50% on the third anniversary of the consummation of the Restructuring, or January 29, 2021.

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.

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