

Beck John W  
 Form 4  
 December 18, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
 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 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 \*  
 Beck John W

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 4939 DIRECTORS PLACE  
 (Street)

SAN DIEGO, CA 92121  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 Ardea Biosciences, Inc./DE [RDEA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/16/2009

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 SVP, Finance & Operations, CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  
 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**

| 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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    |                                | (A) or (D)                                                        | Code V Amount (D) Price                                                             |                                                          |                                                                 |

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)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|

Edgar Filing: Beck John W - Form 4

| (Instr. 3)                           | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------|------|---|-----|-----|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 14.95                     | 12/16/2009       | A          | 25,000                                               |      |   |     |     | (1)              | 12/15/2019      | Common Stock | 25,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                             | Relationships |           |                                |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
|                                                            | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                        | Other |
| Beck John W<br>4939 DIRECTORS PLACE<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121 |               |           | SVP, Finance & Operations, CFO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ John W. Beck  
12/18/2009

\*\*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) The stock option vests and becomes exercisable in 48 equal monthly installments beginning one month after the Date of Grant (12/16/09).  
 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.