FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL        |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:         | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average t | ourden    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

0.5

hours per response:

|    | Check this box if no longer subject to                     |
|----|--|
| ٦. | Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See |
| J  | obligations may continue. See                              |
|    | Instruction 1(h)   |

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  PATTON RODMAN       |  |  |  |       | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol NuStar Energy L.P. [ NS ] |  |     |                 |                                |        |                    |   |                                | Relationship of Reporting Personal (Check all applicable)     X Director |   |  | ) to Is   |             |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|-------|--|--|-----|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------|--------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--|---|-------------|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 19003 IH-10 WEST                      |  |  |  |       | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/19/2012                  |  |     |                 |                                |        |                    |   |                                | Offic<br>below   | er (give title<br>w)                                    |  | Other (<br>elow)                                    | (specify    |  |  |
| (Street) SAN ANTONIO TX 78257 (City) (State) (Zip)            |  |  |  |       | 4. If  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) |     |                 |                                |        |                    |   |                                | Lin  | e)<br>X Forn<br>Forn                                    | ′  |   |             |  |  |
|   | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned   |  |  |       |  |  |     |                 |                                |        |                    |   |                                |  |   |  |   |             |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date) |  |  |  |       | Execution Date,  |  |     | Code (Instr. 5) |                                |        |                    |   | d Securi<br>Benefi<br>Owned    | cially<br>I Following  | 6. Owners<br>Form: Dire<br>(D) or Indi<br>(I) (Instr. 4 | ect<br>rect  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |             |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |       |  |  |     |                 | Code                           | v      | Amount (A) (D)     |   | A) or<br>D)                    | Price  | Transa  | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)   |   |             | (Instr. 4)   |  |
| Common Units 12/19  |  |  |  |       | /2012  |  | A   |                 | 1,525 <sup>(1)</sup> A         |        | \$ <mark>0</mark>  | 2   | 24,732                         |  |   |  |   |             |  |  |
|   | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |  |  |       |  |  |     |                 |                                |        |                    |   |                                |  |   |  |   |             |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)           | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security  | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Dat<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Ye | Date, | Code (Inst   |  |     |                 | 6. Date Expiration (Month/Date | n Date | •                  | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>and 4) |                                | tr. 3  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)     | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(<br>(Instr. 4) | Owner<br>Form:<br>Direct<br>or Ind<br>(I) (Ins      | (D)<br>rect | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|   |  |  |  |       | Code   | v  | (A) | (D)             | Date<br>Exercisal              |        | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amo<br>or<br>Num<br>of<br>Shar | ber  |   |  |   |             |  |  |

## Explanation of Responses:

1. Award of restricted units. The restricted units vest annually in equal increments over a three-year period beginning in December 2013.

/s/ Amy L. Perry, as Attorneyin-Fact for Rodman Patton 12/21/2012

\*\* 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.