

HUGHES JAMES ALTON
Form 4
May 09, 2012

FORM 4

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31,
2005
Estimated average
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
HUGHES JAMES ALTON

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O FIRST SOLAR, 350 WEST
WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE
600

(Street)

TEMPE, AZ 85281-1244

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
FIRST SOLAR, INC. [FSLR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
05/07/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)
Chief Executive Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
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

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

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

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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	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction	5. Number of Derivative	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 of Number of Shares		
Performance Units	\$ 0 ⁽¹⁾	05/07/2012	A		500,000		<u>(2)</u>	<u>(2)</u>	Common Stock	500,000		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
HUGHES JAMES ALTON C/O FIRST SOLAR 350 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 600 TEMPE, AZ 85281-1244	Chief Executive Officer

Signatures

/s/ Peter C. Bartolino,
Attorney-in-fact

05/09/2012

 **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) Each performance unit represents the right to receive, upon vesting, one share of the Issuer's common stock in accordance with the Issuer's 2010 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.

The performance units were granted on May 7, 2012 and shall vest in two separate tranches, each contingent upon the achievement of a threshold performance goal and pre-established performance criteria within a defined performance period as described in Part II, Item 5 Other Information, of the Issuer's Current Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 4, 2012.

- (2) Performance Units will not vest unless the participant is continuously employed by the Issuer through the applicable vesting date, unless the participant is eligible, in certain pre-established circumstances, for a pro-rata settlement. In the event of a change of control of the Issuer that occurs during the performance period, regardless of whether the threshold performance goal has been achieved, 25% of the then unvested portion of the performance unit will vest. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Issuer also has discretion to accelerate the vesting of the Performance Unit in a change of control situation and to amend the award to increase the vested percentage payable upon the occurrence of a change of control.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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