FINNEY ELISHA W Form 4 May 10, 2012

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

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

SECURITIES

burden hours per response...

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * FINNEY ELISHA W

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

ALTERA CORP [ALTR]

(Check all applicable)

(First) (Middle) (Last)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 05/08/2012

X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)

101 INNOVATION DRIVE

4. If Amendment, Date Original

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

(Street) Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

Person

SAN JOSE, CA 95134

1.Title of

Security

(Instr. 3)

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D)

(Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

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

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(9-02)

Following Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

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

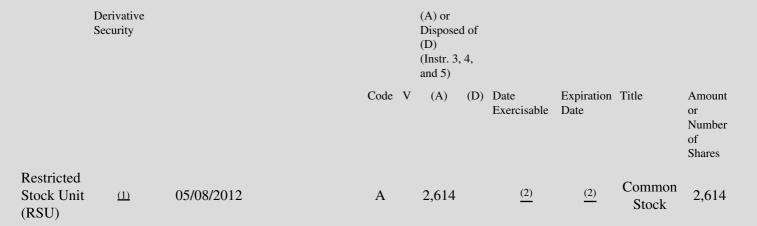
(Month/Day/Year)

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of 8. Pr 4. Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date **Underlying Securities** Deri Security or Exercise Code Securities (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4) Secu (Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Acquired (Inst

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
FINNEY ELISHA W				
101 INNOVATION DRIVE	X			
SAN JOSE, CA 95134				

Signatures

ELISHA W
FINNEY

**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 Restricted Stock Unit represents a contingent right to receive at settlement one share of Altera common stock at no cost.
- Subject to the provisions in the Altera's standard form of RSU award agreement, one third (1/3) of the shares shall vest annually and (2) become subject to release over a three (3) year period commencing May 13, 2013, provided that the reporting person continues to serve as a Director on such dates.

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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