

Heissenbittel William Holmes
 Form 4
 February 26, 2010

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 Heissenbittel William Holmes

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 1660 WYNKOOP, #1000
 (Street)

DENVER, CO 80202

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 ROYAL GOLD INC [RGLD]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 02/24/2010

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)
 VP Corporate Development

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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount (A) or (D) Price | | |
| Common Stock | 02/24/2010 | | M | | 1,875 A \$ 0 | 38,954 ⁽¹⁾ | D |
| Common Stock | 02/24/2010 | | M | | 1,875 A \$ 0 | 40,829 ⁽¹⁾ | D |
| Common Stock | 02/25/2010 | | F | | 800 D 43.44 ⁽²⁾ | 40,029 ⁽¹⁾ | D |
| Common Stock | 02/25/2010 | | F | | 800 D 43.44 ⁽²⁾ | 39,229 ⁽¹⁾ | D |

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

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(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 (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Performance Shares | \$ 0 | 02/24/2010 | | M | 1,875 | 02/24/2010 11/07/2011 | Common Stock | 1,875 |
| Performance Shares | \$ 0 | 02/24/2010 | | M | 1,875 | 02/24/2010 11/05/2013 | Common Stock | 1,875 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Heissenbittel William Holmes 1660 WYNKOOP #1000 DENVER, CO 80202 | | | VP Corporate Development | |

Signatures

/s/William Heissenbittel,
KG for 02/26/2010

**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) Includes 32,500 shares of restricted stock that have not yet vested.
- (2) The range of the weighted average sale price is \$43.44 to \$43.51.

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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