DEAN FOODS CO Form 4 October 04, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading HARDIN JOSEPH S JR Issuer Symbol DEAN FOODS CO [DF] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify 820 PICACHO LANE 09/30/2011 below) (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting SANTA BARBARA, CA 93108 Person

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Indirect (I) Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 6,194 09/30/2011 \$0 226,343 (2) D A A (1) Stock Common by Trusts. 3,550 I (3) Stock

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)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)

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| 1. Title of | 2. | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 5. | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Titl | e and | 8. Price of | 9. Nu |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------|----------|-------------|--------|
| Derivative | Conversion | (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if | Transacti | onNumber | Expiration D | ate | Amou | nt of | Derivative | Deriv |
| Security | or Exercise | | any | Code | of | (Month/Day/ | Year) | Under | lying | Security | Secui |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Derivative | e | | Securi | ties | (Instr. 5) | Bene |
| | Derivative | | | | Securities | | | (Instr. | 3 and 4) | | Owne |
| | Security | | | | Acquired | | | | | | Follo |
| | • | | | | (A) or | | | | | | Repo |
| | | | | | Disposed | | | | | | Trans |
| | | | | | of (D) | | | | | | (Instr |
| | | | | | (Instr. 3, | | | | | | · |
| | | | | | 4, and 5) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Amount | | |
| | | | | | | Date | Expiration sable Date | | | | |
| | | | | | | • | | | Number | | |
| | | | | ~ | <i>(</i> 1) (5) | | of | | | | |
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | | | | Shares | | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| HARDIN JOSEPH S JR | | | | | | | |
| 820 PICACHO LANE | X | | | | | | |
| SANTA BARBARA, CA 93108 | | | | | | | |

Signatures

Katherine K. Connell, Attorney-In-Fact

**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) These are shares of restricted stock issued in payment of fees owed for services as an independent director. All such shares are subject to vesting in three equal increments, with the first vesting occurring as of the date the shares were issued and then annually thereafter.
- (2) Includes 8,876 shares of common stock from restricted stock units that have vested, and the reporting person has elected to defer receipt until he is no longer a member of the Issuer's Board of Directors.
- (3) The reporting person is the trustee and disclaims all beneficial interest except to the extent of his pecuniary interest in the trusts, if any. The reporting person's sister and the reporting person's children are the beneficiaries of the trusts.

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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