Haslam Steve M Form 3 March 14, 2012

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

Haslam Steve M

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

03/08/2012

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

NOVASTAR FINANCIAL INC [NOVS]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

C/O NOVASTAR FINANCIAL, INC., 2114 CENTRAL STREET, SUITE 600

(Street)

Director _X__ Officer

10% Owner

Other (give title below) (specify below) Chief Operating 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

KANSAS CITY, MOÂ 64108

(City) (State)

(Instr. 4)

1. Title of Security

(Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

3. Ownership 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial

Ownership (Instr. 5)

Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)

(Instr. 5)

Â Common Stock 5,068 D

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

4. Conversion or Exercise

5. Ownership Form of Derivative

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial

Ownership

(Instr. 5)

Price of Security:

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	02/07/2005	02/07/2015	Common Stock	419	\$ 168.52	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	02/08/2006	02/08/2016	Common Stock	1,305	\$ 124.84	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	03/14/2007	03/14/2017	Common Stock	14,088	\$ 16.72	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Haslam Steve M C/O NOVASTAR FINANCIAL, INC. 2114 CENTRAL STREET, SUITE 600 KANSAS CITY, Â MOÂ 64108	Â	Â	Chief Operating Officer	Â	

Signatures

/s/ Steve Haslam	03/14/2012		
**Signature of	Date		

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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. 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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