Alexander Erik J. Form 4 May 20, 2010

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

SECURITIES Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue.

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

(First)

Alexander Erik J.

(Last)

(City)

(Instr. 3)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC

[ESS]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 05/18/2010

C/O ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC., 925 EAST MEADOW DRIVE

> (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

> > (Zip)

(Middle)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Senior Vice President

Issuer

below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Director

X_ Officer (give title

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

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

PALO ALTO, CA 94303

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security

(State)

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership Form: Direct (I) (Instr. 4)

7. Nature of Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

10% Owner

Other (specify

(A) or

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 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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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 1. Title of Derivative (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date Conversion

5. Number

6. Date Exercisable and

7. Title and Amount of 8. Price Underlying Securities Deriv

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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)		Securi (Instr.
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Series Z-1 Incentive Units	<u>(1)</u>	05/18/2010		<u>J(1)</u>		6,000		<u>(1)</u>	<u>(1)</u>	Series Z-1 Incentive Units	6,000	\$ 1

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Alexander Erik J. C/O ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC. 925 EAST MEADOW DRIVE PALO ALTO, CA 94303

Senior Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Keith R. Guericke (Attorney in Fact)

05/20/2010

**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).
 - Represents the grant of Series Z-1 Incentive Units pursuant to the Essex Portfolio, L.P. Long Term Incentive Plan issued in May 2010.
- On January 1, 2011 there will be a 20% conversion ratchet if the FFO target of \$4.75 is achieved. Subsequent vesting will be tied to the percentage increase in FFO with a minimum of 0% and a maximum of 14%. The 2010 Z-1 Units will be convertible into OP units at the earliest of 1) a change in control, 2) after the entire 2010 grant reaches a 100% conversion percentage, 3) on January 1, 2026 (no additional vesting to occur after 15 years).
- (2) A capital contribution of \$1.00 per series Z-1 Incentive Units.

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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