

# SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION EDGAR FILING

## Vertex Energy Inc.

**Form: 4**

**Date Filed: 2018-06-26**

Corporate Issuer CIK: 890447

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person: Cowart Benjamin P
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol: Vertex Energy Inc. [VTNR]
3. Date of Earliest Transaction: 06/25/2018
4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed:
5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer: CEO and President
6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing: Form filed by One Reporting Person

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

Table with 7 main columns: 1. Title of Security, 2. Transaction Date, 2A. Deemed Execution Date, 3. Transaction Code, 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D), 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned, 6. Ownership Form, 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership. Includes rows for Common Stock with various amounts and ownership details.

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number. SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

Table with 11 columns: 1. Title of Derivative Security, 2. Conversion or Exercise Price, 3. Transaction Date, 3A. Deemed Execution Date, 4. Transaction Code, 5. Number of Derivative Securities, 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities, 8. Price of Derivative Security, 9. Number of Derivative Securities, 10. Ownership Form, 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership.

Reporting Owners

Table with 2 columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships (Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other)

Cowart Benjamin P 1331 GEMINI STREET SUITE 250 HOUSTON, TX 77058	X	X	CEO and President	
---	---	---	-------------------	--

## Signatures

/s/ Benjamin P. Cowart		06/26/2018
<small>Signature of Reporting Person</small>		<small>Date</small>

## 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).

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.

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <b>Cowart Benjamin P</b>		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>Vertex Energy Inc. [VTNR]</b>		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)	
(Last) (First) (Middle) <b>1331 GEMINI STREET, SUITE 250</b>		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <b>06/25/2018</b>		CEO and President	
(Street) <b>HOUSTON, TX 77058</b>		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	
(City) (State) (Zip)		<b>Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned</b>			

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	06/25/2018		P		8,000	A	\$ 1	2,114,061	D	
Common Stock								187,274	I	Through The Benjamin Paul Cowart 2015 Grantor Retained Annuity Trust
Common Stock								244,299	I	Through The Shelley T. Cowart 2016 Grantor Retained Annuity Trust
Common Stock								4,796,761	I	Through B&S Cowart II Family LP
Common Stock								7,500	I	Through Vertex Holdings, Inc.
Common Stock								100,765	I	Through VTX Inc.

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number. SEC 1474 (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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

**Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other

Cowart Benjamin P 1331 GEMINI STREET SUITE 250 HOUSTON, TX 77058	X	X	CEO and President	
---	---	---	-------------------	--

## Signatures

/s/ Benjamin P. Cowart		06/26/2018
<small>Signature of Reporting Person</small>		<small>Date</small>

## 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).

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.