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

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

| (Thit of Type Responses) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------|---|---|-------------|-------------|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [*] RODRIGUEZ RAUL R | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol RIGEL PHARMACEUTICALS INC [RIGL] | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner | | | | |
| (Last) (First) RIGEL PHARMACEUTICALS, INC | 1100 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | X_Officer (give title below)Other (specify below)EVP, COO | | | |
| VETERANS BLVD. | ., 1180 | 01/20/2010 | | | | | | | | | |
| (Street) | 4 | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_Form filed by One Reporting Person | | | | |
| SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 940 | 080 | | | | | | | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |
| (City) (State) | | Table I - No | on-De | erivative S | Securitie | s Acqu | ired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Own | ed | | | |
| 1.Title of Security | 2. Transaction | 2A. Deemed | ned 3. Transaction | | 4. Securities Acquired | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially | 6. | 7. Nature | |
| (Instr. 3) | Date | Execution Date, if | Code | | (A) or Disposed of (D) | | | Owned Following Reported | Ownership | of Indirect | |
| | (Month/Day/Year) | - | (Instr. 8) | | (Instr. 3, | 4 and 5) | | Transaction(s) | Form: | Beneficial | |
| | | (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | × / | | Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | | | or Indirect | (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | | (A) or | | | (I) | | |
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price | | (Instr. 4) | | |

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 SEC 1474 (9-02) in this form are not 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) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|------|---|---------|------------|--|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|------------|
| | Conversion | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Code |) | | A) d of | 6. Date Exer Expiration E (Month/Day | Date /Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities | | Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) | Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) | Beneficial |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4) | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 9.62 | 01/20/2010 | | А | | 125,000 | | <u>(1)</u> | 01/20/2020 | Common Stock | 125,000 | \$ 0 | 125,000 | D | |

Reporting Owners

| | Relationships | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------|----------|-------|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| RODRIGUEZ RAUL R RIGEL PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 1180 VETERANS BLVD. SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94080 | | | EVP, COO | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Dolly Vance (Attorney-in-Fact) | 01/25/2010 |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 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) Vests monthly over one year from January 1, 2010.

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.