FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:      | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Widmar Mark R       |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      |                                 | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST SOLAR, INC. [FSLR] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        | Relations Check all a                                                                                                  | plicable)                                    |                                                                      | Person(s) to Issuer                                                |          |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------|------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--|--|
| (Last)                                                        | (Fi                                                                                                                                          | rst) (                                     | Middle) |      |                                 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)                                                                      |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        |                                                                                                                        | cer (give title<br>ow)                       |                                                                      | Other (                                                            | (specify |  |  |
| C/O FIRST SOLAR, INC.                                         |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      |                                 |                                                                                                                       |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        |                                                                                                                        | Chief Executive Officer                      |                                                                      |                                                                    |          |  |  |
| 350 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 600                         |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      |                                 | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                                                              |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)                                                               |                                              |                                                                      |                                                                    |          |  |  |
| (Street)                                                      |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      |                                 |                                                                                                                       |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        |                                                                                                                        | X Form filed by One Reporting Person         |                                                                      |                                                                    |          |  |  |
| TEMPE<br>————                                                 | A                                                                                                                                            | Z 8                                        | 35281-  | 1244 |                                 |                                                                                                                       |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        |                                                                                                                        | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |                                                                      |                                                                    |          |  |  |
| (City)                                                        | (Si                                                                                                                                          | tate) (                                    | Zip)    |      |                                 |                                                                                                                       |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        |                                                                                                                        |                                              |                                                                      |                                                                    |          |  |  |
|                                                               | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned                                                             |                                            |         |      |                                 |                                                                                                                       |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        |                                                                                                                        |                                              |                                                                      |                                                                    |          |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transacti Date (Month/Day |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      | Exe                             | A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>f any<br>Month/Day/Year)                                                              |     | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8)                       |                    | 4. Securities Acquired (<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3<br>and 5) |                                                                    |          |       | Secu<br>Ben<br>Own                                     | nount of<br>rities<br>eficially<br>ed<br>owing                                                                         | For<br>(D)<br>Indi                           | Ownership<br>m: Direct<br>or<br>irect (I)<br>str. 4)                 | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)  |          |  |  |
|                                                               |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      |                                 |                                                                                                                       |     | Code                                                          | v                  | Amour                                                           | Amount (A)                                                         |          | Price | Rep<br>Tran                                            | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                                                                         |                                              | su . 4)                                                              | (111501. 4)                                                        |          |  |  |
| Common Stock 11/21/20                                         |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      |                                 | 018                                                                                                                   |     |                                                               | M                  |                                                                 | 8,50                                                               | 8,500(1) |       | \$                                                     | 0                                                                                                                      | 101,529                                      |                                                                      | D                                                                  |          |  |  |
| Common Stock 11/21/20                                         |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      | 2018                            | 018                                                                                                                   |     |                                                               | F                  |                                                                 | 3,70                                                               | 2(2)     | D     | \$42                                                   | 2.6                                                                                                                    | 6 97,827                                     |                                                                      | D                                                                  |          |  |  |
|                                                               | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |                                            |         |      |                                 |                                                                                                                       |     |                                                               |                    |                                                                 |                                                                    |          |       |                                                        |                                                                                                                        |                                              |                                                                      |                                                                    |          |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)           | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security                                                                        | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | if any  |      | 4.<br>Transac<br>Code (In<br>8) | ion Number E                                                                                                          |     | 6. Date Exercisable an<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    |                                                                 | Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) |          | mount | 8. Price<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>9 Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | ,                                            | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr.<br>4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |          |  |  |
|                                                               |                                                                                                                                              |                                            |         |      | Code                            | v                                                                                                                     | (A) | (D)                                                           | Date<br>Exercisabl |                                                                 | piration<br>ite                                                    | Title    | of    | ımber<br>ares                                          |                                                                                                                        |                                              |                                                                      |                                                                    |          |  |  |
| Restricted<br>Stock<br>Units                                  | (3)                                                                                                                                          | 11/21/2018                                 |         |      | M                               |                                                                                                                       |     | 8,500                                                         | (4)                |                                                                 | (4)                                                                | Comm     |       | ,500                                                   | \$0                                                                                                                    | 0                                            |                                                                      | D                                                                  |          |  |  |

## Explanation of Responses:

- $1. \ Represents \ shares \ of \ common \ stock \ issued \ upon \ vesting \ of \ 34\% \ of \ the \ restricted \ stock \ units \ granted \ on \ November \ 21, \ 2016.$
- 2. Represents shares of common stock withheld by the Issuer to satisfy certain tax withholding obligations with the vesting of the restricted stock units.
- 3. Each restricted stock unit represents the right to receive, upon vesting, one share of the Issuer's common stock in accordance with the Issuer's 2015 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.
- 4. The restricted stock units were granted on November 21, 2016 pursuant to the retention equity award. These units are scheduled to vest at a rate of 33% on July 21, 2017, 33% on March 21, 2018 and 34% on November 21, 2018

/s/ Jason E. Dymbort, attorneyin-fact

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- \* 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.

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 Number.