## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## **SCHEDULE 13D/A**

(Amendment No. 3)

### UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

## **VECTOR GROUP LTD.**

(Name of Issuer)

### **COMMON STOCK, \$0.10 PAR VALUE**

(Title of Class of Securities)

### 92240M108

(CUSIP Number)

Howard M. Lorber Vector Group Ltd. 4400 Biscayne Boulevard, 10th Floor Miami, FL 33137 (305) 579-8000

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

## **November 10, 2015**

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition which is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of §§240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f) or 240.13d-1(g), check the following box o.

**Note:** Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See Rule 13d-7 for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON			
*	Howard M. Lorber			
	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)			
2	(a) o			
	(b) o			
3	SEC USE ON	VLY		
J				
	SOURCE OF	FUNDS (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)		
4				
		PF		
	CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) OR 2(e)			
5				
	0			
	CITIZENSHI	P OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION		
6				
	United States			
	_	Sole Voting Power		
	7			
NUMBER OF		7,459,241 (includes 1,582,587 acquirable upon exercise of options)		
SHARES		Shared Voting Power		
BENEFICIALLY	8			
OWNED BY				
EACH		Sole Dispositive Power		
REPORTING	9			
PERSON		5,314,241 (includes 1,582,587 acquirable upon exercise of options)		
WITH	10	Shared Dispositive Power		
	10			
11	AGGREGAT	E AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON		
11				
	7,459,241 (includes 1,582,587 acquirable upon exercise of options)			
10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)			
12				
10	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)			
13	F 00/			
	TABLE OF THE	5.9%		
1 /	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)			
14	TNI			
		IN		

### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT:

This Amendment No. 3 amends the Schedule 13D filed by Howard M. Lorber with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 23, 2014 (the "Schedule 13D"), and amended on November 12, 2014 and August 15, 2015, relating to the common stock, par value \$0.10 per share (the "Common Stock"), of Vector Group Ltd. (the "Company"). All information in this Amendment to the Schedule 13D concerning the Common Stock has been adjusted to give effect to the annual 5% stock dividends paid to stockholders of the Company since 1999.

Item 3, 4, 5 and 7 of the Schedule 13D are hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

### ITEM 3. SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF FUNDS OR OTHER CONSIDERATION.

The amount paid to the Company by Mr. Lorber (\$120,000) in connection with the restricted stock award on November 10, 2015 was provided from his personal funds.

### ITEM 4. PURPOSE OF TRANSACTION.

On November 10, 2015 the Company granted Mr. Lorber an award of 1,200,000 shares of Common Stock subject to performance-based vesting (the "2015 Award Shares") pursuant to the Company's 2014 Management Incentive Plan (the "2014 Plan"). Mr. Lorber paid the Company \$120,000, representing the par value of the Restricted Stock. The 2015 Award Shares were granted pursuant to a Performance-Based Restricted Share Award, pursuant to the 2014 Plan, dated November 10, 2015 between the Company and Mr. Lorber (the "2015 Award Agreement").

The terms of the 2015 Award Shares have been structured to be treated as a "qualified performance-based compensation" under Treasury Regulation 1.162-27(e).

Except to the extent provided in Section 5 of the 2015 Award Agreement, Mr. Lorber shall only earn a non-forfeitable right to a 2015 Award Share by satisfying both (i) the target for Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA (as defined below) on the applicable vesting date as set forth in the following table, and (ii) being continuously employed with the Company through the applicable Vesting Date as set forth in the following table:

## <u>Vesting Date</u> <u>Number of Vested Shares (Cumulative)</u>

November 15, 2016	171,428 shares if the Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 exceeds \$175 million;		
July 1, 2017	342,857 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016 exceeds \$218.75 million;		
July 1, 2018	514,285 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017 exceeds \$393.75 million;		
July 1, 2019	685,713 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018 exceeds \$568.75 million;		
July 1, 2020	857,141 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019 exceeds \$743.75 million;		
July 1, 2021	1,028,570 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2020 exceeds \$918.75 million; and		
July 1, 2022	1,200,000 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2021 exceeds \$1.09375 billion.		

"Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA" is defined in the 2015 Award Agreement to mean the Company's Earnings Before Interest, Income Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization excluding litigation or claim judgments or settlements and non-operating items and expenses for restructuring, productivity initiatives and new business initiatives.

Section 5 of the 2015 Award Agreement provides for accelerated vesting in the event of death or disability and if Mr. Lorber is employed by the Company at the time of a change on control as defined in the 2014 Plan, as well as limited accelerated vesting in certain other circumstances.

Mr. Lorber is entitled to receive a payment equal to the amount that would otherwise have been paid on or after the date of issuance of the Award Shares as dividends or other distributions (including securities of another issuer) on the Award Shares had such unvested portion been vested in Mr. Lorber as of the record date for such dividend or other distribution, provided such payment shall only be made to Mr. Lorber at the time of vesting of the unvested portion of the earned Award Shares on which such dividend or other distribution was paid.

### ITEM 5. INTEREST IN SECURITIES OF THE ISSUER.

- (a) As of November 10, 2015, Mr. Lorber was the beneficial owner of, in the aggregate, 7,459,241 shares of Common Stock, which constituted approximately 5.9% of the 122,592,329 shares of Common Stock outstanding, as as reported in the Issuer's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2015, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 9, 2015 (plus the 1,200,000 Award Shares issued in November 2015 and 1,582,587 shares that may be acquired by Mr. Lorber or his assignee within 60 days upon exercise of options).
- (b) Mr. Lorber exercises sole voting power and sole dispositive power over (i) 701,568 shares of Common Stock held by him, (ii) 2,685,432 shares held by Lorber Alpha II Limited Partnership, a Nevada limited partnership, (iii) 344,635 shares held by Lorber Gamma Limited Partnership, a Nevada limited partnership, and (iv) 19 shares in an Individual Retirement Account. Mr. Lorber's beneficial ownership also includes 1,582,587 shares of Common Stock

that may be acquired by him within 60 days upon exercise of options and voting rights with respect to 2,145,000 Award Shares. Mr. Lorber has sole voting power over the Award Shares but will not gain investment power over those shares until the vesting conditions described in Item 4 have been satisfied.

Lorber Alpha II, Inc., a Nevada corporation, is the general partner of Lorber Alpha II Limited Partnership. Lorber Gamma, Inc., a Nevada corporation, is the general partner of Lorber Gamma Limited Partnership. Mr. Lorber is a director, officer and controlling shareholder of each of Lorber Alpha II, Inc. and Lorber Gamma, Inc. Mr. Lorber disclaims beneficial ownership of 19,393 shares of Common Stock held by Lorber Charitable Fund, which are not included. Lorber Charitable Fund is a New York not-for-profit corporation, of which family members of Mr. Lorber serve as directors and executive officers.

- (c) The following transaction in the Company's Common Stock was effected during the past 60 days on November 10, 2015, the Company granted Mr. Lorber 1,200,000 shares of Common Stock subject to performance-based vesting pursuant to the Company's 2014 Management Incentive Plan.
  - (d) Not applicable.
  - (e) Not applicable.

### Item 7. Exhibits

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.

Exhibi

10.8

Performance-Based Restricted Share Award Agreement, pursuant to the Vector Group Ltd. 2014 Management Incentive Plan, dated November 10, 2015 between Vector and Howard M. Lorber.

## **SIGNATURE**

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: November 12, 2015

By: /s/ J. Bryant Kirkland III

J. Bryant Kirkland III Attorney-In-Fact

# PERFORMANCE-BASED RESTRICTED SHARE AWARD AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE VECTOR GROUP LTD. 2014 MANAGEMENT INCENTIVE PLAN

THIS PERFORMANCE-BASED RESTRICTED SHARE AWARD AGREEMENT (the "Agreement"), effective as of November 10, 2015 (the "Grant Date"), by and between Vector Group Ltd., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and Howard M. Lorber (the "Executive")

### WITNESSETH:

A. WHEREAS, the Executive serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, pursuant to an Amended and Restated Employment Agreement dated as of January 27, 2006, as amended to date (the "Employment Agreement"); and

B. WHEREAS, the Company wishes to retain the Executive by awarding him a proprietary interest in the Company through ownership of an equity interest therein, which interest shall be subject to the restrictions on vesting and transferability hereinafter set forth;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants set forth herein, the Company and the Executive hereby agree as follows:

### 1. Share Award.

**Vesting Date** 

Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Company hereby grants to the Executive 1,200,000 shares (collectively, the "Award Shares") of its Common Stock, \$.10 par value per share (the "Common Stock"), pursuant to the Company's 2014 Management Incentive Plan as in effect and amended from time to time (the "Plan"). This award is intended to be a Performance-Based Award within the meaning of Section 14 of the Plan that is exempt from the \$1,000,000 deduction limitation under Section 162(m) of the Code and shall be interpreted consistent with this intention.

Except to the extent provided in Section 5 below, the Executive shall only earn a non-forfeitable right to an Award Share by satisfying both (i) the target for Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA (as defined below) on the applicable Vesting Date as set forth in the following table, and (ii) being continuously employed with the Company through the applicable Vesting Date as set forth in the following table:

**Number of Vested Shares (Cumulative)** 

······································		
	November 15, 2016	171,428 shares if the Vector Group Ltd Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 exceeds \$175 million;
	July 1, 2017,	342,857 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016 exceeds \$218.75 million;
	July 1, 2018	514,285 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017 exceeds \$393.75 million;
	July 1, 2019	685,713 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018 exceeds \$568.75 million;
	July 1, 2020	857,141 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019 exceeds \$743.75 million;
	July 1, 2021	1,028,570 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2020 exceeds \$918.75 million; and
	July 1, 2022	1,200,000 shares minus shares previously vested if cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA from October 1,

2015 to December 31, 2021 exceeds \$1.09375 billion.

For purposes of this section, "Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA" shall mean the Company's Earnings Before Interest, Income Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization excluding litigation or claim judgments or settlements and non-operating items and expenses for restructuring, productivity initiatives and new business initiatives. In no event shall the target for Vector Group Ltd Adjusted EBITDA associated with a Vesting Date be considered satisfied unless and until the Committee has provided the certification of financial results required under Section 162(m) of the Code.

#### 2. Issuance; Transfer Restrictions.

Certificates for the Award Shares shall be issued in the name of the Executive as soon as practicable after the Grant Date, provided the Executive has (i) executed appropriate blank stock powers and any other documents which the Company may reasonably require and (ii) delivered to the Company a check for \$120,000, representing the par value of the Award Shares, provided further, that if determined by the Company to be required, the Executive shall file a notification form with respect to the issuance of the Award Shares under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvement Act of 1976, as amended (the "Hart-Scott-Rodino Act"), and in that case the Award Shares shall be issued as soon as practicable after the expiration of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act. The certificates for the unvested Award Shares shall be deposited, together with the stock powers, or other documents required by the Company, with the Company. Except to the extent provided in Section 7 hereof or as otherwise provided by the terms of this Agreement, upon deposit of such unvested Award Shares with the Company, the Executive shall have all of the rights of a shareholder with respect to such shares, including the right to vote the shares and to receive all dividends or other distributions, if any, paid or made with respect to such shares. Upon vesting of any portion of the Award Shares, the Company shall cause a stock certificate for such shares to be delivered to the Executive. No interest in this Agreement or in any portion of the Award Shares may be sold, transferred, assigned, pledged, encumbered or otherwise alienated or hypothecated, nor shall certificates for any Award Shares be delivered to the Executive, except to the extent of any portion of the Award Shares that has vested in the Executive in accordance with the terms hereof. The Executive acknowledges that the Award shares are subject to the Company's Equity Retention and Hedging Policy adopted in January 2013.

### 3. **Certificates Legended**.

The Executive acknowledges that certificates for the Award Shares shall bear a legend to the following effect:

THE TRANSFER OF THESE SECURITIES HAS NOT BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 AND MAY NOT BE OFFERED OR SOLD IN THE ABSENCE OF AN EFFECTIVE REGISTRATION STATEMENT COVERING SUCH ACT OR AN OPINION OF COUNSEL SATISFACTORY TO THE CORPORATION THAT SUCH REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED.

The Company shall enter in its records a notation of the foregoing legend and of the restrictions on transfer provided in Section 2 hereof.

### 4. Forfeiture.

Except to the extent provided in Section 5 hereof, upon the earlier of the Executive's termination of employment with the Company for any reason or July 1, 2022, any remaining Award Shares not theretofore vested shall be forfeited by the Executive and transferred back to the Company, without payment of any consideration by the Company.

## 5. Accelerated Vesting.

- a. The Executive shall be fully vested in all of the Award Shares in the event of his termination of employment due to death or disability (as determined in good faith by the Committee) or if a Change in Control of the Company as defined in Section 13.3 of the Plan occurs while he is employed by the Company, in each case consistent with the requirements for the award being treated as "performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code and Treas. Reg. Sect. 1.162-27(e)(2)(v).
- b. In the event of either the termination of the Executive's employment by the Company without Cause as defined in Section 6(d) of the Employment Agreement, or the voluntary termination by the Executive of his employment (to the extent the provisions of Section 6(a) of the Employment Agreement apply), the requirement to be continuously employed on any future Vesting Date shall be waived, and the Executive shall be vested in any remaining unvested Award Shares under

Section 1 of this Agreement based on the level of cumulative Vector Group Ltd. Adjusted EBITDA as of the end of the immediately preceding calendar quarter.

c. In the event of the occurrence of a Change of Control of the Company, the Committee will provide for settlement of any Award Shares that are subject to accelerated vesting under Section 5 of this Agreement in accordance with the terms of Section 13.2 of the Plan.

### 6. Adjustment of Award Shares.

In the event of any of the transactions or events described in Section 12 of the Plan, the aggregate number and kind of Award Shares shall be proportionately adjusted by the Company in accordance with the terms of Section 12.

### 7. Dividend Payments.

The Executive shall be entitled to receive the dividends or other distributions (including securities of another issuer) that are paid by the Company on the Award Shares on or after their date of issuance, but only if such Shares are subsequently earned and vested. Any such dividend or other distribution shall be paid to the Executive as soon as reasonably practicable after the underlying Award Shares have become vested. No interest shall be paid on any dividends or other distributions under this Section 7.

### 8. Limitations.

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to provide the Executive any rights whatsoever with respect to the Award Shares except as specifically provided herein, or constitute evidence of any agreement or understanding, express or implied, that the Company shall employ the Executive other than as provided in the Employment Agreement.

### 9. Tax Withholding.

The Executive agrees not to file a Section 83(b) election. The Executive shall pay to the Company, at each time any portion of the Award Shares vests in the Executive or any amounts are paid under Section 7 an amount that the Company deems necessary to satisfy its minimum required obligations to withhold federal, state or local income or other taxes incurred by reason thereof. In accordance with Section 15 of the Plan, tax withholding may be satisfied by the surrender of shares having a Fair Market Value on the date the tax is to be determined equal to the minimum statutory total tax that could be imposed on the transaction.

### 10. Incorporation by Reference; Plan Document Receipt; Coordination with Employment Agreement

This Agreement is subject in all respects to the terms and provisions of the Plan (including, without limitation, any amendments thereto adopted at any time and from time to time unless such amendments are expressly intended not to apply to the award provided hereunder), all of which terms and provisions are made a part of and incorporated in this Agreement as if they were expressly set forth herein. Any capitalized term not defined in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as is ascribed thereto in the Plan. For the avoidance of doubt, references to the "Committee" in this Agreement shall refer to the Subcommittee in accordance with Section 4.1 of the Plan. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Employment Agreement, the terms and conditions applicable to the Award Shares, including but not limited to vesting conditions, shall be governed solely and exclusively by this Agreement. The Executive hereby acknowledges receipt of a true copy of the Plan and that the Executive has read the Plan carefully and fully understands its content. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Agreement and the terms of the Plan, the terms of the Plan shall control.

### 11. Miscellaneous.

- a. The parties agree to execute such further instruments and to take such further action as may reasonably be necessary to carry out the intent of this Agreement.
- b. All notices, requests, demands and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if delivered by hand or overnight delivery service or mailed within the continental United States by first class, certified mail, return receipt requested, to the applicable party and addressed as follows:

  if to the Company:

Vector Group Ltd. 4400 Biscayne Boulevard, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Miami, Florida 33137 Attn: Marc N. Bell, Vice President and General Counsel

if to the Executive: Howard M. Lorber at the most recent home address as indicated on the Company's records

Addresses may be changed by notice in writing signed by the addressee.

- c. This Agreement shall not entitle the Executive to any preemptive rights to subscribe to any securities of any kind hereinafter issued by the Company.
- d. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Company and, subject to the restrictions on the Executive herein set forth, be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Executive, his heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.
- e. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter contained herein, and supersedes all prior agreements or prior understandings, whether written or oral, between the parties relating to such subject matter. The Board, the Committee or the Subcommittee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to modify or amend this Agreement from time to time in accordance with and as provided in the Plan; provided, however, that no such modification or amendment shall materially adversely affect the rights of the Executive under this Agreement without the consent of the Executive. The Company shall give notice to the Executive of any such modification or amendment of this Agreement as soon as practicable after the adoption thereof. This Agreement may also be modified or amended by a writing signed by both the Company and the Executive.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

By: /s/ J. Bryant Kikland III

J. Bryant Kirkland III

Vice President, Treasurer and CFO

/s/ Howard M. Lorber

Howard M. Lorber

VECTOR GROUP LTD.