SPIES GARY J Form 4 January 04, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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obligations

may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

(Last)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SPIES GARY J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

OTTER TAIL CORP [OTTR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

215 S CASCADE ST

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 12/30/2005

X_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

(Street)

(First)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537-2801

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

(Middle)

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

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following (Instr. 4)

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

(A) or

Reported 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.

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 Conversion Security or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

5. Number of 4. TransactionDerivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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	Derivative Security		Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)							
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Restricted Stock Units	<u>(1)</u>	12/30/2005	A		544.7942		(2)	(3)	Common Stock	544.7942

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
Troporting of the France of France of	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
SPIES GARY J							
215 S CASCADE ST	X						
FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537-2801							

Signatures

/s/ Gary J Spies by Debra J Lill
-POA 01/04/2006

**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) These are Restricted Stock Units and have no conversion or exercise price at this time.
- (2) There is no specific "Exercisable Date" on these Restricted Stock Units.
- (3) There is no specific "Expiration Date" on these Restricted Stock Units.
 - Restricted Stock Units of Common Stock acquired under the 1999 Stock Incentive Plan at fair market value as part of the Compensation Program for Outside Directors. See below for other holdings: 1. Direct holding of 1,040 shares of Common Stock, 1,000 of this total are
- (4) held jointly with his wife in "street name" through Piper Jaffray. 2. Direct holding of 911.6208 shares of Common Stock held in the Dividend Reinvestment Plan. 3. Direct holding of 3,100 shares of Common Stock which is a grant of Restricted Stock. 4. Direct holding of 1,700 shares of Common Stock which no longer carries the restriction. 5. 2,000 stock options with expiration date of 4/8/2011.

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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