SPIES GARY J Form 4 April 21, 2009

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 2005

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

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading SPIES GARY J Issuer Symbol OTTER TAIL CORP [OTTR] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify 215 S CASCADE ST 04/20/2009 below) (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537-2801 Person

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial any (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Indirect (I) Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 21,786.8756 04/20/2009 $A^{(1)}$ 3,600 D Α (2) (3) Stock

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)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)

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock Units (right to buy)	<u>(4)</u>					(5)	<u>(6)</u>	Common Stock	(7)
Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 26.25					04/09/2002(8)	04/09/2011	Common Stock	2,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
SPIES GARY J						
215 S CASCADE ST	X					
FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537-2801						
A 1 .						

Signatures

/s/ Gary J Spies by Debra J Lill, Attorney-in-Fact 04/21/2009 Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

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).
- Shares of Common Stock acquired under the Corporation's Stock Incentive Plan, which is a grant of Restricted Stock. The 3,600 shares granted 4/20/2009 vest 25% yearly commencing 4/8/2010.
- (2) This grant has a FMV of \$22.15.
- Total direct holdings include shares jointly held with spouse at Piper Jaffray, shares held by spouse at Dorn & Co and shares acquired individually through Dividend Reinvestment and pursuant to Restricted Stock Award distributions.

(4) 1 -for -1

Reporting Owners 2

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- (5) There is no specific "Exercisable Date" on the Phantom Stock Award.
- (6) There is no specific "Expiration Date" on this Phantom Stock Award.
- (7) Phantom Stock Units acquired under the 1999 Stock Incentive Plan at fair market value as part of the Compensation Program for Outside Directors. He first elected this method of payment in 2001.
- (8) Stock options vest in cumulative annual installments of 25% beginning the date shown.

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.