

SPIES GARY J  
Form 4  
April 21, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

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)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
215 S CASCADE ST  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
04/20/2009

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

FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537-2801  
(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	04/20/2009		A <sup>(1)</sup>	3,600 A <u>(2)</u>	21,786.8756 <u>(3)</u>	D	

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)**

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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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. De Se (In	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock Units (right to buy)	(4)					(5)	(6)	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 FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537-2801		X		

### Signatures

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

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) 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.
- (3) 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

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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.

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