

EL PASO ELECTRIC CO /TX/

Form 4

January 04, 2006

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31,
2005
Estimated average
burden hours per
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BATES JULIUS F JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**123 W. MILLS, POST OFFICE
BOX 982**

(Street)

EL PASO, TX 79901

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol

EL PASO ELECTRIC CO /TX/ [EE]

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

01/03/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Exe VP & Chief Operations

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
____X____ 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	01/03/2006		X		100,000	A	\$ 5.56 120,894
Common Stock	01/03/2006		S		10,075	D	\$ 21.0755 110,819
Common Stock	01/03/2006		S		89,925	D	\$ 21.0389 20,894

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**

SEC 1474
(9-02)

number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date Date	Title Amount Number Shares
Option-Right to Buy	\$ 5.56	01/03/2006		C	100,000	06/11/1996 06/11/2006	Common 10

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
BATES JULIUS F JR 123 W. MILLS POST OFFICE BOX 982 EL PASO, TX 79901	Exe VP & Chief Operations

Signatures

Norma J. Ayoub as attorney in fact for J. Frank
Bates 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).

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.