Catania Frank Form 3 November 17, 2005

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

Catania Frank

(Last) (First) (Middle)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

11/16/2005

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

EMPIRE RESORTS INC [NYNY]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

701 N. GREEN VALLEY PARKWAY, SUITE 200

(Street)

X Director Officer (give title below) (specify below)

10% Owner _Other

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

Person

Ownership

Form filed by More than One

Reporting Person

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial

HENDERSON, NVÂ 89074

(City) (State)

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)

(Zip)

Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities

Ownership

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

Form:

(Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect

(I) (Instr. 5)

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.

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

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

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative

5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:

Direct (D)

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Date Exercisable Expiration Date

Title Amount or Number of Shares

Security

or Indirect (I)

1

(Instr. 5)

Stock Option (Right to Buy)

Common Stock,

11/16/2005 11/15/2015 \$.01 par 15,000 \$5.1 D Â value per share

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Catania Frank
701 N. GREEN VALLEY PARKWAY
SUITE 200

HENDERSON, NVÂ 89074

Signatures

/s/ Catania,
Frank

**Signature of Reporting Person

11/17/2005

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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.

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