DAY JAMES C Form 4 January 18, 2005

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB

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Check this box

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

Washington, D.C. 20549

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).

(Last)

Shares

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * DAY JAMES C

(First)

(Street)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Issuer

(Middle)

NOBLE CORP [NE] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

_X__ Director

10% Owner _ Other (specify

13135 SO. DAIRY

01/17/2005

X_ Officer (give title below) COB & CEO

ASHFORD, SUITE 800

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

SUGAR LAND, TX 77478

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	le I - No	on-D	Derivative S	Securi	ities Acqu	iired, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transa Code (Instr.		4. Securiti n(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4)	posed	of (D) Price	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)
Ordinary Shares	01/17/2005		A(1)	V	893.58 (1)	A	\$ 48.96 (1)	334,437.064 (2)	D	
Ordinary								7 772 0021 (3)	т	Dr. Tares

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.

 $7,773.9931 \stackrel{(3)}{=} I$

By Trust

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Title	and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	onNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amoun	t of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Underly	ying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securit	ies	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr. 3	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	•				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									A manuat		
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		Or Number		
						Exercisable	Date	Title Numbe of			
				C + V	(A) (D)						
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
DAY JAMES C 13135 SO. DAIRY ASHFORD SUITE 800 SUGAR LAND, TX 77478	X		COB & CEO				

Signatures

/s/ James C. Day 01/17/2005 **Signature of Date 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).
- Consists of Ordinary Shares to be awarded to the Reporting Person on the last business day of January, February and March 2005 by the Issuer in lieu of a portion of the Reporting Person's cash salary at the election of the Reporting Person. The Reporting Person has elected to defer the receipt of such shares under the Noble Drilling Corporation 401(k) Savings Restoration Plan. The price of such shares was calculated as the average closing price of the Ordinary Shares during the last fifteen trading days of the quarter ended December 31, 2004.
- Includes 24,113.064 shares related to phantom stock units allocated to the Reporting Person under the Noble Drilling Corporation 401(k) Savings Restoration Plan, which units are payable to the Reporting Person solely in Ordinary Shares upon any distribution of such units **(2)** from such plan. Shares allocated under such plan were previously held in a rabbi trust and previously reported as "indirectly" owned by the Reporting Person.
- (3) Shares are held in the Noble Drilling Corporation 401(k) Savings Plan Trust.

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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