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Form 4  
January 18, 2005

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

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 \*  
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2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
LOWES COMPANIES INC [LOW]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

1000 LOWE'S BOULEVARD

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/31/2004

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

(Street)

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

MOORESVILLE, NC 28117

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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   |  |                                   |       |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | Code  | V   | Amount   | (D)                               | Price |

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)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Securities Acquired (A) or | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----|
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----|

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| Derivative Security          |                     |            | Disposed of (D)      |         | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
|------------------------------|---------------------|------------|----------------------|---------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|                              |                     |            | (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | (D)     |                  |                 |              |                            |
| Phantom Stock <sup>(1)</sup> | \$ 0 <sup>(2)</sup> | 12/31/2004 | A                    | 325.577 | <u>(2)</u>       | <u>(2)</u>      | Common Stock | 325.577                    |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                   | Relationships |           |         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| PAGE STEPHEN F<br>1000 LOWE'S BOULEVARD<br>MOORESVILLE, NC 28117 |               | X         |         |       |

## Signatures

By: Janet Bernard For: Stephen F. Page  
Date: 01/18/2005

     \*\*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) Represents the credit of deferred compensation to the Reporting Person's deferred stock account under the Lowe's Deferred Compensation Program.
- (2) The Reporting Person becomes entitled to the cash value of the phantom stock upon ceasing to be a director of Lowe's.
- (3) Includes the credit of dividends to the Reporting Person's deferred stock account under the Lowe's Deferred Compensation Program.

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.