DAY JAMES C Form 4 December 21, 2006

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

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January 31, 2005

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response...

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

12/19/2006

12/19/2006

Shares

Shares

Ordinary

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * DAY JAMES C			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NOBLE CORP [NE]				-0	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction				(Check all applicable)				
(Eust)	(Tibl)	` ′	(Month/Day/Year)					X Director	10%	Owner	
13135 SOUTH DAIRY ASHFORD, SUITE 800			12/19/2006					Officer (give tit		(specify	
	(Street)		4. If An	nendment, l	Date Origina	1	6.	Individual or Join	t/Group Filing	g(Check	
Filed(Month/Day/Year)					Aŗ	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting					
SUGAR LAND, TX 77478								Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tal	ble I - Non	-Derivative	Secur	ities Acquir	ed, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution I any (Month/Day	Date, if	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securitie orDisposed o (Instr. 3, 4	f (D)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code V	Amount	or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	(Instr. 4)		
Ordinary Shares	12/19/2006			M	100,000	A	\$ 28.31	100,000	D		
Ordinary Shares	12/19/2006			S	100,000	D	\$ 78.2954	0	D		
Ordinary Shares	12/19/2006			M	20,000	A	\$ 21.625	20,000	D		
Ordinary	12/19/2006			S	20,000	D	\$	0	D		

20,000

33,334

D

Α

\$ 21.44

33,334

S

M

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Ordinary Shares	12/19/2006	S	33,334	D	\$ 78.2954	0	D	
Ordinary Shares	12/19/2006	M	125,000	A	\$ 31.1	125,000	D	
Ordinary Shares	12/19/2006	S	125,000	D	\$ 78.2954	0	D	
Ordinary Shares						394,717	D	
Ordinary Shares						7,997 <u>(1)</u>	I	By Trust

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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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 Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	e 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	TransactionDerivative Code Securities			Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount of Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option Right to Buy	\$ 28.31	12/19/2006		M		100,000	<u>(2)</u>	01/28/2008	Ordinary Shares	100,000
Employee Stock Option Right to Buy	\$ 21.625	12/19/2006		M		20,000	(3)	07/23/2008	Ordinary Shares	20,000
Employee Stock Option Right to Buy	\$ 21.44	12/19/2006		M		33,334	<u>(4)</u>	10/28/2009	Ordinary Shares	33,334
Employee Stock	\$ 31.1	12/19/2006		M		125,000	<u>(5)</u>	07/26/2011	Ordinary Shares	125,000

Option Right to Buy

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

DAY JAMES C 13135 SOUTH DAIRY ASHFORD SUITE 800 SUGAR LAND, TX 77478



Signatures

/s/ James C. Day 12/21/2006

**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).
- (1) Shares held in the Noble Drilling Corporation 401(k Savings Plan Trust.
- (2) Represents option to purchase 100,000 shares of the 100,000 shares granted on 1/28/98 with a vesting schedule of 33,333 on 1/28/99; 33,333 on 1/28/00; and 33,334 on 1/28/01.
- (3) Represents option to purchase 20,000 shares of the 50,000 shares granted on 7/23/98 with a vesting schedule of 16,666 on 7/23/99; 16,667 on 7/23/00; and 16,667 on 7/23/01.
- (4) Represents option to purchase 33,334 shares of the 100,000 shares granted on 10/28/99 with a vesting schedule of 33,333 on 10/28/00; 33,333 on 10/28/01; and 33,334 on 10/28/02.
- (5) Represents option to purchase 125,000 shares of the 125,000 shares granted on 7/26/01 with a vesting schedule of 41,666 on 7/26/02; 41,667 on 7/26/03; and 41,667 on 7/26/04.

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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