

CARTER JOHN D  
Form 4  
December 23, 2004

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
CARTER JOHN D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO  
[NWN]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
IMESON & CARTER, 222 S.W.  
COLUMBIA, SUITE 1850  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/23/2004

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

PORTLAND, OR 97201-6618

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

(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) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock, \$3-1/6 par value	12/23/2004		P	2,000 A \$ 33.85	15,036.073	D	
Common Stock, \$3-1/6 par value					4,456.369	I	See footnote (1)

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

