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PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC Form 4 January 04, 2005 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading LAMALE ELLEN Z Issuer Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP (Check all applicable) INC [PFG] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) **711 HIGH STREET** 12/31/2004 Sr. VP & Chief Actuary (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting DES MOINES, IA 50392 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial anv (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned (T) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) 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 SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)

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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. Number	6. Date Exercisable and	7. Title and Amount of	8. Price
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactionof		Expiration Date	Underlying Securities	Derivati
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	Derivative	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)	Security

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8)	Acqui (A) or Dispos of (D) (Instr.	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)					(Instr. 5
			Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Phantom Stock Units	(1)	12/31/2004	A <u>(2)</u>	13.1		(3)	(3)	Common Stock	13.1	\$ 40.9

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
LAMALE ELLEN Z 711 HIGH STREET DES MOINES, IA 50392			Sr. VP & Chief Actuary				
Signatures							
Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power of Attorney	f	01/04					
**Signature of Reporting Person		Da	te				

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) Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (2) Pursuant to 10b5-1 plan adopted February 21, 2002.

The reported phantom stock units were acquired pursuant to the Principal Select Savings Excess Plan and may be transferred at any time

(3) into another investment alternative under the Plan. Interests under the plan will be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.

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.