

XCEL ENERGY INC  
 Form 4  
 March 17, 2006

**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 \*  
**LESHER CYNTHIA L**

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 800 NICOLLET MALL  
 (Street)

MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**XCEL ENERGY INC [XEL]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
**03/15/2006**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 VP, Xcel Energy Services Inc.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 \_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |     |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|-----|-------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code  | V  | Amount  | (D) | Price |

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

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| (Instr. 3)       | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | (Instr. 5) |     |                     |                    |                 |  |         |
|------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|---|------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|---------|
|                  |                                    |                  | Code       | V   | (A)        | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |         |
| Phantom<br>Stock | \$ 0                               | 03/15/2006       | A          |   | 4.66       |     | <u>(1)</u>          | <u>(1)</u>         | Common<br>Stock | 4.66                                   | \$ 18.5 |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                 | Relationships |           |                               |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                       | Other |
| LESHER CYNTHIA L<br>800 NICOLLET MALL<br>MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402 |               |           | VP, Xcel Energy Services Inc. |       |

## Signatures

Carol J. Peterson, Attorney-in-Fact for Cynthia L.  
Leshner  
03/17/2006

\*\*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) Shares of phantom stock are payable in cash following termination of reporting person's employment.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.  
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