FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| l | OWR APP                  | ROVAL     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|   | OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| l | Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

0.5

hours per response:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  RICE CHERIE C       |  |      |           |         |                              | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol WASTE MANAGEMENT INC [ WMI ] |                   |                                    |   |               |   |              |                                    |       | Check  | all app   | olicable)   | g Person(s) to Iss<br>10% Ov<br>Other (s                           |   | wner  |
|---|--|------|-----------|---------|------------------------------|--|-------------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|------------------------------------|-------|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 1001 FANNIN SUITE 4000                |  |      |           |         |                              | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/27/2005              |                   |                                    |   |               |   |              |                                    |       | X  | belov   |   |  |   |   |
| (Street) HOUSTON TX 77002 (City) (State) (Zip)                |  |      |           |         |                              | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                 |                   |                                    |   |               |   |              |                                    |       | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person     Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |   |  |   |   |
|   |  | Tabl | e I - Nor | n-Deriv | ative                        | Se   | curitie           | s Acc                              | quired,                                 | Dis           | posed o   | f, oı        | r Ben                              | efici | ally   | Owne  | ed  |  |   |   |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date) |  |      |           |         |                              | Execution Date   |                   | n Date,                            | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |               | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5)                                       |              |                                    |       | 4 and Seci   |   | cially<br>I Following   | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)  |   | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|   |  |      |           |         |                              |  | v                 | Amount                             |   | (A) or<br>(D) | Price   |              | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |       |  |   | (11341.4)   |  |   |   |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup> 01/27/                            |  |      |           |         |                              | '/2005   |                   |                                    |   |               | 4,170   |              | A                                  | \$0   |  | 12,150.1065   |   | I  | ) |   |
|   | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |      |           |         |                              |  |                   |                                    |   |               |   |              |                                    |       |  |   |   |  |   |   |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)           | rative Conversion Date Execution Date, if any  |      |           |         | Transaction Code (Instr. II) |  | sed               | 6. Date E<br>Expiratio<br>(Month/D | n Date                                  | е             | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>and 4) |              | ount                               |       | vative<br>urity<br>r. 5)   | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |   |   |
|   |  |      | Code      | v       | (A)                          | (D)  | Date<br>Exercisal |                                    | Expiration<br>Date                      | Title         | of  | nber<br>ires |                                    |       |  |   |   |  |   |   |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. Restricted stock units granted pursuant to the Waste Management, Inc. 2004 Stock Incentive Plan. Award vests in 25% annual incre ments, commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.

## Remarks:

Linda J. Smith, attorney-in-fact 01/31/2005

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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).

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

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 Number.