

Bunting Anthony L
Form 4
January 30, 2012

FORM 4

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Bunting Anthony L

(Last) (First) (Middle)

P.O. BOX 5000

(Street)

PINEVILLE, LA 71361-5000

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol

CLECO CORP [CNL]

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

01/27/2012

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) below)

Vice President

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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| Common Stock, \$1 par | 01/27/2012 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | 1,610 A <u>(2)</u> | 30,760.1964 <u>(3)</u> | D | |
| Common Stock, \$1 par | 01/27/2012 | | A ⁽⁴⁾ | 3,183 A <u>(2)</u> | 33,943.1964 | D | |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of
information contained in this form are not
required to respond unless the form
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SEC 1474
(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 Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 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 (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|---|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |
|--|----------------------------------|
| | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |
| Bunting Anthony L P.O. BOX 5000 PINEVILLE, LA 71361-5000 | Vice President |

Signatures

Julia E. Callis, Attorney-in-Fact for Anthony L.
Bunting 01/30/2012

--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 acquired under the Company's 2000 Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan as the result of the Company's above-target performance during the three-year period ending December 31, 2011.
- (2) No value was exchanged for these shares.
- (3) Total includes 136.8222 shares acquired through contributions and/or reinvestment of dividends under the Company's 401(k) plan during the period beginning 03/05/2011 through 12/31/2011.
- (4) Performance shares granted under the Company's 2010 Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan. Shares are subject to forfeiture, in whole or in part, based on the Company's performance during a three-year period beginning January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2014. For the 2012 - 2014 performance cycle, the Compensation Committee has established total shareholder return (defined as the Company's common stock price appreciation plus dividends paid during the performance cycle) compared to companies in a peer group also selected by the Committee as the performance goal. Dividends will be accrued quarterly during the performance cycle, are subject to forfeiture in whole or in part, and will be paid only after the final determination of performance and in proportion to the target shares.

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.