

AMERICAN STATES WATER CO  
 Form 4  
 May 18, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
**SPROWLS ROBERT J**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**AMERICAN STATES WATER CO [AWR]**

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**630 E FOOTHILL BLVD**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**05/16/2006**

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**Sr. Vice President Finance**

**SAN DIMAS, CA 91773**  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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)	
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	
Common Stock	05/16/2006		M		3,985	A	\$ 23.24 5,467	D
Common Stock	05/16/2006		S		3,985	D	\$ 40.1572 1,482	D
Common Stock	05/16/2006		M		3,985	A	\$ 25.92 5,467	D
Common Stock	05/16/2006		S		3,985	D	\$ 40.1572 1,482	D

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

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(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 (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. Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.24	05/16/2006		M	3,985	<u>(1)</u> 06/29/2014	Common Stock	3,985
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.92	05/16/2006		M	3,985	<u>(2)</u> 01/02/2015	Common Stock	3,985

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
SPROWLS ROBERT J 630 E FOOTHILL BLVD SAN DIMAS, CA 91773	Director 10% Owner Officer Other Sr. Vice President Finance

## Signatures

/s/ Robert J. Sprowls  
05/17/2006  
\*\*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) The Option became exercisable as to 3,985 of the 12,075 total number of shares subject to the option on June 29, 2005. The option will become exercisable as to an additional 3,985 shares on June 29, 2006 and an additional 4,105 shares on June 29, 2007.
- (2) The Option became exercisable as to 3,985 of the 12,075 total number of shares subject to the option on January 1, 2006. The option will become exercisable as to an additional 3,985 shares on January 2, 2007 and an additional 4,105 shares on January 2, 2008.

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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