Tolbert Michael D Form 4 December 04, 2008

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

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1 HORMEL PLACE

AUSTIN, MN 55912

(City)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Tolbert Michael D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

HORMEL FOODS CORP /DE/

[HRL]

(Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

> (Month/Day/Year) 12/02/2008

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

Issuer

below)

Person

Director

Applicable Line)

X_ Officer (give title

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3)

(State)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect Beneficial (I) (Instr. 4)

Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)

7. Nature of

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Group Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

below)

10% Owner

Other (specify

Estimated average

burden hours per

(A)

Transaction(s) (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.

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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 Conversion Security or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if any

4. 5. Number of TransactionDerivative Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8 **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Da	(Month/Day/Year)	or Dispos (D)		(Instr. 3, 4	ed of	d of			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 25.26	12/02/2008		A		25,000		<u>(1)</u>	12/02/2018	Common Stock	25,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Tolbert Michael D

1 HORMEL PLACE Group Vice President

AUSTIN, MN 55912

Signatures

Michael D. Tolbert, by Power of Attorney 12/04/2008

**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 will vest in four equal annual installments, with the first group vesting on December 2, 2009.

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.

Reporting Owners 2