

WALKER WILLIAM H JR
 Form 4
 January 31, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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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 *
WALKER WILLIAM H JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CLECO CORP [CNL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 P.O. BOX 5000
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/27/2012

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

PINEVILLE, LA 71361-5000
 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock, \$1.00 par				(A) or (D) Price	73,433.69 ⁽¹⁾	D	

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)

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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 or Value of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Phantom Stock	(2)	01/27/2012		A	1,717	(2) (2)	Common Stock, \$1.00 par	1,717 (2)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WALKER WILLIAM H JR P.O. BOX 5000 PINEVILLE, LA 71361-5000		X		

Signatures

Julia E. Callis, Atty-in-fact for William H. Walker, Jr. 01/31/2012

____ 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) Includes 43,561 shares acquired through the Cleco Corporation Dividend Reinvestment Plan on November 15, 2011. The shares of phantom stock relate to shares of restricted stock granted under the Cleco Corporation Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan. No separate value was exchanged for these shares. Except as expressly provided in the grant letter relating to these shares of restricted stock, such shares cannot be sold, assigned, transferred, pledged, hypothecated or otherwise disposed of by the reporting person prior to January 27, 2018. The reporting person has elected to defer receipt of these shares of restricted stock under the Cleco Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan"). Each share of phantom stock is the economic equivalent of one share of Cleco Corporation common stock.
- (2) Includes 10,127 shares of phantom stock (not subject to restrictions) related to dividend reinvestment on shares of phantom stock pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Plan. Includes (a) 2,140 shares of phantom stock subject to restrictions that lapse on January 25, 2014; (b) 2,544 shares of phantom stock subject to restrictions that lapse on January 30, 2015; (c) 2,149 shares of phantom stock subject to restrictions that lapse on January 29, 2016; (d) 1,898 shares of phantom stock subject to restrictions that lapse on January 28, 2017 and (e) 1,717 shares of phantom stock subject to restrictions that lapse on January 27, 2018.

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.