

FARRELL GRETCHEN A
 Form 4
 December 17, 2012

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 *
 FARRELL GRETCHEN A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC [LECO]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/13/2012

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Sr. VP., H. R. & Compliance

CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199
 (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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Common Shares | 12/13/2012 | | A | V Amount (A) or (D) Price \$ 0 (1) | 2,330 18,022 | D | |
| Common Shares | | | | | 7,762.069 (2) | I | by 401(k) |
| Common Shares | | | | | 6,838.281 | I | SPP |
| Common Shares | | | | | 21.594 | I | by son |

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) | \$ 47.91 | 12/13/2012 | | A | 7,240 | <u>(3)</u> 12/13/2022 | Common Shares | 7,240 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| FARRELL GRETCHEN A 22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199 | | | Sr. VP., H. R. & Compliance | |

Signatures

/s/ Jennifer I. Ansberry, Jennifer I. Ansberry as Attorney-in-Fact for Gretchen A. Farrell 12/17/2012

__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) Pursuant to restricted stock unit award.
- (2) Held by trustee pursuant to The Lincoln Electric Company 401(k)plan. Holdings are reported on a unitized basis, which amount represents approximately 6,524.286 shares.
- (3) The options become exercisable in three equal annual installments on December 13, 2013, December 13, 2014 and December 13, 2015.

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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