

# FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Check this box if no longer  
subject to Section 16. Form 4 or  
Form 5 obligations may continue.  
See Instruction 1(b).

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. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br>Jefferson W. Kirby<br>c/o Alleghany Corporation<br>7 Times Square Tower, 17th Floor<br>New York NY 10036 | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br>Alleghany Corporation [Y]                  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (check all applicable)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner<br><input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) |
|  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Required to be Reported<br>(Month/Day/Year)<br>04/27/2009 |  |
|  | 4. If amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                                     | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More Than One Reporting Person   |

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

| 1. Title of Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(mm/dd/yy) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution<br>Date, if any<br>(mm/dd/yy) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) |   | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4, & 5) |                  |       | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3, & 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|------------------|-------|--|--|--|
|                                    |                                      |   | Code                                 | V | Amount  | (A)<br>or<br>(D) | Price |  |  |  |
| Common Stock                       | 04/27/2009                           |   | A                                    |   | 250   | A                | (1)   | 62,586 (2)   | D  |  |
| Common Stock                       |                                      |   |                                      |   |   |                  |       | 156,850 (2)  | I  | Held by trusts of which reporting<br>person is co-trustee and beneficiary            |
| Common Stock                       |                                      |   |                                      |   |   |                  |       | 1,040 (2)  | I  | Held by limited partnership in which<br>reporting person has a pecuniary<br>interest |

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

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

