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OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
 Estimated average burden  
 hours per response.....0.5  
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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, DC 20549

FORM 4

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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

(Print of Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person\*

Tompkins J. Richard  
 -----  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)  
 -----  
 23 Hidden Pine Drive  
 -----  
 (Street)  
 -----  
 Colts Neck NJ 07722-1566  
 -----  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Middlesex Water Company (MSEX)

3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Day/Year

Year-End December 2002

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)

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

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

CEO

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable line)

Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans- action Date (mm/dd/yy)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (mm/dd/yy)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) ----- Code V	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) ----- Amount	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 & Instr.4)	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr.4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr.4)
Common Stock (Restricted Stock)					10,950	D	
Common Stock					8,550	D	
Common Stock (Dividend Reinvestment)					6,666	D	
Common Stock (Jt. Ten w.Spouse)					600	D	

Common Stock (Dividend Reinvestment w/Spouse)											1,670	D						
Common Stock (Dividend Reinvestment)											12/31/02	V	1	A	21.06	721	I	Son

FORM 4 (continued)

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1.	2.	3.	3A.	4.	5.	6.		7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	Transaction Date (mm/dd/yy)	Deemed Execution Date if any (mm/dd/yy)	Transaction Code (Instr. 8) Code V	Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Nature of Ownership: Direct or Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

Explanation of Responses:

/s/ M.F. Reynolds, Power of Attorney for  
 J.Richard Tompkins  
 January 2, 2003  
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 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

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).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations.  
 See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.