

AYERS RICHARD H  
Form 4  
October 25, 2004

**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 \*  
AYERS RICHARD H

(Last) (First) (Middle)

APPLERA CORPORATION, 301 MERRITT 7

(Street)

NORWALK, CT 06851-1070

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
APPLERA CORP [ABI/CRA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
10/21/2004

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

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)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Applied Biosystems Group Common Stock Units					14,032.62 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	
Celera Genomics Group Common Stock Units					3,386.2	D	
Applied Biosystems	10/21/2004		A	1,300 A	\$ 0 20,764	D	

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Group  
Common  
Stock

Celera  
Genomics

Group  
Common  
Stock

10/21/2004

A

500

A

\$ 0

5,871

D

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)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title
Applied Biosystems Group Director Stock Option-Right to Buy	\$ 18.905	10/21/2004		A	9,200	(2) 10/21/2014	Applied Biosystems Group Common Stock 9,200
Celera Genomics Group Director Stock Option-Right to Buy	\$ 12.005	10/21/2004		A	3,400	(2) 10/21/2014	Celera Genomics Group Common Stock 3,400

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
AYERS RICHARD H APPLERA CORPORATION 301 MERRITT 7 NORWALK, CT 06851-1070		X		

## Signatures

Thomas P. Livingston, Attorney-in-Fact for Richard H. Ayers	10/25/2004
<small>**Signature of Reporting Person</small>	<small>Date</small>

## 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 30.92 Applied Biosystems Group Common Stock Units acquired in October 2004 pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of the Company's director stock purchase plan.
  - (2) The options become exercisable in four equal annual installments commencing October 21, 2005.

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.