

EL PASO ELECTRIC CO /TX/
Form 8-K
January 21, 2003

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

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (D)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):
January 21, 2003**

El Paso Electric Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas
(State or other
jurisdiction of
incorporation)

0-296
(Commission File Number)

74-0607870
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

Stanton Tower, 100 North Stanton, El Paso, Texas
(Address of principal executive offices)

79901
(Zip Code)

(915) 543-5711
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure

On January 16, 2003, El Paso Electric Company (the Company) was served with a complaint on behalf of a purported class of shareholders alleging violations of the federal securities laws. The complaint was filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas by a holder of 100 common shares of the Company. The allegations arise out of an investigation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) of the power markets in the Western United States during 2000 and 2001. The Company and the trial staff of the FERC reached a settlement of the FERC investigation on December 5, 2002. The Company believes the lawsuit is without merit and intends to defend itself vigorously.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY

By: /s/ Terry Bassham

Terry Bassham
Executive Vice
President,
Chief Financial and
Administrative
Officer
(Duly Authorized
Officer and
Principal Financial
Officer)

Dated: January 21, 2003