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):

February 17, 2004

El Paso Electric Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas 0-296 74-0607870 (State or other (Commission (I.R.S. Employer

jurisdiction of incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

Stanton Tower, 100 North Stanton,

El Paso, Texas 79901 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

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(915) 543-5711

 $(Registrant \ \ s \ telephone \ number, including \ area \ code)$

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ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(c) Exhibits

99.01 Earnings Press Release, dated February 17, 2004

ITEM 9. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

On February 17, 2004, the Company announced its financial results for the quarter ended December 31,2003. A copy of the press release containing the announcement is included as Exhibit 99.01 to this Current Report and is incorporated herein by reference. The Company does not intend for this exhibit to be incorporated by reference into future filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The foregoing information is provided pursuant to Item 12 (Results of Operations and Financial Condition) of Form 8-K.

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: February 17, 2004