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) December 4, 2006

ALBEMARLE CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in charter)

Virginia (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-12658 (Commission file number)

54-1692118 (IRS employer identification no.)

330 South Fourth Street, Richmond, Virginia (Address of principal executive offices)

23219 (Zip code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code (804) 788-6000

Not applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- " Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- " Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Section 1 Registrant s Business and Operations

Item 8.01. Other Events

On December 4, 2006, Albemarle Corporation (the Company) entered into a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of December 4, 2006 (the Purchase Agreement), with John D. Gottwald, pursuant to which the Company agreed to purchase an aggregate of 48,668 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share (Common Stock), of the Company from John D. Gottwald at a price of \$0.03 less than the average closing price of a share of the Common Stock, as determined by the Company s Chief Financial Officer based on trade data provided by the New York Stock Exchange (as reported in the *Wall Street Journal*), for December 4 through December 6, 2006 (inclusive). These shares were purchased on December 6, 2006 at a purchase price of \$71.6133 per share. A copy of the Purchase Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 9 Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item	9.01.	Financial	Statement	and Exhibits.

- (c) Exhibits.
 - 10.1 Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of December 4, 2006, between the Company and John D. Gottwald.

SIGNATURE

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 hereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 6, 2006

ALBEMARLE CORPORATION

By: /s/ Luther C. Kissam, IV Luther C. Kissam, IV Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit

Number Exhibit

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