AIRGAS INC Form 8-K January 27, 2004

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 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 27, 2004

AIRGAS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 1-9344 56-0732648

(State or other (Commission File Number) (I.R.S. Employer jurisdiction of incorporation)

Identification No.)

259 North Radnor-Chester Road, Suite 100 Radnor, PA 19087-5283

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (610) 687-5253

Item 5. Other Events

On January 27, 2004, Airgas, Inc. announced that it has signed a non-binding letter of intent to acquire most of the assets of the U.S. packaged gas business of BOC Group (NYSE: BOX) in a transaction valued up to \$200 million.

- Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits
- (a) None
- (b) None
- (c) Exhibits.
 - 99.1 Press Release dated January 27, 2004

Signatures

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

AIRGAS, INC.

(Registrant)

BY: /s/ Robert M. McLaughlin Robert M. McLaughlin Vice President & Controller

DATED: January 27, 2004