UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 FORM 4
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP (X) Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.
Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b). 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
WILSON, JOSEPH E. C/O MUNCIE POWER PRODUCTS INC
POST OFFICE BOX 548
MUNCIE, IN 47308
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION
FRME
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary) ###-##-#####
4. Statement for Month/Year
July 1997 5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
5. IT AMERICALIETT, Date of Original (Month/Hear)
 Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) (X) Director () 10% Owner () Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below)
First Merchants Bank, N.A.
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
(X) Form filed by One Reporting Person () Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
() Total 12200 by Hore than one reporting religion
Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
1. Title of Security 2. 3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) 5. Amount of 6. Dir 7. Nature of Indirect Transaction or Disposed of (D) Securities ect Beneficial Ownership Beneficially (D) or

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Explanation of Responses:

Explanation of Responses:
Reporting person resigned as a director of First Merchants Corporation effective midnight December 31, 1996.
(1) Includes 12.6044; 12.2805; 10.9189; and 10.6351 shares acquired in September 1996, December 1996; March 1997 and June 1997 respectively, under the First Merchants Corporation dividend resignmentment also

reinvestment plan.
SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
Joseph E. Wilson (Confirming Statement on File)

July 31, 1997