

HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES INC

Form SC 13G

February 14, 2007

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

**SCHEDULE 13G**

**Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Highwoods Properties, Inc.  
(Name of Issuer)  
Ordinary Shares  
(Title of Class of Securities)  
431284108  
(CUSIP Number)  
December 31, 2006  
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ( Act ) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS:

**1** ING Groep N.V.

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY):

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS):

**2** (a)   
 (b)

Not Applicable

SEC USE ONLY:

**3**

CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION:

**4**

The Netherlands

SOLE VOTING POWER:

**5**

NUMBER OF 5,989,164 <sup>1 2 3</sup>

SHARED VOTING POWER:

SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY **6**

0

SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER:

EACH REPORTING PERSON **7**

5,989,164 <sup>1 2 3</sup>

WITH:

SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER:

**8**

0

AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON:

9

5,989,164

CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS):

10

6,800 custodian shares

b

PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9):

11

10.68%

TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS):

12

HC

1 5,970,104 of these shares are held by indirect subsidiaries of ING Groep N.V. in their role in their role as a discretionary manager of client portfolios.

2 19,060 of these shares are held by indirect subsidiaries of ING Groep N.V. in their role as a trustee.

3 The numbers listed here include the ownership interests separately reported by ING Clarion Real Estate Securities L.P., wholly owned indirect subsidiary of ING Groep N.V., in its Schedule 13G filing with the SEC dated on or about the date hereof.

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**Item 1(a). Name of Issuer:**

Highwoods Properties, Inc.

**Item 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:**

3100 Smoketree Court, Suite 300  
Raleigh, NC 27604

**Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing:**

ING Groep N.V.

**Item 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence:**

Amstelveenseweg 500  
1081 KL Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

**Item 2(c). Citizenship:**

See item 4 on Page 2

**Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities:**

Ordinary Shares

**Item 2(e). CUSIP Number:**

431284108

**Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to Rules 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:**

(Not Applicable)

- (a)  Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act );
- (b)  Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act;
- (c)  Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Exchange Act;
- (d)  Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the Investment Company Act );
- (e)  Investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E) under the Exchange Act;



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- (f) o Employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F) under the Exchange Act;
- (g) o Parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(ii)(G) under the Exchange Act;
- (h) o Savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;
- (i) o Church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act;
- (j) o Group in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J) under the Exchange Act.

**Item 4. Ownership.**

(a) Amount beneficially owned:

See item 9 on Page 2

(b) Percent of class:

See item 11 on Page 2

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

See item 5 on Page 2

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:

See item 6 on Page 2

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

See item 7 on Page 2

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

See item 8 on Page 2

**Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.**

Not Applicable

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**Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.**

Not Applicable

**Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company or Control Person.**

Not Applicable

**Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.**

Not Applicable

**Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.**

Not Applicable

**Item 10. Certification.**

By signing below we certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

February 13, 2007

(Date)

ING GROEP N.V.

By:

/s/ K. de Wit

(Signature)

K. de Wit / Head of Compliance Operations

(Name/Title)

/s/ C. Blokbergen

(Signature)

C. Blokbergen / Head Legal Group

(Name/Title)

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