FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL							
Estimated average burden							
hours per response:	0.5						

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

MEZEY PHILIP (M			. Date of Event Requiring Staten Month/Day/Year 01/12/2004	nent	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ITRON INC /WA/ [ITRI]						
(Last) 2818 N. SULI	(First)	(Middle)	01/12/2004			tionship of Reporting Perso all applicable) Director Officer (give title	on(s) to Issue 10% Owne Other (spe	r (N	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 01/20/2004		
(Street) SPOKANE (City)	WA (State)	99216 (Zip)			A	Vice Presider	below)		oplicable Line) X Form filed b Form filed b		
	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned										
1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)					nt of Securities ally Owned (Instr. 4)			4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)			
Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)											
			ate	and 3. Title and Amount of Secur Underlying Derivative Secur		ity (Instr. 4) Conv or Ex		e Form:	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)		
				Expiratior Date	n Title		Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)		

Explanation of Responses:

No securities are beneficially owned.

<u>By: MariLyn R. Blair, as</u> attorney-in-fact For: Philip C. 02/04/2004 <u>Mezey</u>

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

 $Reminder: Report \ on \ a \ separate \ line \ for \ each \ class \ of \ securities \ beneficially \ owned \ directly \ or \ indirectly.$

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

LIMITED POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR SECTION 16 REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby makes, constitutes and appoints each of MariLyn R. Blair, Russell N. Fairbanks, Jr. and Jemima G. Scarpelli, each acting individually, as the undersigned?s true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power and authority as hereinafter described on behalf of and in the name, place and stead of the undersigned to:

- (1) prepare, execute, acknowledge, deliver and file Forms 3, 4, and 5 (including any amendments thereto) with respect to the securities of Itron, Inc., a Washington corporation (the Company), with the U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission, any national securities exchanges and the Company, as considered necessary or advisable under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended from time to time (the Exchange Act);
- (2) seek or obtain, as the undersigned's representative and on the undersigned's behalf, information on transactions in the Company's securities from any third party, including brokers, employee benefit plan administrators and trustees, and the undersigned hereby authorizes any such person to release any such information to any of the attorneys-in-fact and approves and ratifies any such release of information; and
- (3) perform any and all other acts which in the discretion of such attorney-in-fact are necessary or desirable for and on behalf of the undersigned in connection with the foregoing.

The undersigned acknowledges that:

- (1) this Limited Power of Attorney authorizes, but does not require, each such attorney-in-fact to act in his or her discretion on information provided to such attorney-in-fact without independent verification of such information;
- (2) any documents prepared and/or executed by any such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Limited Power of Attorney will be in such form and will contain such information and disclosure as such attorney-in-fact, in his or her discretion, deems necessary or desirable;
- (3) neither the Company nor any of such attorneys-in-fact assumes (i) any liability for the undersigned's responsibility to comply with the requirements of the Exchange Act, (ii) any liability of the undersigned for any failure to comply with such requirements, or (iii) any obligation or liability of the undersigned for profit disgorgement under Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act;
- (4) although the Company will use commercially reasonable best efforts to timely and accurately file Section 16 reporting forms on behalf of the undersigned within the required reporting deadlines, the Company does not represent or warrant that it will be able to do so at all times due to various factors, including but not limited to the shorter reporting deadlines mandated by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, possible time zone differences, and the Company's need to rely on others, including brokers; and
- (5) this Limited Power of Attorney does not relieve the undersigned from responsibility for compliance with the undersigned's obligations under the Exchange Act, including without limitation the reporting requirements under Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

The undersigned hereby gives and grants each of the foregoing attorneys-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary or appropriate to be done in and about the foregoing matters as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if present, hereby ratifying all that each such attorney-in-fact of, for and on behalf of the undersigned, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this Limited Power of Attorney.

This Limited Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4 and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to each such attorney-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Limited Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 5th day of January, 2004.

/s/ Philip C. Mezey Philip C. Mezey