

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL	
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Vetor Duke D		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [CLF]		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) SVP, North Amer. Coal	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/15/2012		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
17385 TALL TREE TRAIL (Street) CHAGRIN FALLS, OH 44023			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/13/2012		A	(1)	16,285	A	\$ 71.89	28,348	D	
Common Stock	02/13/2012		F	(2)	7,691	D	\$ 71.89	20,657	D	
Common Stock	02/13/2012		A	(3)	5,428	A	\$ 71.89	17,722 (4)	I	By VNQDC (5)

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

SEC 1474 (9-02)
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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Vetor Duke D 17385 TALL TREE TRAIL CHAGRIN FALLS, OH 44023			SVP, North Amer. Coal	

Signatures

/s/ Keirsten Riedel by Power of Attorney

02/15/2012

Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(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).
- (1) Reflects a payout of performance shares for the 2009-2011 performance period earned under the Issuer's 2007 Incentive Equity Plan.
- (2) Reflects the surrender of 5,667 performance shares and 2,024 restricted share units from the 2009-2011 performance period in payment of the related tax liability incurred by the Reporting Person as a result of the award.
- (3) Reflects a percentage of a payout in common stock of performance shares earned under the Issuer's 2007 Incentive Equity Plan from the 2009-2011 performance period and deferred under the Issuer's 2005 Voluntary Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan ("VNQDC").
- (4) Balance shown reflects 43 and 49 shares acquired September 1, 2011 and December 1, 2011, respectively, pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of the VNQDC.
- (5) Held for the benefit of the Reporting Person by the VNQDC.

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

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