FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
Estimated average burden
hours per response... 0.5

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

| (11mt of 1y | pe Response | S) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---|--|---|-----------|---|---|------------|--|---|--|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* BRLAS LAURIE | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [CLF] | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director X Officer (give title below) Executive VP and CFO | | | | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 200 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 3300 | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/12/2012 | | | | | | | | | Exec | cutive VP and | ICFO | | | |
| (Street) CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315 | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| (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) | | (Instr. 8) | | | 4. Securities Acquire (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | Ownership of B Form: B Direct (D) | Beneficial Ownership | | | | | |
| | | | | C | ode | V | Amour | (A) or (D) | Price | 9 | | | | or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4) | | | |
| Common Stock 03/12 | | 03/12/2012 | | | | | A | | 4,830 (1) | A | \$ 0 | 6' | 7,946 | | | D | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | 1: | 15,784 | | | I | By VNQDC | | | |
| Reminder: | Report on a s | separate line fo | r each class of secur Table II - I | | | • | | | Personta conta | ons whained in | o respo n this fo splays a | rm ar curre | re n entl | ot requ ly valid | | formation spond unlead trol number | ss | 1474 (9-02) |
| | I. | | (| <i>e.g.</i> , pu | uts, call | | arran | | ions, | conver | tible secu | rities |) | | 0.71.0 | | 0 40 | Las are |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | | xercise (Month/Day/Y) e of vative | Execution Day Year) any | 4. Transaction Code Year) (Instr. 8) | |) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | | and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) S (I | | | Am Un Sec | noui derl | | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | Owners Form of Derivati Security Direct (I or Indire | Beneficia Ownersh (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | | | | | Date Exerc | cisable | Expiratio Date | n Tit | le l | Amount or Number of | | | | |

Reporting Owners

| | Relationships | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------|----------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| BRLAS LAURIE 200 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 3300 CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315 | | | Executive VP and CFO | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Keirsten Riedel By Power of Attorney | 03/14/2012 |
|--|------------|
| | |

| **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 the number of restricted share units granted to the Reporting Person on March 12, 2012 for the Performance Period 2012 to 2014 from the Issuer's Amended and Restated Cliffs 2007 Incentive Equity Plan.
- (2) Held for the benefit of the Reporting Person by the Issuer's 2005 Voluntary Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan ("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.