Michaud James R Form 4 September 11, 2012

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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OMB APPROVAL

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

3300

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Michaud James R

(First)

(Street)

(State)

09/07/2012

200 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Issuer

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [CLF]

(Check all applicable)

(Middle)

(Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)

09/07/2012

SVP, Human Resources

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

CLEVELAND, OH 44114

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) (Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)

Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

(A) or (D)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount Price $F^{(1)}$ 213 D

4,584 D

By

Common Stock

Common

Stock

 $1,039^{(2)}$

39.91

Ι

VNQDC (3)

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

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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 | 2. | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 5. | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Title | and | 8. Price of | 9. Nu |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Derivative | Conversion | (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if | TransactionNumber | | Expiration D | ate | Amount of | | Derivative | Deriv |
| Security | or Exercise | | any | Code | of | (Month/Day/ | Year) | Underly | ing | Security | Secui |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) Derivative | | | | Securities | | (Instr. 5) | Bene |
| | Derivative | | | | Securities Acquired (A) or | | | (Instr. 3 | and 4) | | Own |
| | Security | | | | | | | | | | Follo |
| | • | | | | | | | | | | Repo |
| | | | | | Disposed | | | | | | Trans |
| | | | | | of (D) | | | | | | (Instr |
| | | | | | (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Λ. | mount | | |
| | | | | | | | | | mount | | |
| | | | | | | Date | Expiration Date | Title N | r Jumber | | |
| | | | | | | Exercisable | | Title Numb | | | |
| | | | | C + V | (A) (D) | | | | | | |
| | | | Code V (A) (D) | | | | | S | hares | | |

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Officer Other Director 10% Owner

Michaud James R 200 PUBLIC SQUARE **SUITE 3300** CLEVELAND, OH 44114

SVP, Human Resources

Signatures

/s/ Carolyn E. Cheverine By Power of Attorney

09/11/2012

**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) Surrender of shares in payment of tax liability incurred on September 7, 2012, the date of restricted stock vesting to the Reporting Person.
- Balance shown reflects 13 shares and 18 shares acquired June 1, 2012 and August 31, 2012, respectively, pursuant to the dividend **(2)** reinvestment feature of the Issuer's 2005 Voluntary Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan ("VNQDC").
- (3) 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.

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