

NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO

Reported by
DEFOREST WALTER E

FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 01/03/03 for the Period Ending 01/03/03

Address	6363 MAIN STREET WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221-5887
Telephone	716-857-7000
CIK	0000070145
Symbol	NFG
SIC Code	4924 - Natural Gas Distribution
Industry	Natural Gas Utilities
Sector	Utilities
Fiscal Year	09/30

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

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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

Filed By Romeo & Dye's Instant Form 4 Filer
www.section16.net

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol National Fuel Gas Company "NFG"			6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) Senior Vice President			
(Last) (First) (Middle) 10 Lafayette Square			3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)			4. Statement for Month/Day/Year 01/02/03			
(Street) Buffalo , NY 14203						5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)			
(City) (State) (Zip)			7. 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						
Table I — Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned									
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/ Year)	3. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 & 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Follow- ing Reported Transactions(s) (Instr. 3 & 4)	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	01/02/03		F		Amount	(A) or (D)	Price		
					1,257	D	\$20.84	37,124	D
Common Stock								12,870	I
									401k Trust
Common Stock								4,395	I
									Thrift Plan
Common Stock								7,017	I
									ESOP Trust

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 4(b)(v).

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FORM 4 (continued)

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. Conver- sion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/ Day/ Year)	4. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 & 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/ Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 & 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (s) (Instr. 4)	10. Owner- ship Form of Deriv- ative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exer- cisable	Expira- tion Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares			

Explanation of Responses:

By: /s/ **Walter E. DeForest**

01/03/03

Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

**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.

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