

NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO

Reported by
CABELL MATTHEW D

FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 12/23/08 for the Period Ending 12/22/08

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

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

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

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: February 28, 2011
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP
OF SECURITIES**

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(f) of the
Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)	
Cabell Matthew D		NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO [NFG]		<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) President-Seneca Resources	
(Last) (First) (Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY)			
1201 LOUISIANA STREET, SUITE 400		12/22/2008			
(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)	
HOUSTON, TX 77002				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> 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. Trans. Date	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Trans. 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								42000	D	
Common Stock	12/22/2008		J	V	37	(1)	A	\$0	I	401k Trust

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g. , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Trans. Date	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Trans. 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		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (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	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Stock Appreciation Right	\$29.88	12/22/2008		A		60000		(2)	12/22/2018	Common Stock	60000	\$0	60000	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Routine acquisition under the NFG 401(k) Plan Trust, exempt under Rule 16b-3(c), a non-reportable transaction.
- (2) Represents the award of 60,000 SAR's which become exercisable in three equal annual installments beginning December 22, 2009 based on National Fuel Gas Company's satisfaction of certain performance criteria for each fiscal year end 2009, 2010 and 2011. In the event the performance condition for a given fiscal year is not met, the incremental percentage of shares for that fiscal year shall be automatically forfeited.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Cabell Matthew D 1201 LOUISIANA STREET			President-Seneca Resources	

SUITE 400
HOUSTON, TX 77002

Signatures

James R. Peterson, Attorney in Fact

12/23/2008

** 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 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).

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 control number.