

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

FORM 8-K (Current report filing)

Filed 02/23/07 for the Period Ending 02/22/07

Address	200 PUBLIC SQUARE STE. 3300 CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315
Telephone	216-694-5700
CIK	0000764065
Symbol	CLF
SIC Code	1000 - Metal Mining
Industry	Metal Mining
Sector	Basic Materials
Fiscal Year	12/31

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported):

February 22, 2007

Cleveland-Cliffs Inc

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio

1-8944

34-1464672

(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

(Commission
File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1100 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio

44114-2589

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

216-694-5700

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On February 22, 2007, Portman Limited ("Portman") filed with the Australian Stock Exchange its unaudited fourth quarter and annual earnings for the period ended December 31, 2006. The "Quarterly and Annual Earnings for the Period Ended 31 December 2006" is contained in Item 9.01 as exhibit 99(a) on this Current Form 8-K and is incorporated into this Item 7.01 by reference. The information on this Form 8-K shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

99(a) Portman published an earnings release with the Australian Stock Exchange captioned, "Quarterly and Annual Earnings for the period ended 31 December 2006" on February 22, 2007

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

February 23, 2007

Cleveland-Cliffs Inc

By: George W. Hawk, Jr.

Name: George W. Hawk, Jr.

Title: General Counsel and Secretary

Exhibit Index

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.(a)	Portman published an earnings release with the Australian Stock Exchange captioned, "Quarterly and Annual Earnings for the period ended 31 December 2006" on February 22, 2007

**P
Portman
Limited**

22 February 2007

ABN 22 007 871 892

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The Quadrant
1 William Street
Perth 6000
Western Australia
GPO Box W2017
Perth, 6001
Tel:
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61 8 9426 3333
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(3 pages in total)

The Announcements Officer
Australian Stock Exchange (Sydney) Limited
Level 10
20 Bond Street
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Electronically Lodged

Dear Sir

QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL EARNINGS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

Please find attached Portman's Quarterly and annual earnings for the period ended 31 December 2006.

Yours faithfully

/s/ L. A. Kipfstuhl

L. Kipfstuhl
CORPORATE SECRETARY

PORTMAN LIMITED P

A.B.N. 22 007 871 892

QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL EARNINGS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

PORTMAN LIMITED REPORTS FOURTH-QUARTER EARNINGS

Perth, WA – February 22, 2007 – Portman Limited (ASX: PMM) today reported a fourth-quarter 2006 unaudited net income of \$32.8 million or 18.66 cents per share. (All per-share amounts are “diluted.”). This compares with net income of \$17.0 million or 9.69 cents per share in the fourth quarter of 2005. Net profit before transaction costs was \$115.4 million or 65.66 cents per share for the year ending 31 December 2006 versus net profit of \$88.1 million or 50.14 cents per share in 2005.

Following is a summary:

(In Millions Except Per Share)

	Fourth Quarter		Year Ending	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Sales Tonnes	2.3	1.7	7.4	6.4
Sales Revenue	\$144.9	\$92.5	\$482.7	\$354.5
Net profit before transaction costs:				
Amount	\$ 32.8	\$17.0	\$115.4	\$ 88.1
Cents per share	18.66	9.69	65.66	50.14
Expenses related to the transaction after tax:				
Amount	—	—	—	(5.3)
Cents per share	—	—	—	(3.0)
Net profit:				
Amount	<u>\$ 32.8</u>	<u>\$17.0</u>	<u>\$115.4</u>	<u>\$ 82.8</u>
Cents per share	<u>18.66</u>	<u>9.69</u>	<u>65.66</u>	<u>47.14</u>

- Sales volume in the fourth quarter of 2006 was 2.3 million tonnes which represented a 0.6 million tonne increase from the fourth quarter of 2005 – an increase of 37 percent. The sales volume for the twelve month period was 7.4 million: an increase of 16 per cent, or 1 million tonnes, from the prior year.
- Sales revenues increased \$52.4 million in the fourth quarter and \$128.2 million for the twelve months: increases of 57 percent and 36 percent respectively from the prior year.
- Sales margins increased \$28.8 million in the fourth quarter and \$50.4 million for the twelve months, due to both an increase in sales volumes and a 19% increase in the benchmark price for lump and fine ore which has been partially offset by strong upward pressure on the majority of input costs.

Liquidity

At December 31, 2006, Portman had \$123.6 million of cash and cash equivalents versus \$74.5 million at 31 December 2005. The \$49.1 million increase in liquid assets primarily reflected favourable earnings.

Outlook

Portman's estimate of 2007 production is 8.5 million tonnes, including 0.4 million from Cockatoo Island. Feasibility studies have concluded that mining and shipments from the current operations at Cockatoo Island can be continued until late 2007. Portman's estimate of 2007 sales is 8.5 million tonnes, compared with 7.4 million tonnes in 2006.

In December 2006, settlements between a number of the major seaborne iron ore producers and the Chinese steel industry resulted in a 9.5 percent increase in lump and fine ore prices for 2007. Sales of lump and fine ore from Portman will reflect the negotiated increase. Unit production costs at Portman are expected to be approximately 10 percent higher in 2007.

We are studying the use of existing technologies to beneficiate lower grade ores, which if successful could increase the ore reserve base.

Accounting Change

Effective 1 January 2006, Portman changed its accounting policy to expense exploration expenditures and deferred waste as incurred. The prior period comparative has been restated as if this policy has applied.