

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

Reported by
CARRABBA JOSEPH A

FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 02/23/12 for the Period Ending 02/21/12

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

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
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**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)		
Carrabba Joseph A			CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [CLF]			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director _____ 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) Chairman, Pres. & CEO		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY)					
			2/21/2012					
200 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 3300			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)		
(Street)						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315								
(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	2/21/2012		A (1)		118463	A	\$71.89	288332	D	
Common Stock	2/21/2012		F (2)		59349	D	\$71.89	228983	D	
Common Stock								6515 (3)	I	VNQDC (4)

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				

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Reflects a payout of performance shares for the 2009-2011 performance period earned under the Issuer's 2007 Incentive Equity Plan.
- (2) Reflects the surrender of 48,306 performance shares and 11,043 restricted share units from the 2009-2011 performance period in payment of the related tax liability incurred by the Reporting Person as a result of the award.
- (3) Balance shown reflects 22 and 27 shares acquired September 1, 2011 and December 1, 2011, respectively, pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of the Issuer's 2005 Voluntary Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan ("VNQDC").
- (4) Held for the benefit of the Reporting Person by the VNQDC.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Carrabba Joseph A				

200 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 3300 CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315	X	Chairman, Pres. & CEO	
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Signatures

/s/ Joseph A. Carrabba

2/23/2012

** 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.