

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

Reported by FLANAGAN TIMOTHY K

FORM 3

(Initial Statement of Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 03/22/12 for the Period Ending 03/13/12

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





UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE **COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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2011

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Flanagan Timothy K	Statement (MM/DD/Y)	-	iiring	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [CLF]					
(Last) (First) (Middle)	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)								
200 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 3300	Director X Officer (give title below) VP, Corp Controller & CA								
(Street) CLEVELAND, OH 44114 (City) (State) (Zip)	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) _ X _ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
	Table I - Noi	n-Derivat	tive Se	ecurities Benef	ficially	Owned	 I		
1.Title of Security (Instr. 4)			ount of	Securities Owned	3. Ownership		4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)		ect Beneficial
Common Stock			2488 (1)		D				
Table II - Derivative Securi	ties Beneficia	ally Own	ed (<i>e</i> .	g. , puts, calls,	warra	nts, op	tions,	convertible	e securities)
(Instr. 4)	Date Exercisable d Expiration Date M/DD/YYYY)		3. Title and Amount Securities Underlyin Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		Conve or Exe Price o		Exercise ce of crivative		6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable D		Title	Amount or Number of Shares				or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	

Explanation of Responses:

(1) The total includes 1,518 directly held common shares and 210, 140 and 620 outstanding restricted share units from the 2010, 2011 and 2012 Performance Share grants, respectively, acquired pursuant to the Issuer's 2007 Incentive Equity Plan.

Reporting Owners

Paperting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
Reporting Owner Name / Address	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Flanagan Timothy K 200 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 3300 CLEVELAND, OH 44114			VP, Corp Controller & CAO				

Signatures

/s/ Timothy K. Flanagan

3/22/2012

Date

** Signature of Reporting Person

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 5(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.