

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

Reported by
KIRSCH JAMES F

FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 01/04/12 for the Period Ending 01/01/12

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)		
Kirsch James F			CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [CLF]			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director _____ 10% Owner _____ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY)					
1000 LAKESIDE AVENUE			1/1/2012					
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)		
CLEVELAND, OH 44114						<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								1848.4597 ⁽¹⁾	D	

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 Units	⁽²⁾	1/1/2012		A ⁽³⁾		96.231		⁽³⁾	⁽³⁾	Common Shares	96.231	\$62.35	1334.801 ⁽⁴⁾	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- The amount reflects 6.3582 shares of Restricted Stock acquired December 1, 2011 pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. Nonemployee Directors' Compensation Plan (the "Plan"). The Board of Directors of Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. declared dividends of \$0.28 per share, payable to all holders of record as of November 18, 2011. The amount also reflects .0035 shares credited on December 1, 2011 to the Reporting Person pursuant to the Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan.
- Convertible into Common Shares on a 1-for-1 basis.
- Reflects number of Common Shares of underlying deferred compensation credited to the account of the Reporting Person in payment of the Reporting Person's required quarterly retainer for the first quarter under the Plan. Each Stock unit is generally distributable following termination of service as a Director.
- The total includes dividend reinvestment pursuant to the Plan. the number of deferred dividend reinvestment equivalent shares earned in the Plan is calculated using the closing market price at the end of each quarter for shares held in the Plan. The Reporting Person was credited with .0021 dividend reinvestment shares on December 31, 2011.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Kirsch James F 1000 LAKESIDE AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44114	X			

Signatures/s/ Madeline Costanzo by Power of Attorney1/4/2012

** 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.