

# CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

Reported by  
**MICHAUD JAMES R**

## FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 02/29/12 for the Period Ending 02/27/12

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**

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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)		
<b>Michaud James R</b>			<b>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [ CLF ]</b>			<input type="checkbox"/> Director <span style="float:right"><input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner</span> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <span style="float:right"><input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)</span> <b>SVP, Human Resources</b>		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY)					
			<b>2/27/2012</b>					
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		
<b>CLEVELAND, OH 44114</b>						<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	2/27/2012		A	(1)	1008	A	\$66.61	1008	I	By VNQDC
Common Stock								2827	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				

**Explanation of Responses:**

(1) The amount represents an exchange of a portion of the Reporting Person's 2011 cash bonus for 807 shares of Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. Common Shares on a deferred basis (Exchange Shares) under the Issuer's 2005 Voluntary Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan ("VNQDC Plan"). An additional 201 deferred shares (Match Shares) were credited to the account of the Reporting Person into the VNQDC Plan equal to 20 percent of the market value of the Exchanged Shares on the deferral date of the bonus payment pursuant to the VNQDC Plan.

**Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
<b>Michaud James R 200 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 3300 CLEVELAND, OH 44114</b>			<b>SVP, Human Resources</b>	

**Signatures**

/s/ Madeline Costanzo by Power of Attorney

2/29/2012

\*\* 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.