

Bauer David P  
 Form 4  
 December 27, 2011

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 Bauer David P

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO [NFG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 6363 MAIN STREET  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/22/2011

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below)  
 \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Treasurer & Prin. Fin. Officer

WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 1422177002  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 \_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D) Price  |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 4,500   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 3,643   | I  | 401k Trust                        |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction 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 (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Stock Appreciation Right                   | \$ 29.88   | 12/22/2011                           |  | A                              | 2,000   | 12/22/2011 12/22/2018                                    | Common Stock  | 2,000                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                    | Relationships |           |                                |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                        | Other |
| Bauer David P<br>6363 MAIN STREET<br>WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 1422177002 |               |           | Treasurer & Prin. Fin. Officer |       |

## Signatures

James R. Peterson, Attorney  
in Fact 12/27/2011

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* 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).

(1) On December 22, 2008, the reporting person was granted a stock appreciation right in respect of an aggregate of 6,000 shares of common stock. The stock appreciation right vests in three equal installments based on National Fuel Gas Company's satisfaction of a performance criterion for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 2009, 2010 and 2011. The performance criterion for fiscal 2011 was met, resulting in vesting of the stock appreciation right as to 2,000 shares on December 22, 2011.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.