

BRLAS LAURIE  
Form 4  
December 16, 2011

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2015  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
BRLAS LAURIE

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [CLF]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
200 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 3300  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/15/2011

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Executive VP and CFO

CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V Amount (D) Price                                                |                                                                                               |                                                          |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 12/15/2011                           |                                                    | S <sup>(1)</sup>               | 500 D \$ 63.3942                                                  | 43,035                                                                                        | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                   | 15,720                                                                                        | I                                                        | By VNQDC <sup>(3)</sup>                               |

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

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

SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

**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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                            |                                                        |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V (A) (D)                                                                               | Date Exercisable                                         | Expiration Date                                               | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares                                                                       |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                              | Relationships |           |                      |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|----------------------|-------|
|                                                                             | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer              | Other |
| BRLAS LAURIE<br>200 PUBLIC SQUARE<br>SUITE 3300<br>CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315 |               |           | Executive VP and CFO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Keirsten Riedel by Power of Attorney  
Date: 12/16/2011

\*\*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) The sale reported was affected pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the Reporting Person on September 6, 2011.  
The price reported in column four is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$63.39 to \$63.40, inclusive. The Reporting Person undertakes to provide the Issuer, any security holder of the Issuer or the Staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, with full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price with this range.
- (3) Held for the benefit of the Reporting Person by the Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. 2005 Voluntary Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan ("VNQDC").

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.