BLAKE DAVID B

Form 4

February 23, 2011

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB** 3235-0287

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Number:

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January 31, 2005

0.5

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subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box

if no longer

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(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading BLAKE DAVID B Issuer Symbol CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES (Check all applicable) INC. [CLF] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner

X\_ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below)

1100 SUPERIOR AVENUE, SUITE 02/23/2011 SVP, Oper. N. Amer. Iron Ore 1500

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

CLEVELAND, OH 44114

(State)

(Zip)

(City)

| (City)                               | (State)                                 | Table 1 - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned                |        |        |  |  |   |   |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------|--------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) |        |        | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |   |  |  |  |
|                                      |   |   | Code V | Amount | (A)<br>or<br>(D)   | Price  | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)        |   |  |  |  |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 02/23/2011                              |   | A(1)   | 3,600  | A  | \$0  | 12,724  | D |  |  |  |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 02/23/2011                              |   | F(2)   | 1,438  | D  | \$<br>92.67  | 11,286  | D |  |  |  |

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 | 2.          | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed         | 4.         | 5.         | 6. Date Exer        | cisable and     | 7. Title  | and         | 8. Price of | 9. Nu  |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Derivative  | Conversion  | (Month/Day/Year)    | Execution Date, if | Transactio | orNumber   | Expiration D        | ate             | Amount    | of          | Derivative  | Deriv  |
| Security    | or Exercise |                     | any                | Code       | of         | (Month/Day/         | Year)           | Underly   | ing         | Security    | Secui  |
| (Instr. 3)  | Price of    |                     | (Month/Day/Year)   | (Instr. 8) | Derivative | e                   |                 | Securitie | es          | (Instr. 5)  | Bene   |
|             | Derivative  |                     |                    |            | Securities |                     |                 | (Instr. 3 | and 4)      |             | Owne   |
|             | Security    |                     |                    |            | Acquired   |                     |                 |           |             |             | Follo  |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | (A) or     |                     |                 |           |             |             | Repo   |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | Disposed   |                     |                 |           |             |             | Trans  |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | of (D)     |                     |                 |           |             |             | (Instr |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | (Instr. 3, |                     |                 |           |             |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |            | 4, and 5)  |                     |                 |           |             |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |            |                     |                 | Δ         | mount       |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |            |                     |                 |           |             |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |            | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title N   | ı<br>Iumber |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    |            |            |                     |                 | of        |             |             |        |
|             |             |                     |                    | Code V     | (A) (D)    |                     |                 |           | hares       |             |        |

### **Reporting Owners**

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Other Director 10% Owner Officer

BLAKE DAVID B 1100 SUPERIOR AVENUE **SUITE 1500** CLEVELAND, OH 44114

SVP, Oper. N. Amer. Iron Ore

## **Signatures**

/s/ Keirsten Riedel by Power of Attorney

02/23/2011

\*\*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).
- Reflects a payout in common stock of performance shares earned under the Issuer's 2007 Incentive Equity Plan from the 2008-2010 **(1)** performance period and deferred under the Issuer's voluntary Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan (the VNQDC Plan)
- Reflects the surrender of 1,150 performance shares and 288 restricted share units from the 2008-2010 performance period in payment of the related tax liability incurred by the Reporting Person as a result of the award.

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.

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