#### Flanagan Timothy K Form 3 March 22, 2012 FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 OMB

## INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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

#### OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104 Expires: January 31, 2005 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>*</u> Flanagan Timothy K			<ul><li>2. Date of Event Requiring</li><li>Statement</li><li>(Month/Day/Year)</li></ul>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC. [CLF]					
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	03/13/2012		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	
200 PUBLIC	SQUARE	, SUITE							
3300					(Check all applicable)				
<sup>(Street)</sup> CLEVELAND, OH 44114					Director10% Owner XOfficerOther (give title below) (specify below) VP, Corp Controller & CAO		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One		
	(6	(77)						Reporting Person	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Т	able I - N	on-Derivat	tive Securiti	es Be	neficially Owned	
1.Title of Secur (Instr. 4)	ty		В	. Amount of Beneficially ( Instr. 4)		3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nat Owne (Instr.	•	
Common Sto	ck		2	2,488 <u>(1)</u>		D	Â		
Reminder: Repo owned directly o	-	te line for ea	ch class of securit	ties beneficia	<sup>ally</sup> S	EC 1473 (7-02	)		
	inform require	ation conta ed to respo	oond to the coll ined in this for nd unless the f //B control num	rm are not form displa	ays a				

#### Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying	4. Conversion	5. Ownership	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
	(Month/Day/Year)	Derivative Security (Instr. 4) Title	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D)	(Instr. 5)

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Date	Expiration	Amount or	or Indirect
Exercisable	Date	Number of	(I)
		Shares	(Instr. 5)

# **Reporting Owners**

<b>Reporting Owner Name / Address</b>	Relationships						
	Director 10% Owner Officer		Officer	Other			
Flanagan Timothy K 200 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 3300 CLEVELAND, OH 44114	Â	Â	VP, Corp Controller & CAO	Â			
Signatures							
/s/ Timothy K. 03, Flanagan	/22/2012						
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date						

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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 total includes 1,518 directly held common shares and 210, 140 and 620 outstanding restricted share units from the 2010, 2011 and 2012 Performance Share grants, respectively, acquired pursuant to the Issuer's 2007 Incentive Equity Plan.

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.