

ACKERMAN PHILIP C
Form 4
January 03, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
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 *
ACKERMAN PHILIP C

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)
12/29/2011

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221
(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount (A) or (D) Price | | |
| Common Stock | 12/29/2011 | | M | | 73,580 A \$ 28.155 | 553,416 | D |
| Common Stock | 12/29/2011 | | F | | 16,515 (1) D \$ 54.735 | 536,901 | D |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 76,250 | I By Trust |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 1,000 | I Wife, Trust for Mother |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 230,000 | I By Grantor |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|--|-----------------------|---|------------|------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Common Stock | | | | | | 230,000 | I | Retained Annuity Trust |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 100,000 ⁽²⁾ | I | By Grantor Retained Annuity Trust |
| Common Stock | 10/14/2011 | | J V 42 ⁽³⁾ | A | \$ 54.6317 | 8,991 | I | Wife, Trust for Sister ⁽⁴⁾ |

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 number.

SEC 1474
(9-02)

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) | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 28.155 | 12/29/2011 | | M | 73,580 | 06/29/2005 | 06/01/2013 | Common Stock | 73,580 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

ACKERMAN PHILIP C
6363 MAIN STREET X
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221

Signatures

James R. Peterson, Attorney
in Fact 01/03/2012

__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 29, 2011, the reporting person exercised 73,580 stock options and had 16,515 shares of common stock of the Company withheld and cancelled to cover minimum required tax withholding. These share cancellations are shown on Table I as dispositions (Transaction Code "D" in Column 4), although none of these cancelled shares were sold into the market, as indicated by Transaction Code "F" in Column 3.

(2) On October 18, 2011 the reporting person contributed 100,000 shares of NFG common stock to a 2-year grantor retained annuity trust.

(3) Acquired through a dividend reinvestment plan, exempt under Rule 16a-11.

(4) These shares are held in a trust for the benefit of a sister-in-law of the reporting person. The reporting person's spouse is trustee of the trust. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and the filing of this report is not an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of these securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

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.