

TANSKI RONALD J  
Form 4  
December 29, 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 \*  
TANSKI RONALD J

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

WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/27/2011

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
President & COO

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 or Price   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/27/2011                           |  | M                              |   | \$ 24.495   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/27/2011                           |  | F                              |   | 7,864 (1)   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/27/2011                           |  | F                              |   | 13,006 (1)  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   | I  | 401k Trust  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   | I  | ESOP Trust  |

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

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(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       | \$ 24.495  | 12/27/2011                           |  | M                              | 25,000  | 03/14/2004   | 03/15/2012  | Common Stock | 25,000                     |
| Employee Stock Option - Right to Buy       | \$ 24.495  | 12/27/2011                           |  | M                              | 25,000  | 03/14/2005   | 03/15/2012  | Common Stock | 25,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                 | Relationships |           |                 |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer         | Other |
| TANSKI RONALD J<br>6363 MAIN STREET<br>WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221 |               |           | President & COO |       |

## Signatures

James R. Peterson, Attorney in Fact  
Date: 12/29/2011

\_\_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).

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On December 27, 2011, the reporting person exercised 50,000 stock options, delivered 7,864 shares of common stock of the Company for cancellation in partial payment of the exercise price of such options and had 13,006 shares of common stock of the Company withheld (1) 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.

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.