

HALE BRUCE H  
Form 4  
March 17, 2005

**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

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**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 \*  
HALE BRUCE H

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
03/15/2005

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

President, Horizon Power

(Street)  
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221

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	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	03/15/2005		M		24,568	A	\$ 18.4062
Common Stock	03/15/2005		M		4,804	A	\$ 20.8125
Common Stock	03/15/2005		M		1,708	A	\$ 20.8125
Common Stock	03/15/2005		M		4,340	A	\$ 23.0312
Common Stock	03/15/2005		M		4,688	A	\$ 21.3281

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Common Stock	03/15/2005		M	4,082	A	\$ 24.495	88,714	D		
Common Stock	03/15/2005		F	30,367	D	\$ 29.23	58,347	D		
Common Stock	03/15/2005		F	3,327	D	\$ 29.23	55,020	D		
Common Stock	03/15/2005		J	V	104 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	\$ 0	11,335	I	401k Trust
Common Stock							9,378	I	ESOP Trust	

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)	Amount or Number of Shares	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.4062	03/15/2005		M		24,568	09/26/1997 09/27/2006	Common Stock	24,568
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 20.8125	03/15/2005		M		4,804	04/04/1998 04/04/2007	Common Stock	4,804
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 20.8125	03/15/2005		M		1,708	04/04/1998 04/05/2007	Common Stock	1,708
	\$ 23.0312	03/15/2005		M		4,340	12/10/1999 12/10/2008		4,340

