

DeCarolis Donna L  
Form 4  
December 23, 2008

**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 \*  
DeCarolis Donna L

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
6363 MAIN ST.  
(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)  
12/22/2008

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, Horizon Power

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 10/15/2008                           |  | J                              | V 67 <sup>(1)</sup> A \$ 31.3                                     | 6,674   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 11,748 <sup>(2)</sup>   | I  | 401k Trust                        |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 181 <sup>(3)</sup>  | I  | ESOP Trust                        |

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

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number.

**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 |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Stock Appreciation Right                   | \$ 29.88   | 12/22/2008                           |  | A                              | 10,000  | (4) 12/22/2018   | Common Stock  | 10,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                | Relationships |           |                          |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                  | Other |
| DeCarolis Donna L<br>6363 MAIN ST.<br>WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221 |               |           | President, Horizon Power |       |

## Signatures

James R. Peterson, Attorney  
in Fact 12/23/2008

\*\*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) Routine acquisitions under the NFG dividend reinvestment plan, exempt under Rule 16a-9(a).  
Routine acquisition under the NFG 401(k) Plan Trust, exempt under Rule 16b-3(c), a non-reportable transaction. On Form 5 dated November 12, 2008, it was incorrectly reported that Ms. DeCarolis held 12,233 shares in her 401(k) Plan. The correct balance is 11,748 shares.
- (3) Routine acquisitions under the NFG ESOP Trust, exempt under Rule 16b-3(c), a non-reportable transaction. On Form 5 dated November 12, 2008, it was incorrectly reported that Ms. DeCarolis held 190 shares in her ESOP Plan. The correct balance is 181 shares.  
Represents the award of 10,000 SAR's which become exercisable in three equal annual installments beginning December 22, 2009 based on National Fuel Gas Company's satisfaction of certain performance criteria for each fiscal year end 2009, 2010 and 2011. In the event the performance condition for a given fiscal year is not met, the incremental percentage of shares for that fiscal year shall be automatically forfeited.
- (4)

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.