

NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO
 Form 4
 July 26, 2006

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 *
 ACKERMAN PHILIP C

(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)
 07/24/2006

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)
 CEO and Chairman

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2006 | | M | | 314,558 | A | \$ 18.375 706,347 D |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2006 | | F | | 156,830 | D | \$ 36.855 549,517 D |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2006 | | F | | 68,890 | D | \$ 36.855 480,627 D |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2006 | | J | V | 189 ⁽¹⁾ | A | \$ 0 16,107 I 401k Trust |
| Common Stock | 07/24/2006 | | J | V | 83 ⁽²⁾ | A | \$ 0 21,344 I ESOP Trust |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--|-------|---|------------------------------|
| Common Stock | | 1,000 | I | Wife, trust for mother |
|-----------------|--|-------|---|------------------------------|

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) | Amount | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Number Shares |
| Employee stock option (right to buy) | \$ 18.375 | 07/24/2006 | | M | 314,558 | 10/11/1997 | 10/12/2006 | Common stock | 314,558 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| ACKERMAN PHILIP C 6363 MAIN STREET WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221 | | | CEO and Chairman | |

Signatures

| | |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| James R. Peterson, Attorney in Fact | 07/26/2006 |
| **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 401(k) Plan Trust, exempt under Rule 16b-3(c), a non-reportable transaction.
- (2) Routine acquisitions under the NFG ESOP Trust, exempt under Rule 16b-3(c), a non-reportable transaction.

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Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.
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