

ROBERTSON CORBIN J JR  
Form 4  
February 24, 2012

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
ROBERTSON CORBIN J JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NATURAL RESOURCE PARTNERS LP [NRP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
601 JEFFERSON, SUITE 3600  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
02/22/2012

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

HOUSTON, TX 77002

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 Units <u>(1)</u>         | 02/22/2012                           |  | M                              |   | 20,000  | A  | \$ 200,037  |  |
| Common Units <u>(1)</u>         | 02/22/2012                           |  | D                              |   | 20,000  | D  | \$ 180,037  |  |
| Common Units                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 31,540  |  |
| Common Units                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 17,279,860  |  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | I   | By Spouse                                |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | I   | By Western Pocahontas Properties Limited |

|              |           |   |   |
|--------------|-----------|---|---|
| Common Units | 5,627,120 | I | Partnership<br>(2)<br>By Western Bridgeport, Inc. (2) |
| Common Units | 56        | I | By QMP Inc. (2)                                       |
| Common Units | 110,206   | I | By Western Pocahontas Corporation (2)                 |

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 |
| Phantom Units (3)                          | (6)  | 02/22/2012                           |  | M                              | 20,000  | 02/22/2012   | 02/22/2012  | Common Units | 20,000                     |
| Phantom Units (3)                          | (4) (5)  |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/12/2013   | 02/12/2013  | Common Units | 35,000                     |
| Phantom Units (3)                          | (4) (5)  |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/11/2014   | 02/11/2014  | Common Units | 33,000                     |
| Phantom Units (3)                          | (4) (5)  |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/10/2015   | 02/10/2015  | Common Units | 33,000                     |
| Phantom Units (3)                          | (4) (5)  |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/14/2016   | 02/14/2016  | Common Units | 32,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Reporting Owners

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Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other

ROBERTSON CORBIN J JR  
601 JEFFERSON, SUITE 3600    X    X    Chairman and CEO  
HOUSTON, TX 77002

## Signatures

Corbin J.    02/24/2012  
Robertson, Jr.

\_\_Signature of Reporting    Date  
Person

## 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).  
The common units were deemed to have been purchased and sold on the date of vesting of the phantom units listed in Table II, which
- (1) were paid in cash on a one for one basis based on the average closing price of the common units for the 20 trading days immediately preceding the date of vesting.  
These units are beneficially owned by Western Pocahontas Properties Limited Partnership, whose general partner is Western Pocahontas Corporation, a corporation controlled by Mr. Robertson. Mr. Robertson also holds indirect limited partner interests in Western Pocahontas Properties Limited Partnership. All the common units owned by Western Pocahontas Properties Limited Partnership are reported on this line. Mr. Robertson disclaims beneficial ownership of the reported securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- (2) The phantom units were originally granted to the reporting person under the issuer's long term incentive plan.
- (3) The phantom units will be paid in cash based on the average closing price of the common units for the 20 trading days immediately preceding the date of vesting.
- (4) Award includes tandem distribution equivalent rights pursuant to which the quarterly distributions paid by the partnership on each unit will be accrued over the vesting period and paid on vesting.
- (5) As described in Footnote 1, upon vesting, the phantom units were paid in cash on a one for one basis based on the average closing price of the common units for the 20 trading days immediately preceding the date of vesting.
- (6)

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.