SMITH STEPHEN P
Form 4
February 17, 2009

FORM 4

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

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

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
SMITH STEPHEN P

(Last) (First) (Middle)

200 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE

(Street)

COLUMBUS, OH 43215

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/14/2009

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

__X__ Director _____ 10% Owner
_____ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ 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	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Units (1)	02/14/2009		M		3,000	A (1)	(2)	6,551.5664	D	
Common Units (1)	02/14/2009		D		3,000	D (1)	$ 22.81 (2)	3,551.5664	D	

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

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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)		8 D S (
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Phantom Units (3)	(2)	02/14/2009		M			3,000	02/14/2009	02/14/2009	Common Units	3,000	
Phantom Units (3)	(4)							02/13/2010	02/13/2010	Common Units	3,000	
Phantom Units (3)	(4)							02/13/2011	02/13/2011	Common Units	3,000	
Phantom Units (3)	(4) (5)							02/28/2012	02/28/2012	Common Units	3,000	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SMITH STEPHEN P 200 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE COLUMBUS, OH 43215	X			

Signatures

Stephen P. Smith	02/17/2009
**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) The common units were deemed to have been purchased and sold on the date of vesting of the phantom units listed in Table II.

(2) 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.

(3) The phantom units were granted to the reporting person under the issuer?s long-term incentive plan.

(4)

The phantom units will be paid in cash based on the average closing price of the common units for the 20 trading days immediately prior to the date of vesting.

(5) 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.

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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