

BECK JAMES A  
Form 4  
June 06, 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 \*  
BECK JAMES A

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)  
1201 LOUISIANA STREET, SUITE 400

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
06/02/2006

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

President, Seneca Resources

(Street)  
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 Stock                    | 06/02/2006                           |  | M                              |   | 15,660  | A  | \$ 23.0312  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 75,955  |
| Common Stock                    | 06/02/2006                           |  | S                              |   | 15,660  | D  | \$ 36.44  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 60,295  |
| Common Stock                    | 06/02/2006                           |  | M                              |   | 22,656  | A  | \$ 21.3281  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 82,951  |
| Common Stock                    | 06/02/2006                           |  | S                              |   | 22,656  | D  | \$ 36.44  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 60,295  |
| Common Stock                    | 06/02/2006                           |  | M                              |   | 70,000  | A  | \$ 27.7975  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 130,295   |

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|              |            |   |                  |   |           |         |   |            |
|--------------|------------|---|------------------|---|-----------|---------|---|------------|
| Common Stock | 06/02/2006 | S | 70,000           | D | \$ 36.44  | 60,295  | D |            |
| Common Stock | 06/02/2006 | M | 55,918           | A | \$ 24.495 | 116,213 | D |            |
| Common Stock | 06/02/2006 | S | 55,918           | D | \$ 36.44  | 60,295  | D |            |
| Common Stock | 06/02/2006 | M | 53,766           | A | \$ 24.495 | 114,061 | D |            |
| Common Stock | 06/02/2006 | S | 53,766           | D | \$ 36.44  | 60,295  | D |            |
| Common Stock | 06/05/2006 | M | 66,234           | A | \$ 24.495 | 126,529 | D |            |
| Common Stock | 06/05/2006 | S | 66,234           | D | \$ 35.88  | 60,295  | D |            |
| Common Stock | 06/02/2006 | J | V 107 <u>(1)</u> | A | \$ 0      | 4,864   | I | 401k Trust |
| Common Stock | 06/02/2006 | J | V 3 <u>(2)</u>   | A | \$ 0      | 301     | I | ESOP Trust |

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 or Number of Shares |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                      | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 23.0312   | 06/02/2006                           |  | M                              | 15,660  | 12/10/1999   | 12/11/2008  | Common Stock               | 15,660                     |
| Employee Stock                             | \$ 21.3281   | 06/02/2006                           |  | M                              | 22,656  | 02/17/2001   | 02/18/2010  | Common Stock               | 22,656                     |

Option  
(right to  
buy)

Employee  
Stock

|        |            |            |   |        |            |            |                 |        |
|--------|------------|------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|
| Option | \$ 27.7975 | 06/02/2006 | M | 70,000 | 12/07/2001 | 12/08/2010 | Common<br>Stock | 70,000 |
|--------|------------|------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|

Employee  
Stock

|        |           |            |   |        |            |            |                 |        |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|
| Option | \$ 24.495 | 06/02/2006 | M | 55,918 | 03/14/2003 | 03/15/2012 | Common<br>Stock | 55,918 |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|

Employee  
Stock

|        |           |            |   |        |            |            |                 |        |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|
| Option | \$ 24.495 | 06/02/2006 | M | 53,766 | 03/14/2004 | 03/15/2012 | Common<br>Stock | 53,766 |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|

Employee  
Stock

|        |           |            |   |       |            |            |                 |       |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|-------|------------|------------|-----------------|-------|
| Option | \$ 24.495 | 06/05/2006 | M | 6,234 | 03/14/2004 | 03/15/2012 | Common<br>Stock | 6,234 |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|-------|------------|------------|-----------------|-------|

Employee  
Stock

|        |           |            |   |        |            |            |                 |        |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|
| Option | \$ 24.495 | 06/05/2006 | M | 60,000 | 03/14/2005 | 03/15/2012 | Common<br>Stock | 60,000 |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|

## Reporting Owners

**Reporting Owner Name / Address**

**Relationships**

Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other

BECK JAMES A  
1201 LOUISIANA STREET  
SUITE 400  
HOUSTON, TX 77002

President, Seneca Resources

## Signatures

James R. Peterson, Attorney  
in Fact

06/06/2006

\_\_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 acquisition under the NFG 401(k) Plan Trust, exempt under Rule 16b-3(c), a non-reportable transaction.
- (2) Routine acquisition under the NFG ESOP Plan Trust, exempt under Rule 16b-3(c), a non-reportable transaction.

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.