

ROBERTSON CORBIN J JR  
Form 4  
February 17, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
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)  
02/12/2009

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>	02/14/2009		M		20,000	A	<u>(1)</u>
Common Units <u>(1)</u>	02/14/2009		D		20,000	D	\$ 22.81 <u>(1)</u>
Common Units					31,540	I	By Spouse
Common Units					17,279,860	I	By Western Pocahontas Properties Limited

Common Units	129,328	I	Partnership (2) By Western Bridgeport, Inc. (3)
Common Units	670,024	I	By New Gauley Coal Corporation (4)

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474  
(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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Units (5)	(7) (8)	02/12/2009		A	35,000	02/12/2013	02/12/2013	Common Units	35,000
Phantom Units (5)	(7) (8)					02/22/2012	02/22/2012	Common Units	20,000
Phantom Units (5)	(7)					02/13/2011	02/13/2011	Common Units	26,000
Phantom Units (5)	(7)					02/13/2010	02/13/2010	Common Units	20,000
Phantom Units (5)	(6)	02/14/2009		M	20,000	02/14/2009	02/14/2009	Common Units	20,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ROBERTSON CORBIN J JR 601 JEFFERSON, SUITE 3600	X	X	Chairman and CEO	

HOUSTON, TX 77002

## Signatures

Corbin J.  
Robertson, Jr. 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, which 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) These units are beneficially owned by Western Bridgeport, Inc., a corporation controlled by Mr. Robertson. Mr. Robertson disclaims beneficial ownership of the units held by Western Bridgeport, Inc., except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
  - (3) These units are beneficially owned by New Gauley Coal Corporation, a corporation controlled by Mr. Robertson. All the common units owned by New Gauley Coal Corporation are reported on this line. Mr. Robertson disclaims beneficial ownership of the reported securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
  - (4) The phantom units were originally granted to the reporting person under the issuer's long term incentive plan.
  - (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) 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.
  - (7) 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.
  - (8)

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.