

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 10, 2010

Registration Statement No. 333-

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

FORM S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

34-1464672
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

200 Public Square
Suite 3300
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
(216) 694-5700

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

George W. Hawk, Jr., Esq.
General Counsel and Secretary
Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.
200 Public Square
Suite 3300
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
(216) 694-5700

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies To:

Christopher M. Kelly
Michael J. Solecki
Jones Day
901 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Telephone: (216) 586-3939
Facsimile: (216) 579-0212

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. []

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. [x]

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. []

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. []

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. []

[x] []

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows, mostly empty.

PROSPECTUS



Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.

Debt Securities

We may offer and sell from time to time our debt securities. We may sell these debt securities in one or more offerings at prices and on other terms to be determined at the time of offering.

We will provide the specific terms of the debt securities to be offered in one or more supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in our debt securities. This prospectus may not be used to offer and sell our debt securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of those offered debt securities.

We may offer our debt securities through agents, underwriters or dealers or directly to investors. Each prospectus supplement will provide the amount, price and terms of the plan of distribution relating to the debt securities to be sold pursuant to such prospectus supplement. We will set forth the names of any underwriters or agents in the accompanying prospectus supplement, as well as the net proceeds we expect to receive from such sale.

Investing in any of our debt securities involves risk. Please read carefully the section entitled '[Risk Factors](#)' on page 4 of this prospectus and the information included and incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

Our common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and the Professional Segment of NYSE Euronext Paris under the symbol "CLF." If we decide to seek a listing of any debt securities offered by this prospectus, we will disclose the exchange or market on which the debt securities will be listed, if any, or where we have made an application for listing, if any, in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is March 10, 2010

[Table of Contents](#)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
About This Prospectus	1
Where You Can Find More Information	1
Information We Incorporate by Reference	1
Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements	3
Our Business	4
Risk Factors	4
Use of Proceeds	5
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	5
Description of Debt Securities	6
Plan of Distribution	15
Legal Matters	17
Experts	17

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration state

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we inform you otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, we expect to use the net proceeds from the sale of our debt securities to which this prospectus relates for general corporate purposes. These purposes may include, but are not limited to:

- reduction or refinancing of outstanding indebtedness or other corporate obligations;
- additions to working capital;
- capital expenditures; and
- acquisitions.

Pending any specific application, we may initially invest funds in short-term marketable securities.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth our ratio of consolidated earnings to fixed charges for the periods presented:

	Year ended December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	6.1x	15.2x	14.2x	37.4x	14.0x

“i rmin

Table of Contents

- any obligation we may have to redeem or purchase the series of debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions or at the option of a holder of the series of debt securities and the terms and conditions of such obligation;
- the dates, if any, on which and the price or prices at which we will repurchase the series of debt securities at the option of the holders of that series of debt securities and other detailed terms and provisions of such repurchase obligations;
- the denominations in which the series of debt securities will be issued, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof;
- the form of the series of debt securities and whether the series of debt securities will be issuable as global debt securities and any appropriate legends if the debt securities are discount securities;
- the portion of principal amount of the series of debt securities payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity date, if other than the principal amount;
- the currency of denomination of the series of debt securities and, if other than U.S. Dollars or the ECU, the agency responsible for overseeing such currency;
- the designation of the currency, currencies or currency units in which payment of principal of, premium and interest, if any, on the series of debt securities will be made;
- if payments of principal of, premium or interest, if any, on the series of debt securities will be made in one or more currencies or currency units other than that or those in which the series of debt securities are denominated, the manner in which the exchange rate with respect to such payments will be determined;
- the manner in which the amounts of payment of principal of or interest on the series of debt securities will be determined, if such amounts may be determined by reference to an index based on a currency or currencies or by reference to a commodity, commodity index, stock exchange index or financial index;
- any provisions relating to any security provided for the series of debt securities;
- any addition to or change in the Events of Default described in this prospectus or in the indenture which applies to the series of debt securities and any change in the right of the trustee or the holders of the series of debt securities to declare the principal amount thereof due and payable;
- any addition to or change in the covenants described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the series of debt securities;
- any other terms of the series of debt securities (which may supplement, modify or delete any provision of the indenture as it applies to such series);
- any depositaries, interest rate calculation agents, exchange rate calculation agents or other agents with respect to the series of debt securities, if other than appointed in the indenture;
- any provisions relating to conversion of the series of debt securities; and
- whether the series of debt securities will be senior or subordinated debt securities and a description of the subordination thereof.

In addition, the indenture does not limit our ability to issue subordinated debt securities. Any subordination provisions of a particular series of debt securities will be set forth in the resolution of our Board of Directors, the officers' certificate or supplemental indenture related to that series of debt securities and will be described in the relevant prospectus supplement.

We may issue debt securities that provide for an amount less than their stated principal amount to be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of their maturity pursuant to the terms of the indenture. We will provide you with information on the federal income tax considerations and other special considerations applicable to any of these debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

[Table of Contents](#)

If we denominate the purchase price of any of the debt securities in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, or if the principal of and any premium and interest on any series of debt securities is payable in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, we will provide you with information on the restrictions, elections, general tax considerations, specific terms and other information with respect to that issue of debt securities and such foreign currency or currencies or foreign currency unit or units in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Transfer and Exchange

Each debt security will be represented by either one or more global securities registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company, as Depositary (the "Depositary"), or a nominee (we will refer to any debt security represented by a global debt security as a "book-entry debt security"), or a certificate issued in definitive registered form (we will refer to any debt security represented by a certificate as a "certificate debt security").

[Table of Contents](#)

registered in their names, will not receive or be enr

Table of Contents

any, on all debt securities of that series. In the case of an Event of Default resulting from certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, the principal (or such specified amount) of and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all outstanding debt securities will become and be immediately due and payable without any declaration or other act on the part of the trustee or any holder of outstanding debt securities. At any time after a declaration of acceleration with respect to debt securities of any series has been made, and before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained by the trustee, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may rescind and annul the acceleration if all Events of Default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal and interest, if any, with respect to debt securities of that series, are remedied or waived as provided in the indenture. We will describe in the prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities that are discount securities the particular provisions relating to acceleration of a portion of the principal amount of such discount securities upon the occurrence of an Event of Default.

The indenture provides that the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture unless the trustee receives indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense. Subject to certain rights of the trustee as of the ty ō

Table of Contents

- reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest (including default interest) on any debt security;
- reduce the principal or change the stated maturity date of any debt security or reduce the amount of, or postpone the date fixed for, the payment of any sinking fund or analogous obligation with respect to any series of debt securities;
- reduce the principal amount of discount securities payable upon acceleration of maturity;
- waive a default in the payment of the principal of or interest, if any, on any debt security (except a rescission of acceleration of the debt securities of any series by the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding debt securities of that series and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration);
- make the principal of or interest on any debt security payable in currency other than that stated in the debt security;
- make any change to certain provisions of the indenture relating to, among other things, the right of holders of debt securities to receive payment of the principal of and interest on those debt securities and to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment and to waivers or amendments; or
- waive a redemption payment, provided that it is made at the option of Cliffs, with respect to any debt security.

Except for certain specified provisions, the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may on behalf of the holders of all debt securities of that series waive our compliance with provisions of the indenture. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may on behalf of the holders of all the debt securities of such series waive any past default under the indenture with respect to that series and its consequences, except a default in the payment of the principal of, premium or interest, if any, on any debt security of that series; provided, however, that the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may rescind an acceleration and its consequences, including any related payment default that resulted from such acceleration.

Defeasance of Debt Securities and Certain Covenants in Certain Circumstances

Legal Defeasance. The indenture provides that, unless otherwise provided by the terms of the applicable series of debt securities, we may be discharged from any and all obligations in respect of the debt securities of any series (except for certain obligations to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of such series, to replace stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities of such series, and to maintain paying agencies and certain provisions relating to the treatment of funds held by paying agents). We will be so discharged upon the deposit with the trustee, in trust, of money and/or U.S. Government Obligations or, in the case of debt securities denominated in a single currency other than U.S. dollars, Foreign Government Obligations, that, through the payment of interest and principal in accordance with their terms, will provide not later than one day before the due date of any payment of money, an amount in cash, sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants to pay and discharge each installment of principal, premium and interest on and any mandatory sinking fund payments in respect of the debt securities of that series on the stated maturity of those payments in accordance with the terms of the indenture and those debt securities.

This discharge may occur only if, among other things, that such deposit will not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under the indenture or any other material agreement to which Cliffs is bound and we have delivered to the trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel stating that we have received from, or there has been published by, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service a ruling or, since the date of execution of the indenture, there has been a change in the applicable U.S. federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon such opinion shall confirm that, the holders of the debt securities of that

[Table of Contents](#)

series will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit, defeasance and discharge and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the deposit, defeasance and discharge had not occurred.

Defeasance of Certain Covenants. The indenture provides that, unless otherwise provided by the terms of the applicable series of debt securities, upon compliance with certain conditions as described below:

- we may omit to comply with the covenant described under the heading “Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets” and certain other covenants set forth in the indenture, as well as any additional covenants which may be described in the applicable prospectus supplement; and
- any omission to comply with those covenants will not constitute an event which, after notice or passage of time, or both, would become an Event of Default ~~certain~~missssssss

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the offered debt securities in and outside the United States:

- through underwriters or dealers;
- directly to purchasers;
- through agents; or
- through a combination of any of these methods.

The prospectus supplement will include the following information:

- the terms of the offering;
- the names of any underwriters or agents;
- the name or names of any managing underwriter or underwriters;
- the purchase price or initial public offering price of the debt securities;
- the net proceeds from the sale of the debt securities;
- any delayed delivery arrangements;
- any underwriting discounts, commissions and other items constituting underwriters' compensation;
- any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers;
- any commissions paid to agents; and
- any securities exchanges on which the debt securities may be listed.

Sale through Underwriters or Dealers

If underwriters are used in the sale, we will execute an underwriting agreement with them regarding the debt securities. The underwriters will acquire the debt securities for their own account, subject to conditions in the underwriting agreement. The underwriters may resell the debt securities from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Underwriters may offer the debt securities to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the debt securities will be subject to certain conditions, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the offered debt securities if they purchase any of them. The underwriters may change from time to time any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers.

During and after an offering through underwriters, the underwriters may purchase and sell the debt securities in the open market. To the extent expressly set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, these transactions may include over-allotment and stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover syndicate short positions created in connection with the offering. The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid, which means that selling concessions allowed to syndicate members or other broker-dealers for the offered debt securities sold for their account may be reclaimed by the syndicate if the offered debt securities are repurchased by the syndicate in stabilizing or covering transactions. These activities may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the offered debt securities, which may be higher than the price that might otherwise prevail in the open market. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue these activities at any time.

Some or all of the debt securities that we offer through this prospectus may be new issues of debt securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters to whom we sell our debt securities for public offering and

Table of Contents

may make a market in those debt securities, but they will not be obligated to do so and they may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. Accordingly, we cannot assure you of the liquidity of, or continued trading markets for, any debt securities that we offer.

If dealers are used in the sale of the debt securities, we will sell the debt securities to them as principals. They may then resell the debt securities to the public at varying prices determined by the dealers at the time of resale. We will include in the prospectus supplement the names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction.

Direct Sales and Sales through Agents

We may sell the debt securities directly. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We may also sell the debt securities through agents designated from time to time. In the prospectus supplement, we will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of the offered debt securities, and we will describe any commissions payable to the agent. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, any agent will agree to use its reasonable best efforts to solicit purchases for the period of its appointment.

We may sell the debt securities directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 with respect to any sale of those securities. We will describe the terms of any sales of these debt securities in the prospectus supplement.

Remarketing Arrangements

Offered debt securities may also be offered and sold, if so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, in connection with a remarketing upon their purchase, in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to their terms, or otherwise, by one or more remarketing firms, acting as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. Any remarketing firm will be identified and the terms of its agreements, if any, with us and its compensation will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Delayed Delivery Contracts

If we so indicate in the prospectus supplement, we may authorize agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers from certain types of institutions to purchase debt securities from us at the public offering price under delayed delivery contracts. These contracts would provide for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The contracts would be subject only to those conditions described in the prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will describe the commission payable for solicitation of those contracts.

General Information

We may have agreements with the agents, dealers, underwriters and remarketing firms to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute with respect to payments that the agents, dealers, underwriters or remarketing firms may be required to make. Agents, dealers, underwriters and remarketing firms may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of their businesses.

LEGAL MATTERS

Jones Rn

PART II
INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

The following are the estimated expenses of the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered, all of which are payable by us.

Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee	*
Trustee's fees and expenses	**
Transfer agent and registrar fees	**
Printing expenses	**
Accountant's fees and expenses	**
Rating agency fees	**
Legal fees and expenses	**
Miscellaneous	**
Total	\$**

* Because the amount to be registered consists of an unspecified amount of the debt securities as may from time to time be offered at indeterminate prices, in accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant is deferring payment of the registration fee.

** Estimated expenses are presently not known and cannot be estimated.

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

We will indemnify, to the full extent permitted by law, any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of Cliffs, or is or was serving at Cliffs' request as a director, trustee, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, domestic or foreign, nonprofit or for profit, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise; provided, however, that we will indemnify any such agent (as opposed to any director, officer or employee) of Cliffs to an extent greater than required by law only if and to the extent that the directors may, in their discretion, so determine. The indemnification we give will not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled under any law, our amended articles of incorporation or any agreement, vote of shareholders or of disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in official capacities and as to action in another capacity while such person is a director, officer, employee or agent, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, trustee, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

We may, to the full extent permitted by law and authorized by the directors, purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any persons described in the paragraph above against any liability asserted against and incurred by any such person in any such capacity, or arising out of the status as such, whether or not we would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability.

Under the Ohio General Corporation Law, Ohio corporations are authorized to indemnify directors, officers, employees and agents within prescribed limits and must indemnify them under certain circumstances. Ohio General Corporation Law does not provide statutory authorization for a corporation to indemnify directors, officers, employees and agents for settlements, fines or judgments in the context of derivative suits. However, it provides that directors (but not officers, employees or agents) are entitled to mandatory advancement of expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred in defending any action, including derivative actions, brought against the director, provided that the director agrees to cooperate with the corporation concerning the matter and to repay the amount advanced if it is proved by clear and convincing evidence that the director's act or failure to act was done with deliberate intent to cause injury to the corporation or with reckless disregard for the corporation's best interests.

Table of Contents

Ohio General Corporation Law does not authorize payment of judgments to a director, officer, employee or agent after a finding of negligence or misconduct in a derivative suit absent a court order. Indemnification is permitted, however, to the extent such person succeeds on the merits. In all other cases, if a director, officer, employee or agent acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, indemnification is discretionary except as otherwise provided by a corporation's articles, code of regulations or by contract except with respect to the advancement of expenses of directors.

Under the Ohio General Corporation Law, a director is not liable for monetary damages unless it is proved by clear and convincing evidence that his or her action or failure to act was undertaken with deliberate intent to cause injury to the corporation or with reckless disregard for the best interests of the corporation. There is, however, no comparable provision limiting the liability of officers, employees or agents of a corporation. The statutory right to indemnification is not exclusive in Ohio, and Ohio corporations may, among other things, procure insurance for such persons.

Item 16. Exhibits.

The following documents are exhibits to the registration statement:

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.1	Underwriting Agreement.*
4.1	Form of Debt Securities Indenture.
5.1	Opinion of Jones Day.
12.1	Calculation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
23.2	Consent of Jones Day (included in Exhibit 5.1 to this Registration Statement).
24.1	Power of Attorney.
25.1	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility under Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of Trustee under Debt Securities Indenture.

* To be filed either by amendment or as an exhibit to a report filed under the Exchange Act, and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 17. Undertakings.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

1. To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and

[Table of Contents](#)

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (1)(i), (1)(ii) and (1)(iii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of this registration statement.

2. That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

3. To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

4. That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus is included. Each such prospectus shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

Table of Contents

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

[Table of Contents](#)

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Cleveland, State of Ohio, on the 10 day of March, 2010.

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

By: /s/ Laurie Brlas
Name: Laurie Brlas
Title: Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement on Form S-3 has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signatures</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>*</u> Joseph A. Carrabba	Chairman, President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	March 10, 2010
<u>/s/ Laurie Brlas</u> Laurie Brlas	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	March 10, 2010
<u>/s/ Terrance M. Paradie</u> Terrance M. Paradie	Vice President, Corporate Controller and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)	March 10, 2010
<u>*</u> Ronald C. Cambre	Director	March 10, 2010
<u>*</u> Susan M. Cunningham	Director	March 10, 2010
<u>*</u> Barry J. Eldridge	Director	March 10, 2010
<u>*</u> Susan M. Green	Director	March 10, 2010
<u>*</u> Janice K. Henry	Director	March 10, 2010
<u>*</u> James D. Ireland, III	Director	March 10, 2010
<u>James D. Ireland, III</u>		
<u> </u>		
<u> </u>		
<u> </u>		
<u> </u>		
<u> </u>		

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
1.1	Underwriting Agreement.*
4.1	Form of Debt Securities Indenture.
5.1	Opinion of Jones Day.
12.1	Calculation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
23.2	Consent of Jones Day (included in Exhibit 5.1 to this Registration Statement).
24.1	Power of Attorney.
25.1	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility under Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of Trustee under Debt Securities Indenture.

* To be filed either by amendment or as an exhibit to a report filed under the Exchange Act, and incorporated herein by reference.

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

INDENTURE

Dated as of _____

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Trustee

ARTICLE I.	DEFINITIONS AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE	1
Section 1.1.	Definitions	1
Section 1.2.	Other Definitions	5
Section 1.3.	Incorporation by Reference of Trust Indenture Act	5
Section 1.4.	Rules of Construction	6
ARTICLE II.	THE SECURITIES	6
Section 2.1.	Amount Unlimited; Issuable in Series	6
Section 2.2.	Establishment of Terms of Series of Securities	7
Section 2.3.	Execution and Authentication	9
Section 2.4.	Registrar and Paying Agent	10
Section 2.5.	Paying Agent to Hold Money in Trust	11
Section 2.6.	Securityholder Lists	11
Section 2.7.	Transfer and Exchange	11
Section 2.8.	Persons Deemed Owners	12
Section 2.9.	Mutilated, Destroyed, Lost and Stolen Securities	12
Section 2.10.	Outstanding Securities	13
Section 2.11.	Treasury Securities	13
Section 2.12.	Temporary Securities	14
Section 2.13.	Cancellation	14
Section 2.14.	Defaulted Interest	14
Section 2.15.	Global Securities	14
Section 2.16.	CUSIP Numbers	16
Section 2.17.	Form of Trustee's Certification of Authentication.	16
ARTICLE III.	REDEMPTION	16
Section 3.1.	Notice to Trustee	16
Section 3.2.	Se n n n n n S S S	

Section 6.3.	Collection of Indebtedness and Suits for Enforcement by Trustee	22
Section 6.4.	Trustee May File Proofs of Claim	23
Section 6.5.	Trustee May Enforce Claims Without Possession of Securities	24
Section 6.6.	Application of Money Collected	24
Section 6.7.	Limitation on Suits	25
Section 6.8.	Unconditional Right of Holders to Receive Principal and Interest	25
Section 6.9.	Restoration of Rights and Remedies	25
Section 6.10.	Rights and Remedies Cumulative	26
Section 6.11.	Delay or Omission Not Waiver	26
Section 6.12.	Control by Holders	26
Section 6.13.	Waiver of Past Defaults	27
Section 6.14.	Undertaking for Costs	27
ARTICLE VII.	TRUSTEE	27
Section 7.1.	Duties of Trustee	27
Section 7.2.	Rights of Trustee	29
Section 7.3.	Individual Rights of Trustee	30
Section 7.4.	Trustee's Disclaimer	30
Section 7.5.	Notice of Defaults	30
Section 7.6.	Reports by Trustee to Holders	30
Section 7.7.	Compensation and Indemnity	30
Section 7.8.	Replacement of Trustee	31
Section 7.9.	Successor Trustee by Merger, etc	32
Section 7.10.	Eligibility; Disqualification	32
Section 7.11.	Preferential Collection of Claims Against Company	33
Section 7.12.	Calculations in Respect of Securities.	39n 1

Indenture dated as of

between **Cliffs Natural R**

“Company Request” means a written request signed in the name of the Company by its principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, the :offic

received by the custodian in respect of the U.S. Government Obligation evidenced by such depository receipt.

Section 1.2. Other Definitions.

<u>TERM</u>	<u>DEFINED IN SECTION</u>
<i>“Bankruptcy Law”</i>	6.1
<i>“Custodian”</i>	6.1
<i>“Event of Default”</i>	6.1
<i>“Journal”</i>	10.15
<i>“Judgment Currency”</i>	10.16
<i>“Legal Holiday”</i>	10.7
<i>“mandatory sinking fund payment”</i>	11.1
<i>“Market Exchange Rate”</i>	10.15
<i>“New York Banking Day”</i>	10.16
<i>“optional sinking fund payment”</i>	11.1
<i>“Paying Agent”</i>	2.4
<i>“Registrar”</i>	2.4
<i>“Required Currency”</i>	10.16
<i>“Service Agent”</i>	2.4
<i>“successor person”</i>	5.1

Section 1.3. Incorporation by Reference of Trust Indenture Act.

Whenever this Indenture refers to a provision of the TIA, the provision is incorporated by reference in and made a part of this Indenture. The following TIA terms used in this Indenture have the following meanings:

“Commission” means the SEC.

“indenture securities” means the Securities.

“indenture security holder” means a Securityholder.

“*indenture to be qualified*” means this Indenture.

“*indenture trustee*” or “*institutional trustee*” means the Trustee.

“*obligor*” on the indenture securities means the Company and any successor obligor upon the Securities.

All other terms used in this Indenture that are defined by the TIA, defined by TIA reference to another statute or defined by SEC rule under the TIA and not otherwise defined herein are used herein as so defined.

Section 1.4. Rules of Construction.

Unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) a term has the meaning assigned to it;
- (b) an accounting term not otherwise defined has the meaning assigned to it in accordance with GAAP;
- (c) “*or*” is not exclusive;
- (d) words in the singular include the plural, and in the plural include the singular; and
- (e) provisions apply to successive events and transactions.

ARTICLE II. THE SECURITIES

Section 2.1. Amount Unlimited; Issuable in Series.

The aggregate principal amount of Securities that may be authenticated and delivered under this Indenture is unlimited. The Securities may be issued in one or more Series. All Securities of a Series shall be identical except as may be set forth or determined in the manner provided in a Board Resolution, supplemental indenture or Officers’ Certificate detailing the adoption of the terms thereof pursuant to authority granted under a Board Resolution. In the case of Securities of a Series to be issued from time to time, the Board Resolution, Officers’ Certificate or supplemental indenture detailing the adoption of the terms thereof pursuant to authority granted under a Board Resolution may provide for the method by which specified terms (such as interest rate, maturity date, record date or date from which interest shall accrue) are to be determined. Securities may differ between Series in respect of any matters, *provided* that all Series of Securities shall be equally and ratably entitled to the benefits of the Indenture.

The definitive Securities shall be printed, lithographed or engraved on steel engraved borders or may be produced in any other manner, all as determined by the officers executing such Securities, as evidenced by their execution of such Securities.

Section 2.2. Establishment of Terms of Series of Securities.

At or prior to the issuance of any Securities within a Series, the following shall be established (as to the Series generally, in the case of Section 2.2.1 and either as to such Securities within the Series or as to the Series generally in the case of Sections 2.2.2 through 2.2.23) by or pursuant to a Board Resolution, and set forth or determined in the manner provided in a Board Resolution, supplemental indenture or Officers' Certificate:

2.2.1. the title of the Series (which shall distinguish the Securities of that particular Series from the Securities of any other Series);

2.2.2. the price or prices (expressed as a percentage of the principal amount thereof) at which the Securities of the Series will be issued;

2.2.3. any limit upon the aggregate principal amount of the Securities of the Series which may be authenticated and delivered under this Indenture (except for Securities authenticated and delivered upon registration of transfer of, or in exchange for, or in lieu of, other Securities of the Series pursuant to Section 2.7, 2.9, 2.12, 3.6 or 9.6);

2.2.4. the date or dates on which the principal of the Securities of the Series is payable;

2.2.5. the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) per annum or, if applicable, the method used to determine such rate or rates (including, but not limited to, any commodity, commodity index, stock exchange index or financial index) at which the Securities of the Series shall bear interest, if any, the date or dates from which such interest, if any, shall accrue, the date or dates on which such interest, if any, shall commence and be payable and any regular record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date;

2.2.6. the place or places where the principal of and interest, if any, on the Securities of the Series shall be payable, where the Securities of such Series may be surrendered for registration of transfer or exchange and where notices and demands to or upon the Company in respect of the Securities of such Series and this Indenture may be served, and the method of such payment, if by wire transfer, mail or other means;

2.2.7. if applicable, the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions upon which the Securities of the Series may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at the option of the Company;

2.2.8. the obligation, if any, of the Company to redeem or purchase the Securities of the Series pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions or at the option of a Holder thereof and the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions upon which Securities of the Series shall be redeemed or purchased, in whole or in part, pursuant to such obligation;

2.2.9. the dates, if any, on which and the price or prices at which the Securities of the Series will be repurchased by the Company at the option of the Holders thereof and other detailed terms and provisions of such repurchase obligations;

2.2.10. if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof, the denominations in which the Securities of the Series shall be issuable;

2.2.11. the forms of the Securities of the Series, whether the Securities will be issuable as Global Securities, and any appropriate legends if the Securities are Discount Securities;

2.2.12. if other than the principal amount thereof, the portion of the principal amount of the Securities of the Series that shall be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof pursuant to Section 6.2;

2.2.13. the currency of denomination of the Securities of the Series, which may be Dollars or any Foreign Currency, including, but not limited to, the ECU, and if such currency of denomination is a comRc!

whether conversion will be mandatory, at the option of the Holders thereof or at the option of the Company, the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price and provisions affecting conversion if such Series of Securities are redeemed;

2.2.23. whether the Securities of such Series will be senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities and, if applicable, a description of the subordination terms thereof; and

2.2.24. any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents, or registrars or any other agents with respect to the Securities of such Series.

All Securities of any one Series need not be issued at the same time and may be issued from time to time, consistent with the terms of this Indenture, if so provided by or pursuant to the Board of Directors, as supplemented by the Board of Directors' Certificate referred to above.

Security Authentication.

A duly authorized Officer shall sign the Securities for duly authorized officers of the Company, and they shall be deemed to be duly authorized.

transfer tax or similar governmental charge payable upon exchanges pursuant to Sections 2.11, 3.6 or 9.6).

Neither the Company nor the Registrar shall be required (a) to issue, register the transfer of, or exchange Securities of any Series for the period beginning at the opening of business fifteen days immediately preceding the mailing of a notice of redemption of Securities of that Series selected for redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of such mailing, or (b) to register the transfer of or exchange Securities of any Series selected, called or being called for redemption as a whole or the portion being redeemed of any such Securities selected, called or being called for redemption in part.

Section 2.8. Persons Deemed Owners

Prior to due presentation of any series of Securities for registration of transfer, the person in whose name a Security of any series shall be registered on books kept for such purpose shall be deemed the absolute owner thereof for all purposes of this Indenture, whether or not such Security is overdue, and neither the Company, the Trustee nor any Paying Agent or conversion agent nor any series of Securities Registrar shall be affected by notice to the contrary. Payment of or on account of the principal and interest shall be made only to or upon the order in writing of such registered owner thereof, but such registration may be changed as above provided. All such payments shall be valid and effectual to satisfy and discharge the liability upon such Security to the extent of the sum or sums so paid.

Section 2.9. Mutilated, Destroyed, Lost and Stolen Securities

If any mutilated Security is surrendered to the Trustee, the Company shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver in exchange therefor a replacement Security of the same Series and of like tenor and principal amount and bearing a number not contemporaneously outstanding.

If there shall be delivered to the Company and the Trustee (a) evidence to their satisfaction of the destruction, loss or theft of any Security and (b) such security or indemnity as may be required by the Trustee, the Company shall execute and upon request of a Company Order the Trustee shall authenticate and make available for delivery, in lieu of any such destroyed, lost or stolen Security, a new Security of the same Series and of like tenor and principal amount and bearing a number not contemporaneously destroyed.

Every new Security of any Series issued pursuant to this Section in lieu of any destroyed, lost or stolen Security shall constitute an original additional contractual obligation of the Company, whether or not the mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen Security shall be at any time enforceable by anyone, and shall be entitled to all the benefits of this Indenture equally and proportionately with any and all other Securities of that Series duly issued hereunder.

The provisions of this Section are exclusive and shall preclude (to the extent lawful) all other rights and remedies with respect to the replacement or payment of mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen Securities.

Section 2.10. Out ~~uy~~ ~~ad~~ alln alln

Section 2.12. Temporary Securities.

Until definitive Securities are ready for delivery, the Company may prepare and the Trustee shall authenticate temporary Securities upon a Company Order. Temporary Securities shall be substantially in the form of definitive Securities but may have variations that the Company considers appropriate for temporary Securities. Without unreasonable delay, the Company shall prepare and the Trustee upon written request shall authenticate and make available for delivery definitive Securities of the same Series and date of maturity in exchange for temporary Securities. Until so exchanged, temporary securities shall have the same rights under this Indenture as the definitive Securities.

Section 2.13. Cancellation.

The Company at any time may deliver Securities to the Trustee for cancellation. The Registrar and the Paying Agent shall forward to the Trustee any Securities surrendered to them for registration of transfer, exchange or payment. The Trustee shall cancel all Securities surrendered for transfer, exchange, payment, replacement or cancellation and shall destroy such canceled Securities (subject to the record retention requirement of the Exchange Act) and deliver a certificate of such destruction to the Company. The Company may not issue new Securities to replace Securities that it has paid or delivered to the Trustee for cancellation.

Section 2.14. Defaulted Interest.

If the Company defaults in a payment of interest on a Series of Securities, it shall pay the defaulted interest, plus, to the extent permitted by law, any interest payable on the defaulted interest, to the persons who are Securityholders of the Series on a subsequent special record date. The Company shall fix the record date ~~in a~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~Series~~ ~~of~~ ~~Securities~~ ~~that~~ ~~it~~ ~~has~~ ~~paid~~ ~~or~~ ~~delivered~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~Trustee~~ ~~for~~ ~~cancellation~~.

not shown on the register as being a registered Holder, with respect to either the Securities, the accuracy of any records maintained by the Depositary or any such participant; the payment by the Depositary or any such participant of any amount in respect of the principal of or interest on the Securities, any notice which is permitted or required to be given to Holders under the Indenture, any consent given or other action taken by the Depositary as Holder or any selection by the Depositary of any participant or other Person to receive payment of principal, interest or redemption payment of the Securities.

Section 2.16. CUSIP Numbers.

The Company in issuing the Securities may use "CUSIP" numbers (if then generally in use), and, if so, the Trustee shall use "CUSIP" numbers in notices of redemption or other notices issued under this Indenture as a convenience to Holders; *provided* that any such notice may state that no representation is made as to the correctness of such numbers either as printed on the Securities or as contained in any notice of a redemption or other such notice and that reliance may be placed only on the other elements of identification printed on the Securities, and any such redemption or matter related to such other notice ~~if~~ nu² en by th~~k~~ b e ~~if~~ nuun the Secunueqheumduis, b'nd by h~~u~~ d nt

(a) the Company is the surviving corporation or the successor person (if other than the Company) is a corporation, partnership or limited liability company organized and validly existing under the laws of any U.S. domestic jurisdiction and expressly assumes, by a supplemental indenture hereto, executed and delivered to the Trustee, in form satisfactory to the Trustee, the due and punctual payment of the principal of and interest on all the Securities, according to their tenor, and the due and,

(b) default in the payment of principal of any Security of that Series at its Maturity; or

(c) default is made in the deposit of any sinking fund payment when as due by the terms of a Security; or

(d) default in the performance or breach of any covenant or warranty of the Company in this Indenture (other than a covenant or warranty that has been included in this Indenture solely for the benefit of Series of Securities other than that Series), which default continues uncured for a period of 60 days after there has been given, by registered or certified mail or sent by a national courier service that provides next day delivery, to the Company by the Trustee or to the Company and the Trustee by the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding Securities of that Series a written notice specifying such default or breach and requiring it to be remedied and stating that such notice is a "Notice of Default" hereunder; or

(e) the Company pursuant to or within the meaning of any Bankruptcy Law:

(i) commences a voluntary case,

(ii) consents to the entry of an order for relief against it in an involuntary case,

(iii) consents to the appointment of a Custodian of it or for all or substantially all of its property,

(iv) makes a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or

(v) the admission of it in writing that it is generally unable to pay its debts as the same become due; or

(f) a court of competent jurisdiction enters an order or decree under any Bankruptcy Law that:

(i) is for relief against the Company in an involuntary case,

(ii) appoints a Custodian of the Company or for all or substantially all of its property, or

(iii) orders the liquidation of the Company,

and the order or decree remains unstayed and in effect for 60 days in writing g e ~~the same~~ commences delivery,

rights and remedies of the Trustee and the Holders shall continue as though no such proceeding had been instituted.

Section 6.10. Rights and Remedies Cumulative.

Except as otherwise provided with respect to the replacement or payment of mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen Securities in Section 2.9, no right or remedy herein conferred upon or reserved to the Trustee or to the Holders is intended to be exclusive of any other right or remedy, and every right and remedy shall, to the extent permitted by law, be cumulative and in addition to every other right and remedy given hereunder or now or hereafter existing at law or in equity or otherwise. The assertion or employment of any right or remedy hereunder, or otherwise, shall not, to the extent permitted by law, prevent the concurrent assertion or employment of any other appropriate right or remedy.

Section 6.11. Delay or Omission Not Waiver.

No delay or omission of the Trustee or of any Holder of any Securities to exercise any right or remedy accruing upon any Event of Default shall impair any such right or remedy or constitute a waiver of any such Event of Default or an acquiescence therein. Every right and remedy given by this Article or by law to the Trustee or to the Holders may be exercised from time to time, and as often as may be deemed expedient, by the Trustee or by the Holders, as the case may be.

Section 6.12. Control by Holders.

The Holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Securities of any Series shall have the right to direct in writing the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the Trustee, with respect to the Securities of such Series, *provided that*

- (a) such direction shall not be in conflict with any rule of law or with any provision of this Indenture or the Securities,
- (b) the Trustee may take any other action deemed proper by the Trustee which is not inconsistent with such written direction, and
- (c) subject to the provisions of Section 7.1, the Trustee shall have the right to decline to follow any such direction if the Trustee in good faith shall, by a Responsible Officer of the Trustee, determine that the proceeding so directed would involve the Trustee in personal liability, or would be unduly prejudicial to Holders of the Securities

Section 6.13. Waiver of Past Defaults.

The Holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Securities of any Series may on behalf of the Holders of all the Securities of such Series waive any past Default hereunder with respect to such Series and its consequences, except a Default in the payment of the principal of or interest on any Security of such Series (*provided, however*, that the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Securities of any Series may rescind an acceleration and its consequences, including any related payment default that resulted from such acceleration). Upon any such waiver, such Default shall cease to exist, and any Event of Default arising therefrom shall be deemed to have been cured, for every purpose of this Indenture; but no such waiver shall extend to any subsequent or other Default or impair any right consequent thereon.

Section 6.14. Undertaking for Costs.

All parties to this Indenture agree, and each Holder of any Security by his acceptance thereof shall be deemed to have agreed, that any court may in its discretion require, in any suit for the enforcement of any right or remedy under this Indenture, or in any suit against the Trustee for any action taken, suffered or omitted by it as Trustee, the filing by any party litigant in such suit of an undertaking to pay the costs of such suit, and that such court may in its discretion assess reasonable costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, against any party litigant in such suit, having due regard to the merits and good faith of the claims or defenses made by such party litigant; but the provisions of this Section shall not apply to any suit instituted by the Company, to any suit instituted by the Trustee, to any suit instituted by any Holder, or group of Holders, holding in the aggregate more than 10% in principal amount of the outstanding Securities of any Series, or to any suit instituted by any Holder for the enforcement of the payment of the principal of or interest on any Security on or after the Stated Maturity or Stated Maturities expressed in such Security (or, in the case of redemption, on the redemption date).

ARTICLE VII. TRUSTEE

Section 7.1. Duties of Trustee.

(a) If an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Trustee shall exercise the rights and powers vested in it by this Indenture and use the same degree of care and skill in their exercise as a prudent man would exercise or use under the circumstances in the conduct of his own affairs.

(b) Except during the continuance of an Event of Default:

(i) The Trustee need perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in this Indenture and no others.

(ii) In the absence of bad faith on its part, the Trustee may conclusively rely, as to the truth of the statements and the correctness of the opinions expressed therein, upon Officers' Certificates or Opinions of Counsel furnished to the Trustee and conforming to the requirements of this Indenture; *however*, in the case of any such Officers' Certificates or Opinions of Counsel

which by any provisions hereof are specifically required to be furnished to the Trustee, the Trustee shall examine such Officers' Certificates and Opinions of Counsel to determine whether or not they conform to the requirements of this Indenture (but need not confirm or investigate the accuracy of mathematical calculations or other facts stated therein).

(c) The Trustee may not be relieved from liability for its own negligent action, its own negligent failure to act or its own willful misconduct, except that:

(i) This paragraph does not limit the effect of paragraph (b) of this Section.

(ii) The Trustee shall not be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith by a Responsible Officer, unless it is proved that the Trustee was negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts.

(iii) The Trustee shall not be liable with respect to any action taken, suffered or omitted to be taken by it with respect to Securities of any Series in good faith in accordance with the direction of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Securities of such Series relating to the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred upon the Trustee, under this Indenture with respect to the Securities of such Series.

(d) Every provision of this Indenture that in any way relates to the Trustee is subject to paragraph (a), (b) and (c) of this Section.

(e) The Trustee may refuse to perform any duty or exercise any right or power unless it receives indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense.

(f) The Trustee shall not be liable for interest on any money received by it except as the Trustee may agree in writing with the Company. Money held in trust by the Trustee need not be segregated from other funds except to the extent required by law.

(g) No provision of this Indenture shall require the Trustee to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur any financial liability in the performance of any of its duties, or in the exercise of any of its rights or powers, and the Trustee may refuse to perform any duty or exercise any right or power, if it shall reasonably believe that repayment of such funds or adequate indemnity against such risk is not reasonably assured to it.

(h) The Paying Agent, the Service Agent, the Registrar and any authenticating agent shall be entitled to the protections, immunities and standard of care as are set forth in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this Section with respect to the Trustee.

entitled thereto, of the principal and interest for whose payment such money has been deposited with or received by the Trustee or to make mandatory sinking fund payments or analogous payments as contemplated by Sections 8.3 or 8.4.

(b) The Company shall pay and shall indemnify the Trustee against any tax, fee or other charge imposed on or assessed against the cash or U.S. Government Obligations or

dedicated solely to the benefit of the Holders of such Securities (i) in the case of Securities of such Series denominated in Dollars, cash in Dollars and/or U.S. Government Obligations, or (ii) in the case of Securities of such Series denominated in a Foreign Currency (other than a composite currency), money and/or Foreign Government Obligations, which through the payment of interest and principal in respect thereof in accordance with their terms, will provide (improv

(f) The Company shall have delivered to t

amendments to the Indenture with respect to any Series necessary or desirable pursuant to Sections 2.2.22 or 2.2.23 of this Indenture;

(f) to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment hereunder by a successor Trustee with respect to the Securities of one or more Series and to add to or change any of the provisions of this Indenture as shall be necessary to provide for or facilitate the administration of the trusts hereunder by more than one Trustee; or

(g) to comply with requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of this Indenture under the TIA.

Subject to Section 9.2, upon the written direction of the Company to the Trustee accompanied by an Opinion of Counsel and Officers' Certificate as described in Section 10.4 hereof, the Trustee will join with the Company in the execution of such amended or supplemental indenture; *provided, however*, notwithstanding the foregoing clause, if such amended or supplemental indenture adversely affects the Trustee's own rights, duties, liabilities or immunities under this Indenture or otherwise, the Trustee may in its reasonable discretion, decline to enter into such amended or supplemental indenture.

Section 9.2. With Consent of Holders.

The Company and the Trustee may enter into a supplemental indenture with the written consent of the Holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Securities of each Series affected by such supplemental indenture (including consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for the Securities of such Series), for the purpose of adding any provisions to or changing in any manner or eliminating any of the provisions of this Indenture or of any supplemental indenture or of modifying in any manner the rights of the Securityholders of each such Series. Except as provided in Section 6.13, the Holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Securities of any Series by written notice to the Trustee (including consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for the Securities of such Series) may waive compliance by the Company with any provision of this Indenture or the Securities with respect to such Series.

It shall not be necessary for the consent of the Holders of Securities under this Section 9.2 to approve the particular form of any proposed supplemental indenture or waiver, but it shall be sufficient if such consent approves the substance thereof. After a supplemental indenture or waiver under this section becomes effective, the Company shall mail to the Holders of Securities affected thereby, a notice briefly describing the supplemental indenture or waiver. Any failure by the Company to mail or publish such notice, or any defect therein, shall not, however, in any way impair or affect the validity of any such supplemental indenture or waiver.

Upon the written direction of the Company to the Trustee accompanied by evidence reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee of the consent of the Holders of Notes as aforesaid, an Opinion of Counsel and Officers' Certificate as described in Section 10.4 hereof, the Trustee will join with the Company in the execution of such amended or supplemental indenture; *provided, however*, notwithstanding the foregoing clause, if such amended or supplemental indenture adversely affects the Trustee's own rights, duties, liabilities or

immunities under this Indenture or otherwise, in which case the Trustee may in its reasonable discretion decline to enter into such amended or supplemental indenture.

Section 9.3. Limitations.

Without the consent of each Securityholder affected, an amendment or waiver may not:

- (a) reduce the principal amount of Securities whose Holders must consent to an amendment, supplement or waiver;
- (b) reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest (including default interest) on any Security;
- (c) reduce the principal or change the Stated Maturity of any Security or reduce the amount of, or postpone the date fixed for, the payment of any sinking fund or analogous obligation;
- (d) reduce the principal amount of Discount c) redu

portion of a Security if the Trustee receives the notice of revocation before the date of the supplemental indenture or the date the waiver becomes effective.

Any amendment or waiver once effective shall bind every Securityholder of each Series affected by such amendment or waiver unless it is of the type described in any of clauses (a) through (h) of Section 9 of the Trust Agreement.

Section 10.9. Counterparts.

This Indenture may be executed in any number of counterparts and by the parties hereto in separate counterparts, each of

of this Section 10.15, "**Market Exchange Rate**" shall mean the noon Dollar buying rate in New York City for cable transfers of that currency as published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York; *provided, however*, in the case of ECUs, Market Exchange Rate shall mean the rate of exchange determined by the Commission of the European Union (or any successor thereto) as published in the Official Journal of the European Union (such publication or any successor publication, the "**Journal**"). If such Market Exchange Rate is not available for any reason with respect to such currency, the Trustee shall use, in its sole discretion and without liability on its part, such quotation of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or, in the case of ECUs, the rate of exchange as published in the Journal, as of the most recent available date, or quotations or, in the case of ECUs, rates of exchange from one or more major banks in The City of New York or in the country of issue of the currency in question or, in the case of ECUs, in Luxembourg or such other quotations or, in the case of ECUs, rates of exchange as the Trustee, upon consultation with the Company, shall deem appropriate. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply in determining the equivalent principal amount in respect of Securities of a Series denominated in currency other than Dollars in connection with any action taken by Holders of Securities pursuant to the terms of this Indenture.

All decisions and determinations of the Trustee regarding the Market Exchange Rate or any alternative determination provided for in the preceding paragraph shall be in its sole discretion and shall, in the absence of manifest error, to the extent permitted by law, be conclusive for all purposes and irrevocably binding upon the Company and all Holders.

Section 10.16. Judgment Currency.

The Company agrees, to the fullest extent that it may effectively do so under applicable law, that (a) if for the purpose of obtaining judgment in any court it is necessary to convert the sum due in respect of the principal of, interest on, or other amount on the Securities of any Series (the "**Required Currency**") into a currency in which a judgment will be rendered (the "**Judgment Currency**"), the rate of exchange used shall be the rate at which in accordance with normal banking procedures the Trustee could purchase in The City of New York the Required Currency with the Judgment Currency on the day on which final unappealable judgment is entered, unless such day is not a New York Banking Day, then the rate of exchange used shall be the rate at which in accordance with normal banking procedures the Trustee could purchase in The City of New York the Required Currency with the Judgment Currency on the New York Banking Day preceding the day on which final unappealable judgment is entered and (b) its obligations under the

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Indenture to be duly executed as of the day and year first above written.

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

By: _____
Name:
Title:

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
as Trustee

By: _____
Name:
Title:

JONES DAY

NORTH POINT • 901 LAKESIDE AVENUE • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44114-1190

TELEPHONE: (216) 586-3939 • FACSIMILE: (216) 579-0212

March 10, 2010

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.
200 Public Square
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2315

Re:

Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges
(In Millions)

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Consolidated pretax income from continuing operations	\$290.6	\$716.3	\$380.7	\$387.8	\$368.1
Undistributed earnings of non-consolidated affiliates	(65.5)	(35.1)	(11.2)	0.1	0.1
Amortization of capitalized interest	3.0	5.6	2.0	2.0	2.0
Interest expense	39.0	39.8	22.6	3.6	4.5
Acceleration of debt issuance costs	—	—	0.8	1.7	—
Interest portion of rental expense	5.8	8.4	4.7	5.4	5.0
Total Earnings	<u>\$272.9</u>	<u>\$735.0</u>	<u>\$399.6</u>	<u>\$400.6</u>	<u>\$379.7</u>
Interest expense	\$ 39.0	\$ 39.8	\$ 22.6	\$ 3.6	\$ 4.5
Acceleration of debt issuance costs	—	—	0.8	1.7	—
Interest portion of rental expense	5.8	8.4	4.7	5.4	5.0
Fixed Charges	<u>\$ 44.8</u>	<u>\$ 48.2</u>	<u>\$ 28.1</u>	<u>\$ 10.7</u>	<u>\$ 9.5</u>
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	6.1x	15.2x	14.2x	37.4x	40.0x

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-3 of our reports dated February 18, 2010, relating to the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule of Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. and subsidiaries, and the effectiveness of Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2009, and to the reference to us under the heading "Experts" in the Prospectus, which is part of this Registration Statement.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Cleveland, Ohio
March 10, 2010

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

FORM T-1

**STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY
UNDER THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939 OF A
CORPORATION DESIGNATED TO ACT AS TRUSTEE**

Check if an Application to Determine Eligibility of a Trustee Pursuant to Section 305(b)(2)

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

(Exact name of Trustee as specified in its charter)

31-0841368
I.R.S. Employer Identification No.

800 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota
(Address of principal executive offices)

55402
(Zip Code)

Elizabeth Thuning
U.S. Bank National Association
1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 1100
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
(216) 623-5992
(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.
(Exact name of obligor as specified in its charter)

Ohio
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

200 Public Square, Suite 3300
Cleveland, Ohio
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

34-1464672
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

44114
(Zip Code)

Debt Securities
(Title of the Indenture Securities)

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the Trustee, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America, has duly caused this statement of eligibility to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, all in the City of Cleveland, State of Ohio on the 10th of March 2010.

By: /s/ Elizabeth Thuning
Elizabeth Thuning
Vice President

By: /s/ Holly Pattison
Holly Pattison
Vice President

Exhibit 6

CONSENT

In accordance with Section 321(b) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, R,

Exhibit 7
U.S. Bank National Association
Statement of Financial Condition
Exhibit 7
As of 12/31/2009
(\$000's)

	12/31/2009
Assets	
Cash and Balances Due From Depository Institutions	\$ 6,198,904
Securities	43,054,635
Federal Funds	3,431,853
Loans & Lease Financing Receivables	189,772,027
Fixed Assets	4,797,639
Intangible Assets	13,399,731
Other Assets	15,721,341
Total Assets	\$ 276,376,130
Liabilities	
Deposits	\$ 194,253,182
Fed Funds	10,148,686
Treasury Demand Notes	0
Trading Liabilities	345,396
Other Borrowed Money	31,068,244
Acceptances	0
Subordinated Notes and Debentures	7,629,967
Other Liabilities	6,705,043
Total Liabilities	\$ 250,150,518
Equity	
Minority Interest in Subsidiaries	\$ 1,629,447
Common and Preferred Stock	18,200
Surplus	12,642,020
Undivided Profits	11,935,945
Total Equity Capital	\$ 26,225,612
Total Liabilities and Equity Capital	\$ 276,376,130

To the best of the undersigned's determination, as of the date hereof, the above financial information is true and correct.

U.S. Bank National Association

By: /s/ Elizabeth Thuning
Vice President

Date: March 10, 2010