NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO Form SC 13D/A December 09, 2010

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

SCHEDULE 13D

(Amendment No. 14)*

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

NATIONAL FUEL GAS COMPANY

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, par value \$1 per share

(Title of Class of Securities)

636180101

(CUSIP Number)

Steven B. Klinsky New Mountain Vantage, L.P. 787 Seventh Avenue, 49th Floor New York, NY 10019 (212) 720-0300

Copies to:

Paul Reinstein Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP One New York Plaza New York, NY 10004-1980 (212) 859-8000

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

December 7, 2010

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of This Statement)

| If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this |
|---|
| Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of §§ 240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f) or 240.13d-1(g), check the |
| following box: [] |

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

| CUSIP N | o. 636180101 | | Page 2 of 22 Pages | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| 1 | NAME OF REPORTING PER New Mountain Vantage GP, L | | | |
| 2 | CHECK THE API GROUP | P R O P R I A T E (a) [x | BOX IF A MEMBER O | F A |
| 3 | SEC USE ONLY |] | | |
| 4 | SOURCE OF FUNDS AF | | | |
| 5 | CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSUL P U R S U A N | | 2 | O R |
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| CUSIP N | o. 636180101 | | Page 7 of 22 Pages | | |
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| 2 | New Mountain Vantage (Cayr C H E C K T H E A P I GROUP | P R O P R I A T E (a) [x] | | MEMBER | OF A |
| 3 | SEC USE ONLY (b) [|] | | | |
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| CUSIP N | o. 636180101 | | Page 9 of 22 Pages | |
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| CUSIP N | o. 636180101 | | Page 10 of 22 Pages | |
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| 1 | NAME OF REPORTING PER | SON | | |
| 2 | Steven B. Klinsky C H E C K T H E A P F GROUP | (a) [x | | EMBER OF A |
| 3 | (b) [|] | | |
| 4 | SOURCE OF FUNDS AF, PF | | | |
| 5 | CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSUR | | _ | D (d) O R |
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| 1 | NAME OF REPORTING PERSON | | |
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| 3 | (b) [] SEC USE ONLY | | |
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| 14 | Less than 0.1% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSO | N | |
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| CUSIP N | To. 636180101 | | Page 12 of 22 Pages | S | |
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| 1 | NAME OF REPORTING PER | RSON | | | |
| 2 | NMV Special Holdings, LLC C H E C K T H E A P I GROUP | (a) [x] | - | MEMBER | OF A |
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| CUSIP N | No. 636180101 | Page 13 of 22 Pages | |
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| 1 | NAME OF REPORTING PERSON | | |
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| 13 | PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESE 2.0% | NTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) | |
| 14 | TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON EP | | |
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This Amendment No. 14, filed by New Mountain Vantage GP, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company ("Vantage GP"), New Mountain Vantage, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("NMV"), New Mountain Vantage (California), L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("NMVC"), New Mountain Vantage (California) II, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("NMVLO"), New Mountain Vantage Advisers, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company ("NMV Advisers"), New Mountain Vantage (Cayman) Ltd., a Cayman Islands exempt limited company ("NMV Offshore"), New Mountain Vantage HoldCo Ltd., a Cayman Islands exempt limited company ("NMV Offshore"), New Mountain Vantage HoldCo Ltd., a Cayman Islands exempt limited company ("NMV Offshore HoldCo"), Mr. Steven B. Klinsky, Mr. F. Fox Benton, III, (collectively, the "NMV Entities"), NMV Special Holdings, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("NMVSH"), and the California Public Employees' Retirement System, a unit of the California State and Consumer Services Agency charged with oversight of the Public Employees' Retirement Fund ("CalPERS") (NMV Entities, NMVSH and CalPERS, collectively, the "Reporting Persons"), amends the Schedule 13D (the "Schedule 13D") filed by the Reporting Persons with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on October 30, 2006, as amended, relating to the common stock, par value \$1 per share ("Common Stock"), of National Fuel Gas Company, a New Jersey corporation (the "Issuer").1

ITEM 3. SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF FUNDS OR OTHER CONSIDERATION

Item 3 of the Schedule 13D is hereby amended to add the following:

The aggregate purchase price of the 200 shares of Common Stock acquired by CalPERS, as described in Item 5(c), was \$12,202.00. Such shares were acquired with working capital.

ITEM 5. INTEREST IN SECURITIES OF THE ISSUER

Item 5 is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

(a). The aggregate percentage of shares of Common Stock reported owned by each person named herein is based upon 82,190,871 shares of Common Stock outstanding, which is the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding as of October 31, 2010, as reported in the Issuer's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2010, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 24, 2010.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, as described below, the Reporting Persons may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 4,075,130 shares of Common Stock representing, in the aggregate, approximately 5.0% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, Mr. Klinsky may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 3,853,833 shares of Common Stock that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO, NMV Offshore and NMVSH representing, in the aggregate, approximately 4.7% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock. Mr. Klinsky disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO, NMV Offshore and NMVSH, to the extent that partnership interests or limited liability company interests in NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO, NMV Offshore and NMVSH are held by persons other than Mr. Klinsky.

¹ Neither the present filing nor anything contained herein shall be construed as an admission that any Reporting Person constitutes a "person" for any purposes other than Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, NMV Advisers may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 2,437,508 shares of Common Stock that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO and NMV Offshore representing, in the aggregate, approximately 3.0% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock. NMV Advisers disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO and NMV Offshore, to the extent that partnership interests in NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO and NMV Offshore are held by persons other than NMV Advisers.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, Vantage GP may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 3,790,852 shares of Common Stock that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO and NMVSH representing, in the aggregate, approximately 4.6% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock. Vantage GP disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO and NMVSH to the extent that partnership interests or limited liability company interests in NMV, NMVC, NMVC II, NMVLO and NMVSH are held by persons other than Vantage GP.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, NMV Offshore may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 62,981 shares of Common Stock that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by NMV Offshore HoldCo, representing approximately 0.1% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, (i) NMV may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 616,649 shares of Common Stock, representing approximately 0.8% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock, (ii) NMVC may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 405,011 shares of Common Stock, representing approximately 0.5% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock, (iii) NMVC II may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 1,343,908 shares of Common Stock, representing approximately 1.6% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock, (iv) NMVLO may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 8,959 shares of Common Stock, representing less than 0.1% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock and (v) NMV Offshore HoldCo may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 62,981 shares of Common Stock, representing approximately 0.1% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, NMVSH may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 1,416,325 shares of Common Stock, representing approximately 1.7% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, CalPERS may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 1,632,522 shares of Common Stock that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by NMVSH and by CalPERS, representing approximately 2.0% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock. CalPERS disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by NMVSH to the extent that membership interests in NMVSH are held by persons other than CalPERS.

As of the close of business on December 7, 2010, Mr. Benton may be deemed to beneficially own 100 shares of Common Stock and an additional 5,000 shares of Common Stock that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by Moreno Energy. These 5,100 shares of Common Stock represent less than 0.1% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock.

(b). Except as set forth below, each Reporting Person may be deemed to share the power to vote or direct the vote and to dispose or to direct the disposition of the shares of Common Stock that the Reporting Person may be deemed to beneficially own as described above. CalPERS may be deemed to have the sole power to vote or direct the vote and to dispose or to direct the disposition of the 216,197 shares of Common Stock that CalPERS owns directly. Mr. Benton may be deemed to have the sole power to vote or direct the vote and to dispose or to direct the disposition of the 100 shares of Common Stock that he owns directly, and he may be deemed to share the power to vote or direct the vote and to dispose or to direct the disposition of the 5,000 shares of Common Stock that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by Moreno Energy.

- (c). On November 10, 2010, CalPERS acquired 100 shares of Common Stock on the open market for an aggregate purchase price of \$6,103.50 and on November 17, 2010, CalPERS acquired 100 shares of Common Stock on the open market for an aggregate purchase price of \$6,098.50. Schedule A annexed hereto lists all other transactions in the shares of Common Stock during the past sixty days by the Reporting Persons. All of the transactions listed on Schedule A were effected on the open market.
- (d). No person is known by any Reporting Person to have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, any shares of Common Stock that may be deemed to be beneficially owned by any Reporting Person.
- (e). As a result of the transactions listed on Schedule A, on December 7, 2010 the Reporting Persons ceased to be the beneficial owners of more than five percent of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock.

SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: December 9, 2010

NEW MOUNTAIN VANTAGE GP, L.L.C.

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky Managing Member

NEW MOUNTAIN VANTAGE, L.P.

By: New Mountain Vantage GP, L.L.C.,

its general partner

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky Managing Member

NEW MOUNTAIN VANTAGE (CALIFORNIA), L.P.

By: New Mountain Vantage GP, L.L.C.,

its general partner

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky Managing Member

NEW MOUNTAIN VANTAGE (CALIFORNIA) II, L.P.

By: New Mountain Vantage GP, L.L.C.,

its general partner

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky Managing Member

NEW MOUNTAIN VANTAGE LO, L.P.

By: New Mountain Vantage GP, L.L.C.,

its general partner

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky Managing Member

NEW MOUNTAIN VANTAGE ADVISERS, L.L.C.

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky Managing Member

NEW MOUNTAIN VANTAGE (CAYMAN) LTD.

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky

Director

NEW MOUNTAIN VANTAGE HOLDCO LTD.

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky

Director

/s/ Steven B. Klinsky Steven B. Klinsky

/s/ F. Fox Benton, III F. Fox Benton, III

NMV SPECIAL HOLDINGS, LLC

By: New Mountain Vantage GP, L.L.C.,

its managing member

By: /s/ Steven B. Klinsky

Steven B. Klinsky Managing Member

California Public Employees' Retirement System

/s/ Eric Baggesen

By: Eric Baggesen

Title: Senior Investment Officer

SCHEDULE A TRANSACTIONS IN THE PAST SIXTY DAYS BY THE REPORTING PERSONS

NMV

| Date | Shares of Common Stock | Approximate Price per |
|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Sold | Share |
| | | (inclusive of commissions) |
| 11/9/2010 | 36,094 | 60.60 |
| 11/10/2010 | 11,149 | 61.12 |
| 11/11/2010 | 16,752 | 61.90 |
| 11/12/2010 | 2,474 | 62.37 |
| 11/15/2010 | 2,824 | 62.73 |
| 11/17/2010 | 5,520 | 61.03 |
| 12/1/2010 | 794 | 65.00 |
| 12/2/2010 | 6,732 | 65.93 |
| 12/7/2010 | 8,011 | 65.04 |

NMVC

| Date | | Shares of Common Stock | Approximate Price per |
|------|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | Sold | Share |
| | | | (inclusive of commissions) |
| | 11/9/2010 | 9,567 | 60.60 |
| | 11/10/2010 | 6,712 | 61.12 |
| | 11/11/2010 | 9,835 | 61.90 |
| | 11/12/2010 | 1,563 | 62.37 |
| | 11/15/2010 | 1,915 | 62.73 |
| | 11/17/2010 | 4,390 | 61.03 |
| | 12/1/2010 | 524 | 65.00 |
| | 12/2/2010 | 4,099 | 65.93 |
| | 12/7/2010 | 3,957 | 65.04 |

NMVC II

| Date | Shares of Common Stock | Approximate Price per | |
|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | Sold | Share | |
| | | (inclusive of commissions) | |
| 11/9/2010 | 25,527 | 60.60 | |
| 11/10/2010 | 21,949 | 61.12 | |
| 11/11/2010 | 32,186 | 61.90 | |
| 11/12/2010 | 5,161 | 62.37 | |
| 11/15/2010 | 6,313 | 62.73 | |
| 11/17/2010 | 14,644 | 61.03 | |
| 12/1/2010 | 1,747 | 65.00 | |

| 12/2/2010 | 13,669 | 65.93 |
|-----------|--------|-------|
| 12/7/2010 | 13,338 | 65.04 |

NMVLO

| Date | Shares of Common Stock | Approximate Price per |
|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Sold | Share |
| | | (inclusive of commissions) |
| 11/9/2010 | 339 | 60.60 |
| 11/10/2010 | 156 | 61.12 |
| 11/11/2010 | 226 | 61.90 |
| 11/12/2010 | 35 | 62.37 |
| 11/15/2010 | 40 | 62.73 |
| 11/17/2010 | 108 | 61.03 |
| 12/1/2010 | 12 | 65.00 |
| 12/2/2010 | 103 | 65.93 |
| 12/7/2010 | 124 | 65.04 |
| | | |

NMV Offshore HoldCo

| Date | Shares of Common Stock | Approximate Price per |
|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Sold | Share |
| | | (inclusive of commissions) |
| 11/9/2010 | 3,764 | 60.60 |
| 11/10/2010 | 1,143 | 61.12 |
| 11/11/2010 | 1,717 | 61.90 |
| 11/12/2010 | 253 | 62.37 |
| 11/15/2010 | 291 | 62.73 |
| 11/17/2010 | 634 | 61.03 |
| 12/1/2010 | 83 | 65.00 |
| 12/2/2010 | 696 | 65.93 |
| 12/7/2010 | 816 | 65.04 |
| | | |

NMVSH

| Date | Shares of Common Stock | Approximate Price per |
|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Sold | Share |
| | | (inclusive of commissions) |
| 11/9/2010 | 43,750 | 60.60 |
| 11/10/2010 | 23,891 | 61.12 |
| 11/11/2010 | 35,284 | 61.90 |
| 11/12/2010 | 5,514 | 62.37 |
| 11/15/2010 | 6,617 | 62.73 |
| 11/17/2010 | 14,704 | 61.03 |
| 12/1/2010 | 1,840 | 65.00 |
| 12/2/2010 | 14,701 | 65.93 |
| 12/7/2010 | 15,254 | 65.04 |
| | | |

CalPERS

| Date | Shar | es of Common | Approximate Price | |
|------------|------|--------------|-------------------|--|
| | ; | Stock Sold | per Share | |
| | | | (inclusive of | |
| | | | commissions) | |
| 11/19/2010 | | 3,300 | 62.98 | |
| 12/02/2010 | 38 | | 65.41 | |