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NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO Form 8-K June 26, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): June 24, 2002

NATIONAL FUEL GAS COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New Jersey 1-3880 13-1086010

(State or other jurisdiction (Commission File No.) (IRS Employer or Identification Number)

incorporation)

10 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, New York 14203 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (716) 857-6987

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

On June 24, 2002, National Fuel Gas Company (the Company) issued a press release regarding its investment in the Independence Pipeline Company. A copy of this press release is hereby incorporated by reference and filed as part of this Current Report as Exhibit 99(a).

Neither the filing of this press release as an exhibit to this Current Report nor the inclusion in such press release of a reference to the Company s internet address shall, under any circumstances, be deemed to incorporate the information available at such internet address into this Current Report. The information available at the Company s internet address is not part of this Current Report or any other report filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Certain statements incorporated by reference from the press release are forward-looking statements as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. There is no assurance that the Company s projections will in fact be achieved nor do these projections reflect any acquisitions or divestitures that may occur during fiscal 2002 or 2003. While the Company s expectations, beliefs and projections are expressed in good faith and are believed to have a reasonable basis, actual results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statement. Furthermore, each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and the Company undertakes no obligation

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to update the statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which it is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. In addition to other factors, the following are important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements: changes in economic conditions, including economic disruptions caused by terrorist activities; changes in demographic patterns and weather conditions; changes in the availability and/or price of natural gas and oil; inability to obtain customers; significant changes in competitive factors affecting the Company; governmental/regulatory actions, initiatives and proceedings, including those affecting, financings, industry and rate structure, and environmental/safety requirements; unanticipated impacts of restructuring initiatives in the natural gas and electric industries; significant changes from expectations in actual capital expenditures and operating expenses and unanticipated project delays or changes in project costs; the nature and projected profitability of pending and potential projects and other investments; occurrences affecting the Company s ability to obtain funds from operations, debt or equity to finance needed capital expenditures and other investments;; changes in the price of natural gas or oil and the related effect given the accounting treatment or valuation of related derivative financial instruments; inability of the various counterparties to meet their obligations with respect to the Company s financial instruments; significant changes in the Company s relationship with its employees or contractors and the potential adverse effects if labor disputes, grievances or shortages were to occur; or changes in accounting principles or the application of such principles to the Company. The Company disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit 99(a) - Press Release issued June 24, 2002

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

NATIONAL FUEL GAS COMPANY

By: <u>/s/ James R. Peterson</u> James R. Peterson Assistant Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number Description

99(a) Press Release issued June 24, 2002