SCHEDULE 14A Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

| Filed by the Registran | at £ | | |
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| Filed by a Party othe | ran | | |
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| 3) Per unit price or other u | nderlying value of | | |
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PRELIMINARY COPY SUBJECT TO COMPLETION DATED MARCH 6, 2014

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.

PROXY STATEMENT

OF

CASABLANCA CAPITAL LP

PLEASE SIGN

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY

| If your shares of Common S prony332rd,iChtchpostage-paid enrg | tock and/or Depositar the Hagse rd | y Shares are registered in | your own name, please v | ote today by signing, dating | and returning the enclosed WHI | <u>TE</u> |
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INFORMATION ON THE PARTICIPANTS

| This Proxy Solicitation is being made by Casablanca Capital LP, Donald G. Drapkin, Douglas Taylor, Robert P. Fisher, Jr., Mr. Goncalves, Patrice E. Merrin, Joseph Rutkowski and Gabriel Stoliar. | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| The principal business of Casablanca Capital is to serve as an investment advisor, exempt from registrying m G | | | | |
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PROPOSAL 1 – ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

According to publ s

| and finance industries Mid" int duded ad isin-t-t UdsHe nuH ut mie e faniea and in H € e u |
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various boards of directors.

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Douglas Taylor 450 Park Avenue, Suite 1403 New York, NY 10022 Mr. Taylor has served as Chief Executive Officer and Co-Chief Investment Officer of Casablanca Capital LP, a hedge fund, since he co-founded it in 2010. Prior to Casablanca, Mr. Taylor was a Managing Director at Lazard Freres & Co. LLC, a leading financial advisory and asset management firm, from 2002 until 2010. From 2000 until 2001, Mr. Taylor served as a Managing Director of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, and from 1993 until 2000, he held various positions, including Managing Director at W

VOTING AND PROXY PROCEDURES

| Only shareholders of record on the Record Date will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. Each share of Common Stock is entitled to one vote. Because each Depositary Share represents a 1/40th interest in a share of the Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock (each of which is entitled to one vote), holders of Depositary Shares will be entitled to 1/40th of a vote per Depositary Share. Shareholders who sell shares of Common Stock or Depositary Shares before the Record Date |
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| If you provide vote allocation instructions for more than the number of votes that you are entitled to cast, the proxy holder will subtract the excess votes from the Nominee or Nominees to whom you have allocated the fewest votes. | | | | | |
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| Shares of Common Stock and Depositary Shares readep | | | | | |
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SOLICITATION OF PROXIES

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| The solicitation of proxies pursuant to this Proxy Solicitation is being made by Casablanca | |
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Conclusion " eL " L eD

We urge you to carefully consider the i adoled

IMPORTANT

| ten your board what you think: four vote is important. No matter now many sharem | | | | |
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