

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0104
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response...0.5

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

FORM 3

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

**Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or
Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940**

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <i>(Last, First, Middle)</i> Arch Coal, Inc.	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement <i>(Month/Day/Year)</i> 10/17/02	3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity <i>(voluntary)</i> 43-0921172
CityPlace One, Suite 300 <i>(Street)</i> St. Louis, MO 63141 <i>(City) (State) (Zip)</i>	4. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Natural Resource Partners L.P. (NRP)	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer <i>(Check All Applicable)</i> <input type="radio"/> Director <input type="radio"/> Officer <i>(give title below)</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="radio"/> Other <i>(specify below)</i>
	6. If Amendment, Date of Original <i>(Month/Day/Year)</i>	7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing <i>(Check Applicable Line)</i> <input type="radio"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).

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

Table II — Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security <i>(Instr. 4)</i>	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date <i>(Month/Day/Year)</i>	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security <i>(Instr. 4)</i>	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) <i>(Instr. 5)</i>	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership <i>(Instr. 5)</i>
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

Explanation of Responses:

(1) On October 17, 2002, Ark Land Company, in connection with the initial public offering of the Issuer, contributed to the Issuer its equity interest an an affiliated entity of the Issuer in exchange for Common and Subordinated Units.

/s/ Robert G. Jones, Secretary <hr/> **Signature of Reporting Person	10/22/02 <hr/> Date
Joint Filer Information Name: Ark Land Company Address: CityPlace One, Suite 300 St. Louis, Missouri 63141	
Designated Filer: Arch Coal, Inc. /s/ Robert G. Jones, Assistant Secretary <hr/> **Signature of Reporting Person	10/22/02 <hr/> Date

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.