

CRAFT JOSEPH W III  
Form 4  
February 16, 2012

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
CRAFT JOSEPH W III

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ALLIANCE RESOURCE PARTNERS LP [ARLP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
1717 S. BOULDER AVENUE, SUITE 400  
(Street)  
TULSA, OK 74119  
(City) (State) (Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
02/14/2012

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
President and Chief Executive

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |                                   |
| Common Unit                     |                                      |  |                                |   | 357,451   | D  |                                   |
| Common Unit                     |                                      |  |                                |   | 1,000   | I  | By son                            |
| Common Unit                     |                                      |  |                                |   | 15,544,169  | I  | By Alliance Holdings GP, L.P. (4) |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) |                            |     |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|-----|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares |     |
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Code   | V   | (A)  | (D)                        |     |
| Phantom unit                               | (2)  | 02/14/2012                           |  | A                              | 825   | (1)  | (3)   | Common unit                                | 825                        | (3) |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                               |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                       | Other |
| CRAFT JOSEPH W III<br>1717 S. BOULDER AVENUE<br>SUITE 400<br>TULSA, OK 74119 | X             | X         | President and Chief Executive |       |

## Signatures

Joseph W. Craft by Mindy Kerber, pursuant to power of attorney dated February 13, 2007 02/16/2012

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The Phantom units are to be settled in ARLP common units upon the reporting person's death or termination.
- (2) 1 for 1
- (3) Not applicable
- (4) The reporting person indirectly holds 15,544,169 Common Units of ARLP through Alliance Holdings GP, L.P. ("AHGP"). Craft is a director, and through his ownership of C-Holdings, LLC, the sole owner of Alliance GP, LLC, the general partner of AHGP, and holds, directly or indirectly, a majority of the outstanding AHGP Common Units. AHGP owns 42.3% of the Common Units of ARLP. Craft

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disclaims beneficial ownership of the Common Units of ARLP held by AHGP except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

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

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