FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:      | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  STAFFORD THOMAS P   |  |         |          | <u>NL I</u>   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NL INDUSTRIES INC [ NL ] |  |        |  |                                |  |        |   |   | neck all  | nship of Report<br>applicable)<br>Director                                  | ing Pe   | Person(s) to Issuer  10% Owner  Other (specify below) |   |             |
|---|--|---------|----------|---|--|--|--------|--|--------------------------------|--|--------|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|-------------|
| (Last)  | (Fir   | , , ,   |          |   |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/24/2006                                |        |  |                                |  |        |   |   |   |   | Officer (give title below)                             |   |   |             |
| 5430 LBJ FREEWAY<br>SUITE 1700                                |  |         |          | 4. If A   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)             |  |        |  |                                |  |        |   |   | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person |   |  |   |   |             |
| (Street)  DALLAS  | TX   | 7       | 5240     |   |  |  |        |  |                                |  |        |   |   |   | F   | om filed by Mo<br>Person                               |   |   |             |
| (City)  | (Sta   | ate) (Z | Zip)     |   |  |  |        |  |                                |  |        |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |             |
|   |  | Table   | e I - N  | on-Deriv  | ative S  | Secu   | ıritie | s Acq  | uired, [                       | Disp                                   | osed o | f, or   | Bene  | ficia   | lly O   | vned   |   |   |             |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transacti Date (Month/Day |  |         |          |   | Execution Date,  |  |        | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquired Disposed Of (D) (Instr. and 5) |                                |  |        |   |   | Se<br>Be<br>Ov  | Amount of curities eneficially vned ellowing                                | For<br>(D)<br>Ind                                      | Ownership<br>rm: Direct<br>or<br>irect (I)<br>str. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |             |
|   |  |         |          |   |  |  |        |  | Code                           | v                                      | Amount |   | A) or<br>D)                                   | Price   | Re<br>Tr  | eported<br>ansaction(s)<br>astr. 3 and 4)              | (iiis   | su . 4)   | (111341. 4) |
| Common stock \$0.125 par value 05/24/20                       |  |         |          | 006   |  | <b>A</b> <sup>(1)</sup>  |        | 1,000  | )                              | A                                      | (1)    |   | 7,000   |   | D   |  |   |   |             |
|   | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |         |          |   |  |  |        |  |                                |  |        |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |             |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)           | rivative Conversion Date Execution Date, (Month/Day/Year) if any   |         | Code (Ir | ransaction of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |  | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)  Date Expiration Exercisable Date |        |  | Amou<br>Secui<br>Unde<br>Deriv | rities<br>rlying<br>ative<br>rity (In: | ount   | 8. Price<br>of<br>Derivat<br>Securit<br>(Instr. ! | derivative<br>ive Securities<br>y Beneficiall | y   | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr.<br>4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |   |   |             |

## Explanation of Responses:

 $1. \ Shares \ issued \ for \ no \ cash \ consideration \ to \ nonemployee \ directors \ under \ the \ NL \ Industries, \ Inc. \ 1998 \ Long-Term \ Incentive \ Plan.$ 

A. Andrew R. Louis, Attorneyin-fact, for Thomas P. Stafford 05/24/2006

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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).

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

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 Number.