

NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO
Form SC 13G
February 14, 2018

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

(Rule 13d-102)

**INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS FILED PURSUANT
TO RULE 13d-1(b), (c), AND (d) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO FILED
PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-2(b)**

(AMENDMENT NO. 0)*

NATIONAL FUEL GAS CO.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, Par Value of \$.01 Per Share

636180101

(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2017

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of This Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Rule 13d-1(b) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Rule 13d-1(c) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Rule 13d-1(d) |

The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to *the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the *Notes*).

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1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS

Aristotle Capital Management, LLC

(a) []

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

State of California

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH **5 SOLE VOTING POWER**

3,098,287

6 SHARED VOTING POWER

None

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

4,955,708

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

4,955,708

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW 9 EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES []

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

5.89%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

IA

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Item 1. (a) **Name of Issuer:**

National Fuel Gas Co.

(b) **Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:**

6363 Main Street
Williamsville, New York 14221-5887

Item 2. (a) **Name of Person Filing:**

Aristotle Capital Management, LLC

(b) **Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence:**

11100 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90025

(c) **Citizenship:**

State of California

(d) **Title of Class of Securities:**

Common Stock, Par Value of \$.01 Per Share

(e) **CUSIP Number:**

636180101

Item 3. **If This Statement is Filed Pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a:**

- (a) Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Exchange Act.
- (b) Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act.
- (c) Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Exchange Act.
- (d) Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act.
- (e) An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
- (f) An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g) A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h) A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;
- (i) A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act;
- (j) Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

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Item 4. Ownership.

| | |
|---|------------------|
| (a) Amount beneficially owned: | 4,955,708 |
| (b) Percent of class: | 5.89% |
| (c) Number of shares as to which the person has: | |
| (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote: | 3,098,287 |
| (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote: | None |
| (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: | 4,955,708 |
| (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: | None |

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following []

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

All of the shares of Common Stock set forth in Item 4 are owned by various investment advisory clients of Aristotle Capital Management, LLC, which is deemed to be a beneficial owner of those shares pursuant to Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, due to its discretionary power to make investment decisions over such shares for its clients and/or its ability to vote such shares. In all cases, persons other than Aristotle Capital Management, LLC have the right to receive, or the power to direct the receipt of, dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of the shares. No individual client holds more than five percent of the class.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company or Control Person.

Not applicable

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not applicable

Item 9. **Notice of Dissolution of Group.**

Not applicable

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Item 10. Certification.

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

**Aristotle Capital
Management, LLC**

By: /s/ **Michelle
M. Gosom**

Name: Michelle M.
Gosom
Chief

Title: Compliance
Officer

Date: February 13,
2018