CRAFT JOSEPH W III

Form 4 May 15, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

January 31, Expires: 2005

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

SECURITIES Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Issuer

may continue. See Instruction

Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Alliance Holdings GP, L.P. [AHGP]

Symbol

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

CRAFT JOSEPH W III

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

| | | | | | | - | - | (Ch | neck all applic | able) | |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------|---------------------|--|---|--------|------------|--|--|---|--|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of | of Earliest 7 | Γransaction | | | | | | |
| 1717 S. BO | OULDER , SUITE 600 | | (Month/) 05/09/2 | Day/Year) 2012 | | | | X Director X Officer (g below) Preside | | | |
| | (Street) | | 4. If Am | endment, I | Date Original | [| | 6. Individual or | Joint/Group | Filing(Check | |
| | | | | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |
| (City) | (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | Date, if | 3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securitie or(A) or Disp (Instr. 3, 4 | osed o | of (D) | 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Unit | | | | | | | | 20,641,168 | I | By Alliance Resource GP, LLC (1) | |
| Common Unit | 05/09/2012 | | | G | 133,430 | D | <u>(5)</u> | 2,463,449 (2) | D | | |
| Common Unit | 05/15/2012 | | | J | 15,129 (<u>6)</u> | D | \$0 | 19,615,923 | I | Through members of 13d group (3) | |
| Common units | | | | | | | | 365,316 | I | Alliance Management Holdings III, | |

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LLC (4)

SEC 1474

(9-02)

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

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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) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) | | | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) |
|---|---|---|---|--|---------------------|--------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | Code V | (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |

Deletionship

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Keiationsinps | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| CRAFT JOSEPH W III 1717 S. BOULDER AVENUE | | | | | | | |
| SUITE 600 | X | X | President and Chief Executive | | | | |
| TULSA, OK 74119 | | | | | | | |

Signatures

Joseph W. Craft by Mindy Kerber, pursuant to power of attorney dated July 27, 2006

05/15/2012

**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).
- Joseph W. Craft III ("Craft") indirectly jointly owns 20,641,168 Common Units of AHGP through his joint ownership of Alliance **(1)** Resource GP, LLC with Kathleen S. Craft.
- (2) Held through the JWC III Rev Trust, of which Mr. Craft is trustee.
- (3) These AHGP common units are held by certain current and former members of management of ARLP other than Mr. Craft with whom he may be deemed to comprise a group under Rule 13d-5(b) of the Exchange Act. Mr. Craft disclaims beneficial ownership of the reported

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securities.

- These AHGP common units are held through Alliance Management Holdings III, LLC ("AMH III"), which acquired 600,000 Common

 Units of AHGP in connection with the AMH Liquidation and the AMH II Liquidation. Mr. Craft is the sole director of AMH III and owns 42.43% of the membership interests in AMH III. Mr. Craft disclaims beneficial ownership of the reported securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interests therein.
- (5) Not applicable as the transaction was a gift.
 - The units involved are subject to a Transfer Restrictions Agreement that, pursuant to Exchange Act Rul 13d-5(b), may cause the Management Group to comprise a group under Exchange Act Rule 13d-5(b). A special committee of the board of directors of Alliance
- (6) GP, LLC, the general partner of AHGP, authorized the release of certain units from the restrictions of the Transfer Restrictions Agreement of each holder that is subject to the agreement. The units "disposed of" reflected in column 4 are units so released. Mr. Craft has not sold or otherwise disposed of any AHGP units other than the gift referenced in Footnote 5 above.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.