

North American Energy Partners Inc.  
Form 6-K  
December 23, 2011

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

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FORM 6-K

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Report of Foreign Private Issuer  
Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16  
under  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of December 2011

Commission File Number 001-33161

NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY PARTNERS INC.

Zone 3 Acheson Industrial Area  
2-53016 Highway 60  
Acheson, Alberta  
Canada T7X 5A7  
(Address of principal executive offices)

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form      Form  
20-F      o      40-F      x

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes      o      No      x

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Documents Included as Part of this Report

No. News Release

1 NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY PARTNERS TO RESUME OVERBURDEN REMOVAL OPERATIONS  
AT CANADIAN NATURAL

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Signatures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY PARTNERS INC.

Date: December 22, 2011

By: /s/ David Blackley

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Name: David Blackley  
Title: Chief Financial Officer