

TRANS ENERGY INC  
Form 10-K  
April 15, 2011

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

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission File Number 0-23530

TRANS ENERGY, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or  
organization)

93-0997412  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

210 Second Street, P.O. Box 393, St. Marys, West Virginia 26170  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone no., including area code: (304) 684-7053

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: Common Stock, \$.001 par value

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.  
Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by checkmark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of

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this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in the definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer, and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	<input type="radio"/>	Accelerated filer	<input type="radio"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="radio"/>	Smaller reporting company	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined by Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold, or the average bid and asked price of such common equity, as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter (June 30, 2010) was \$8,875,370 (based on price of \$2.60 per share).

The number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common equity, as of March 30, 2011, was 12,737,328.

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## PART I

### Item 1 Business

#### History

Trans Energy, Inc. is engaged in the acquisition, exploration, development and production of natural gas and oil, and, to a lesser extent, the marketing and transportation of natural gas. We own interests in and operate approximately 300 oil and gas wells in West Virginia. We also own and operate an aggregate of 19 miles of 4-inch and 6-inch gas transmission lines located within West Virginia in the counties of Marion, Doddridge, Ritchie, Wetzel and Tyler. We also have approximately 49,210 gross acres under lease in West Virginia primarily in the counties of Wetzel, Marshall, Marion, and Doddridge.

Our principal executive offices are located at 210 Second Street, P.O. Box 393, St. Marys, West Virginia 26170, and our telephone number is (304) 684-7053.

#### Recent Events

During the year ended December 31, 2010, Trans Energy drilled and completed the Whipkey 2H and the Whipkey 1H, both horizontal joint venture wells with Republic Partners in Marshall County, West Virginia to an approximate total vertical depth of 7,500 feet, with the primary target being the Marcellus Shale. Republic Partners elected to obtain a 50% paid working interest in these wells as permitted by the terms of the joint venture contract. Trans Energy also drilled the Stout 2H, the Groves 1H, the Keaton 1H, and began drilling the Lucey 1H. These wells are all horizontal joint venture wells with Republic Partners in Marshall County, West Virginia to an approximate total vertical depth of 7,500 feet, with the primary target being the Marcellus Shale. Republic Partners elected to obtain a 50% paid working interest in these wells as permitted by the terms of the joint venture contract. The Stout 2H, the Groves 1H, and the Keaton 1H were all completed during the first quarter of 2011, and the Lucey 1H is expected to be completed during the second quarter of 2011.

#### Business History

Our business strategy is to economically increase reserves, production and the sale of natural gas and oil from existing and acquired properties in the Appalachian Basin and elsewhere, in order to maximize shareholders' return over the long term. Our strategic location in West Virginia enables us to actively pursue the acquisition and development of producing properties in that area that will enhance our revenue base without proportional increases in overhead costs.

The Company has been an oil and gas developer for more than twenty years, but began a more aggressive focus on development and growth in early 2006. We began an effort to leverage the company's acreage and reserves to fund development, and have drilled more than 30 wells since early 2006 and significantly increased production and reserves. During late 2007, we redirected our focus from shallow drilling to drilling exclusively in the Marcellus Shale. Management intends to continue to develop and increase the production from oil and natural gas properties that we currently own. We will continue to transport and market natural gas through our pipelines.

#### Current Business Activities

We operate our oil and natural gas properties and transport and market natural gas through our transmission systems in West Virginia. Although management desires to acquire additional oil and natural gas properties and to become more involved in exploration and development, this can only be accomplished if we can secure future

funding. Management intends to continue to develop and increase the production from the oil and natural gas properties that it currently owns.

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## Marketing

We operate exclusively in the oil and gas industry. Natural gas production from wells owned by us is generally sold to various intrastate and interstate pipeline companies and natural gas marketing companies. Sales are generally made under short-term delivery contracts at market prices. These prices fluctuate with natural gas contracts as posted in national publications and on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Natural gas delivered through Trans Energy's pipeline network is sold either to Sancho Oil and Gas Corporation ("Sancho"), a company controlled by the Vice President of Trans Energy, at the industrial facilities near Sistersville, West Virginia, or to Dominion Gas, a local utility company, on an on-going basis at a variable price per month per Mcf. Under its contract with Sancho, Trans Energy has the right to sell natural gas subject to the terms and conditions of a contract, as amended, that Sancho entered into with Dominion Gas in 1988. This agreement is a flexible volume supply agreement whereby Trans Energy receives the full price which Sancho charges the end user less a \$0.05 per Mcf marketing fee paid to Sancho. The amount paid to Sancho under this agreement was approximately \$3,000 in 2010 and approximately \$3,000 in 2009.

The majority of our natural gas is sold to Hydrocarbon Exchange Corp, Dominion and its subsidiaries, East Resources, or Equitable Gas.

We sell our oil production to third party purchasers under agreements at posted field prices. These third parties purchase the oil at the various locations where the oil is produced and haul it via truck.

## Competition

We are in direct competition with numerous oil and natural gas companies, drilling and income programs and partnerships exploring various areas of the Appalachian Basin and elsewhere competing for customers. Many competitors are large, well-known oil and gas and/or energy companies, although no single entity dominates the industry. Many of our competitors possess greater financial and personnel resources, sometimes enabling them to identify and acquire more economically desirable energy producing properties and drilling prospects than us. We are more of a regional operator, and have the traditional competitive strengths of one, including long established contacts and in-depth knowledge of the local geography. Additionally, there is increasing competition from other fuel choices to supply the energy needs of consumers and industry. There is also the possibility that future energy-related legislation and regulations may impact competitive conditions. Management believes that there exists a viable market place for smaller producers of natural gas and oil and for operators of smaller natural gas transmission systems. If that situation were to change, management believes the Company would command a competitive price if it became part of a larger company.

## Government Regulation

The oil and gas industry is extensively regulated by federal, state and local authorities. The scope and applicability of legislation is constantly monitored for change and expansion. Numerous agencies, both federal and state, have issued rules and regulations binding on the oil and gas industry and its individual members, some of which carry substantial penalties for noncompliance. To date, these mandates have had no material effect on our capital expenditures, earnings or competitive position.

Legislation and implementing regulations adopted or proposed to be adopted by the Environmental Protection Agency and by comparable state agencies, directly and indirectly, affect our operations. We are required to operate in compliance with certain air quality standards, water pollution limitations, solid waste regulations and other controls related to the discharging of materials into, and otherwise protecting the environment. These regulations also relate to the rights of adjoining property owners and to the drilling and production operations and activities in connection with the storage and transportation of natural gas and oil.

There is a growing concern that future federal legislation may address emissions such as greenhouse gasses that are perceived to present an endangerment to human health and the environment. Such new legislation and regulations could result in the creation of additional costs in the form of taxes, restrictions of output and the investments of additional capital to maintain compliance with laws and regulations. Compliance with new laws and regulations could significantly increase operating costs, reduce demand for our products, impact the cost and availability of capital and increase our exposure to litigation. New legislation could also focus on increasing demand for less carbon intensive energy sources, which could adversely affect demand for the natural gas and oil we market. The implementation of new laws and regulations remains uncertain as do the ultimate impact to our operating costs and business.

We may be required to prepare and present to federal, state or local authorities data pertaining to the effect or impact that any proposed operations may have upon the environment. Requirements imposed by such authorities could be costly, time-consuming and could delay continuation of production or exploration activities. Further, the cooperation of other persons or entities may be required for us to comply with all environmental regulations. It is conceivable that future legislation or regulations may significantly increase environmental protection requirements and, as a consequence, our activities may be more closely regulated which could significantly increase operating costs. However, management is unable to predict the cost of future compliance with environmental legislation. As of the date hereof, management believes that we are in compliance with all present environmental regulations. Further, we believe that our oil and gas explorations do not pose a threat of introducing hazardous substances into the environment. If such event should occur, we could be liable under certain environmental protection statutes and laws. We presently carry insurance for environmental liability.

Our exploration and development operations are subject to various types of regulation at the federal, state and local levels. Such regulation includes the requirement of permits for the drilling of wells, the regulation of the location and density of wells, limitations on the methods of casing wells, requirements for surface use and restoration of properties upon which wells are drilled, and governing the abandonment and plugging of wells. Exploration and production are also subject to property rights and other laws governing the correlative rights of surface and subsurface owners.

We are subject to the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, as well as other state and local labor laws, rules and regulations. The cost of compliance with the health and safety requirements is not expected to have a material impact on our aggregate production expenses. Nevertheless, we are unable to predict the ultimate cost of compliance.

Although past sales of natural gas and oil were subject to maximum price controls, such controls are no longer in effect. Other federal, state and local legislation, while not directly applicable to us, may have an indirect effect on the cost of, or the demand for, natural gas and oil.

#### Employees

As of the end of our fiscal year on December 31, 2010, we employed twenty-five full-time employees, consisting of six executives and managers, six marketing, lease acquisition and clerical persons, and thirteen field operations employees.





None of our employees are members of any union, nor have they entered into any collective bargaining agreements. We believe that our relationship with our employees is good. With the successful implementation of our business plan, we may seek additional employees in the next year to handle anticipated potential growth.

### Industry Segments

We are presently engaged in the principal business of the exploration, development and, production of natural gas and oil. We are also involved in pipeline transportation and marketing of natural gas and oil. Reference is made to the statements of operations contained in the financial statements included herewith for a statement of our revenues and operating income (loss) for the past two fiscal years.

### Item 1A Risk Factors

You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below and other information in this report. If any of the following risks or uncertainties actually occur, our business, financial condition and operating results, would likely suffer. Additional risks and uncertainties, including those that are not yet identified or that we currently believe are immaterial, may also adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results.

We have a history of losses and may realize future losses

Our revenues increased approximately 16% during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010. However, we may not achieve, or subsequently maintain profitability if anticipated revenues do not increase in the future. We have experienced operating losses, negative cash flow from operations and net losses in most quarterly and annual periods for the past several years. As of December 31, 2010, our net operating loss carryforward was approximately \$14 million and our accumulated deficit was approximately \$21 million. We expect to continue to incur significant expenses in connection with exploration and development of new and existing properties.

Accordingly, we will need to generate significant revenues to achieve, attain, and eventually sustain profitability. If revenues do not increase, we may be unable to attain or sustain profitability on a quarterly or annual basis. Any of these factors could cause the price of our stock to decline.

We have a significant working capital deficit that makes it more difficult to obtain capital necessary for our operations and which may have an adverse effect on our future business.

As of December 31, 2010, we had a working capital deficit of approximately \$20 million. This deficit in working capital is primarily attributed to the reclassification of notes payable to current. If our business does not produce positive working capital in the future, our business and financial condition would most likely be materially and negatively impacted.

If we default on our revolving credit facility, our financial condition and future operations would be severely and negatively affected.

On June 15, 2010, our senior secured revolving credit facility became due in the principal amount of \$30,000,000, plus accrued interest and fees. Subsequently, we sold certain assets, including oil and gas interests, to pay down the principal amount and have worked with the lender to restructure the credit arrangement. In March 2011, we amended our agreement with the lender that extends the maturity date of the credit arrangement to March 31, 2012. The total due under the agreement at March 31, 2011 was \$18,184,978. If we are unable to successfully service and repay the debt, we would be in default under the amended agreement. In that event, the lender would have a first priority,

continuing security interest in all of our properties and assets and any proceeds from sales and revenues generated from those assets. This would cause a severe, negative impact on our financial condition. Also, if it becomes necessary to sell off additional assets to service the debt, we may be forced to dispose of valuable assets that would cause additional financial hardship.

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Management believes that we may need to seek additional funding in the future for capital expenditures. If we cannot meet future capital requirements through realized revenues from our ongoing business, we may have to raise additional capital by borrowing or by selling equity or equity-linked securities, which would dilute the ownership percentage of our existing stockholders. Also, these securities could also have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of our common stock. Similarly, if we raise additional capital by issuing debt securities, those securities may contain covenants that restrict us in terms of how we operate our business, which could also affect the value of our common stock. If we borrow more money, we will have to pay interest and may also have to agree to restrictions that limit operating flexibility. We may not be able to obtain funds needed to finance operations at all, or may be able to obtain funds only on very unattractive terms. Management may also explore other alternatives such as a joint venture with other oil and gas companies. There can be no assurances, however, that we will conclude any such transaction.

Drilling for and producing oil and natural gas are high risk activities with many uncertainties that could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our future success will depend on the success of our exploitation, exploration, development and production activities. Our oil and natural gas exploration and production activities are subject to numerous risks beyond our control, including the risk that drilling will not result in commercially viable oil or natural gas production. Our decisions to purchase, explore, develop or otherwise exploit prospects or properties will depend in part on the evaluation of data obtained through geophysical and geological analyses, production data and engineering studies, the results of which are often inconclusive or subject to varying interpretations. Please read “Item 1A. Our estimated reserves are based on many assumptions that may turn out to be inaccurate. Any significant inaccuracies in these reserve estimates or underlying assumptions may materially affect the quantities and present value of our reserves” below for a discussion of the uncertainties involved in these processes. Our costs of drilling, completing and operating wells are often uncertain before drilling commences. Overruns in budgeted expenditures are common risks that can make a particular project uneconomical. Further, our future business, financial condition, results of operations, liquidity or ability to finance planned capital expenditures could be materially and adversely affected by any factor that may curtail, delay or cancel drilling, including the following:

- delays imposed by or resulting from compliance with regulatory requirements;
- unusual or unexpected geological formations;
- pressure or irregularities in geological formations;
- shortages of or delays in obtaining equipment and qualified personnel;
- equipment malfunctions, failures or accidents;
- unexpected operational events and drilling conditions;
- pipe or cement failures;
- casing collapses;
- lost or damaged oilfield drilling and service tools;
- loss of drilling fluid circulation;
- uncontrollable flows of oil, natural gas and fluids;
- fires and natural disasters;
- environmental hazards, such as natural gas leaks, oil spills, pipeline ruptures and discharges of toxic gases;

- adverse weather conditions;
- reductions in oil and natural gas prices;
- oil and natural gas property title problems; and
- market limitations for oil and natural gas.

If any of these factors were to occur with respect to a particular field, we could lose all or a part of our investment in the field, or we could fail to realize the expected benefits from the field, either of which could materially and adversely affect our revenue and profitability.

We have limited experience in drilling wells to the Marcellus Shale and limited information regarding reserves and decline rates in the Marcellus Shale. Wells drilled to this shale are more expensive and more susceptible to mechanical problems in drilling and completion techniques than wells in other conventional areas.

We have limited experience in the drilling and completion of Marcellus Shale wells, including limited horizontal drilling and completion experience. Other operators in the Marcellus Shale play may have significantly more experience in the drilling and completion of these wells, including the drilling and completion of horizontal wells. In addition, we have limited information with respect to the ultimate recoverable reserves and production decline rates in these areas. The wells drilled in the Marcellus Shale are primarily horizontal and require more stimulation, which makes them more expensive to drill and complete. The wells will also be more susceptible to mechanical problems associated with the drilling and completion of the wells, such as casing collapse and lost equipment in the wellbore due to the length of the lateral portions of these unconventional wells. The fracturing of these shale formations will be more extensive and complicated than fracturing geological formations in conventional areas of operation.

Prospects that we decide to drill may not yield oil or natural gas in commercially viable quantities.

Our prospects are in various stages of evaluation. There is no way to predict with certainty in advance of drilling and testing whether any particular prospect will yield oil or natural gas in sufficient quantities to recover drilling or completion costs or to be economically viable, particularly in light of the current economic environment. The use of seismic data and other technologies, and the study of producing fields in the same area, will not enable us to know conclusively before drilling whether oil or natural gas will be present or, if present, whether oil or natural gas will be present in commercially viable quantities. Moreover, the analogies we draw from available data from other wells, more fully explored prospects or producing fields may not be applicable to our drilling prospects.

The unavailability or high cost of drilling rigs, equipment, supplies, personnel and services could adversely affect our ability to execute on a timely basis our exploration and development plans within our budget.

We may, from time to time, encounter difficulty in obtaining, or an increase in the cost of securing, drilling rigs, equipment, services and supplies. In addition, larger producers may be more likely to secure access to such equipment and services by offering more lucrative terms. If we are unable to acquire access to such resources, or can obtain access only at higher prices, our ability to convert our reserves into cash flow could be delayed and the cost of producing those reserves could increase significantly, which would adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Revisions of oil and gas reserve estimates could adversely affect the trading price of our common stock. Oil and gas reserves and the standardized measure of cash flows represent estimates, which may vary materially over time due to many factors.

The market price of our common stock may be subject to significant decreases due to decreases in our estimated reserves, our estimated cash flows and other factors. Estimated reserves may be subject to downward revision based upon future production, results of future development, prevailing oil and gas prices, prevailing operating and development costs and other factors. There are numerous uncertainties and uncontrollable factors inherent in estimating quantities of oil and gas reserves, projecting future rates of production, and timing of development expenditures.

In addition, the estimates of future net cash flows from proved reserves and the present value of proved reserves are based upon various assumptions about prices and costs and future production levels that may prove to be incorrect over time. Any significant variance from the assumptions could result in material differences in the actual quantity of reserves and amount of estimated future net cash flows from estimated oil and gas reserves.

Our estimates of proved reserves have been prepared under current SEC rules, which went into effect for fiscal years ending on or after December 31, 2009, and may make comparisons to prior periods difficult and could limit our ability to book additional proved undeveloped reserves in the future.

This Form 10-K presents estimates of our proved reserves as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, which have been prepared and presented under current SEC rules. These rules require SEC reporting companies to prepare their reserves estimates using revised reserve definitions and revised pricing based on 12-month unweighted first-day-of-the-month average pricing. The previous rules required that reserve estimates be calculated using year-end pricing. As a result of these changes, direct comparisons to our previously-reported reserves amounts may be more difficult.

Under current SEC requirements, subject to limited exceptions, proved undeveloped reserves may only be booked if they relate to wells scheduled to be drilled within five years of the date of booking. This rule may limit our potential to book additional proved undeveloped reserves as we pursue our drilling program, particularly as we develop our acreage in the Marcellus Shale in West Virginia. Moreover, we may be required to write down our proved undeveloped reserves if we do not drill and develop those reserves within the required five-year timeframe.

Our operations require significant amounts of capital and additional financing may be necessary in order for us to continue our exploration activities, including meeting certain drilling obligations under our existing lease obligations.

Our cash flow from our reserves, if any, may not be sufficient to fund our ongoing activities at all times. From time to time, we may require additional financing in order to carry out our oil and gas acquisitions, exploration and development activities. Failure to obtain such financing on a timely basis could cause us to forfeit our interest in certain properties as a result of not fulfilling our existing drilling commitments. Certain of our undeveloped leasehold acreage is subject to leases that will expire unless production is established or we meet certain capital expenditure and drilling requirements. If our revenues from our reserves decrease as a result of lower oil and natural gas prices or otherwise, it will affect our ability to expend the necessary capital to replace our reserves or to maintain our current production. If our cash flow from operations is not sufficient to satisfy our capital expenditure requirements, there can be no assurance that additional debt or equity financing will be available to meet these requirements or available to us on favorable terms.



Certain federal income tax deductions currently available with respect to oil and natural gas exploration and development may be eliminated as a result of future legislation.

Changes contained in President Obama's 2012 budget proposal include the elimination of certain key U.S. federal income tax preferences currently available to oil and gas exploration and production companies. Such changes include, but are not limited to, (i) the repeal of the percentage depletion allowance for oil and gas properties; (ii) the elimination of current deductions for intangible drilling and development costs; (iii) the elimination of the deduction for certain U.S. production activities; and (iv) an extension of the amortization period for certain geological and geophysical expenditures. It is unclear, however, whether any such changes will be enacted or how soon such changes could be effective.

The passage of any legislation as a result of the budget proposal, or any other similar change in U.S. federal income tax law could eliminate certain tax deductions that are currently available with respect to oil and gas exploration and development, and any such change could negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Deficiencies of title to our leased interests could significantly affect our financial condition.

Our practice in acquiring exploration leases or undivided interests in natural gas and oil leases is not to incur the expense of retaining lawyers to examine the title to the mineral interest prior to executing the lease. Instead, we rely upon the judgment of lease brokers and others to perform the field work in examining records in the appropriate governmental or county clerk's office before leasing a specific mineral interest. This practice is widely followed in the industry. Prior to drilling an exploration well, the operator of the well will typically obtain a preliminary title review of the drillsite lease or spacing unit within which the proposed well is to be drilled to identify any obvious deficiencies in title to the well and, if there are deficiencies, to identify measures necessary to cure those defects to the extent reasonably possible. It does happen, from time-to-time, that the examination made by the operator's title lawyers reveals that the lease or leases are invalid, having been purchased in error from a person who is not the rightful owner of the mineral interest desired. In these circumstances, we may not be able to proceed with our exploration and development of the lease site or may incur costs to remedy a defect, which could affect our financial condition and results of operations.

We are subject to complex federal, state and local laws and regulations, including environmental laws, which could adversely affect our business.

Exploration for and development, exploitation, production and sale of oil and natural gas in the United States are subject to extensive federal, state and local laws and regulations, including complex tax laws and environmental laws and regulations. Existing laws or regulations, as currently interpreted or reinterpreted in the future, or future laws, regulations or incremental taxes and fees, could harm our business, results of operations and financial condition. We may be required to make large expenditures to comply with environmental and other governmental regulations.

It is possible that new taxes on our industry could be implemented and/or tax benefits could be eliminated or reduced, reducing our profitability and available cash flow. In addition to the short-term negative impact on our financial results, such additional burdens, if enacted, would reduce our funds available for reinvestment and thus ultimately reduce our growth and future oil and natural gas production.

Matters subject to regulation include oil and gas production and saltwater disposal operations and our processing, handling and disposal of hazardous materials, such as hydrocarbons and naturally occurring radioactive materials, discharge permits for drilling operations, spacing of wells, environmental protection and taxation. We could incur significant costs as a result of violations of or liabilities under environmental or other laws, including third party claims for personal injuries and property damage, reclamation costs, remediation and clean-up costs resulting from oil



spills and discharges of hazardous materials, fines and sanctions, and other environmental damages.

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We must obtain governmental permits and approvals for our drilling operations, which can be a costly and time consuming process, which may result in delays and restrictions on our operations.

Regulatory authorities exercise considerable discretion in the timing and scope of permit issuance. Requirements imposed by these authorities may be costly and time consuming and may result in delays in the commencement or continuation of our exploration or production operations. For example, we are often required to prepare and present to federal, state or local authorities data pertaining to the effect or impact that proposed exploration for or production of natural gas or oil may have on the environment. Further, the public may comment on and otherwise engage in the permitting process, including through intervention in the courts. Accordingly, the permits we need may not be issued, or if issued, may not be issued in a timely fashion, or may involve requirements that restrict our ability to conduct our operations or to do so profitably.

Federal and state legislation and regulatory initiatives relating to hydraulic fracturing could result in increased costs and additional operating restrictions or delays.

Congress is currently considering legislation to amend the federal Safe Drinking Water Act to require the disclosure of chemicals used by the oil and natural gas industry in the hydraulic fracturing process. Hydraulic fracturing is an important and necessary process in the completion of unconventional oil and natural gas wells in shale formations. This process involves the injection of water, sand and chemicals under pressure into rock formations to stimulate production. Sponsors of two companion bills, which are currently pending in the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Committee have asserted that chemicals used in the fracturing process could adversely affect drinking water supplies. The proposed legislation would require the reporting and public disclosure of chemicals used in the fracturing process, which could make it easier for third parties opposing the hydraulic fracturing process to initiate legal proceedings based on allegations that specific chemicals used in the fracturing process could adversely affect groundwater. In addition, this legislation, if adopted, could establish an additional level of regulation at the federal level that could lead to operational delays or increased operating costs and could result in additional regulatory burdens. Several states are also considering implementing, or in some instances, have implemented, new regulations pertaining to hydraulic fracturing, including the disclosure of chemicals used in connection therewith. The adoption of any future federal or state laws or implementing regulations imposing reporting obligations on, or otherwise limiting, the hydraulic fracturing process would make it more difficult and more expensive to complete new wells in shale formations and would increase our costs of compliance and doing business.

The enactment of the Dodd–Frank Act could have an adverse impact on our ability to hedge risks associated with our business.

Congress recently adopted comprehensive financial reform legislation that establishes federal oversight and regulation of the over-the-counter derivatives market and entities, including us, that participate in that market. The new legislation, known as the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd–Frank Act”), was signed into law by the President on July 21, 2010 and requires CFTC and the SEC to promulgate rules and regulations implementing the new legislation within 360 days from the date of enactment. In its rulemaking under the Dodd–Frank Act, the CFTC has proposed regulations to set position limits for certain futures and option contracts in the major energy markets and for swaps that are their economic equivalents. Certain bona fide hedging transactions or positions would be exempt from these position limits. It is not possible at this time to predict when the CFTC will finalize these regulations. The financial reform legislation may also require us to comply with margin requirements and with certain clearing and trade-execution requirements in connection with our derivative activities, although the application of those provisions to us is uncertain at this time. The financial reform legislation may also require the counterparties to our derivative instruments to spin off some of their derivatives activities to a separate entity, which may not be as creditworthy as the current counterparty. The new legislation and any new regulations could significantly increase the

cost of derivative contracts (including through requirements to post collateral which could adversely affect our available liquidity), materially alter the terms of derivative contracts, reduce the availability of derivatives to protect against risks we encounter, reduce our ability to monetize or restructure our existing derivative contracts, and increase our exposure to less creditworthy counterparties. If we reduce our use of derivatives as a result of the legislation and regulations, our results of operations may become more volatile and our cash flows may be less predictable, which could adversely affect our ability to plan for and fund capital expenditures. Finally, the legislation was intended, in part, to reduce the volatility of oil and natural gas prices, which some legislators attributed to speculative trading in derivatives and commodity instruments related to oil and natural gas. Our revenues could therefore be adversely affected if a consequence of the legislation and regulations is to lower commodity prices. Any of these consequences could have a material adverse effect on us, our financial condition and our results of operations.

We depend on a relatively small number of purchasers for a substantial portion of our revenue. The inability of one or more of our purchasers to meet their obligations may adversely affect our financial results.

We derive a significant amount of our revenue from a relatively small number of purchasers. Our inability to continue to provide services to key customers, if not offset by additional sales to our other customers, could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations. These companies may not provide the same level of our revenue in the future for a variety of reasons, including their lack of funding, a strategic shift on their part in moving to different geographic areas in which we do not operate or our failure to meet their performance criteria. The loss of all or a significant part of this revenue would adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

There are many competitors in the oil and gas industry

We encounter many competitors in the oil and gas industry including in the exploration and development of properties and the sale of oil and gas. Management expects competition to continue to intensify in the future. Many existing and potential competitors have greater financial resources, larger market share and more customers than us, which may enable them to establish a stronger competitive position than we have. If we fail to address competitive developments quickly and effectively, we will not be able to grow and our business will be adversely affected.

Our operating results are likely to fluctuate significantly and cause our stock price to be volatile which could cause the value of your investment in our shares to decline.

Quarterly and annual operating results are likely to fluctuate significantly in the future due to a variety of factors, many of which are outside of our control. If operating results do not meet the expectations of securities analysts and investors, the trading price of our common stock could significantly decline which may cause the value of your investment to decline. Some of the factors that could affect quarterly or annual operating results or impact the market price of our common stock include:

- \* our ability to develop properties and to market our oil and gas;
- \* the timing and amount of, or cancellation or rescheduling of, orders for our oil and gas;
- \* our ability to retain key management, sales and marketing and engineering personnel;
- \* a decrease in the prices of oil and gas; and
- \* changes in costs of exploration or marketing of oil and gas.

Due to these and other factors, quarterly and annual revenues, expenses and results of operations could vary significantly in the future, and period-to-period comparisons should not be relied upon as indications of future performance.

Our business could be adversely affected by any adverse economic developments in the oil and gas industry and/or the economy in general.

The oil and gas industry is susceptible to significant change that may influence our business development due to a variety of factors, many of which are outside our control. Some of these factors include:

- \* varying demand for oil and gas;
- \* fluctuation in price;
- \* competitive factors that affect pricing;
- \* attempts to expand into new markets;
- \* the timing and magnitude of capital expenditures, including costs relating to the expansion of operations;
- \* hiring and retention of key personnel;
- \* changes in generally accepted accounting policies, especially those related to the oil and gas industry; and
- \* new government legislation or regulation

Any of the above factors or a significant downturn in the oil and gas industry or with economic conditions generally, could have a negative effect on our business and on the price of our common stock.

Our future success depends on retaining existing key employees and hiring and assimilating new key employees. The loss of key employees or the inability to attract new key employees could limit our ability to execute our growth strategy, resulting in lost profitability and a slower rate of growth.

Our future success depends, in part, on the ability to retain our key employees including executive officers. Also, we do not carry, nor do we anticipate obtaining, "key man" insurance on our executives. It would be difficult for us to replace any one of these individuals. In addition, as we grow we may need to hire additional key personnel. We may not be able to identify and attract high quality employees or successfully assimilate new employees into our existing management structure.

If we are unable to manage our growth effectively, our operations and financial performance could be adversely affected.

The ability to manage and operate our business as we execute our anticipated growth will require effective planning. Significant future growth could strain our internal resources, leading to a lower quality of service and other problems that could adversely affect our financial performance. Our ability to manage future growth effectively will also require us to successfully attract, train, motivate, retain and manage new employees and continue to update and improve our operational, financial and management controls and procedures. If we do not manage our growth effectively, our operations could be adversely affected, resulting in slower growth and a failure to achieve or sustain profitability.

#### Future environmental legislation related to climate change

Because of growing concern over risks related to climate change, Congress has adopted or is considering the adoption of regulatory frameworks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Prospective legislation includes possible cap and trade regimes, carbon taxes, increased efficiency standards and incentives or mandates for renewable energy. New laws and regulations could not only make our products more expensive, but also reduce demand for hydrocarbon

products. Such current and pending regulations may also increase operating costs and our compliance costs, such as for enhanced monitoring of emissions.

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#### Going concern issue

Our ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon our ability to achieve a profitable level of operations. We may need, among other things, additional capital resources which we will seek through loans from banks or other forms of financing.

#### Risks relating to ownership of our common stock

The price of our common stock is extremely volatile and investors may not be able to sell their shares at or above their purchase price, or at all.

Our common stock is presently traded on the OTC Bulletin Board, although there is no assurance that a viable market will continue. The price of our shares in the public market is highly volatile and may fluctuate substantially because of:

- \* actual or anticipated fluctuations in our operating results;
- \* changes in or failure to meet market expectations;
- \* conditions and trends in the oil and gas industry; and
- \* fluctuations in stock market price and volume, which are particularly common among securities of small capitalization companies.

Future sales or the potential for sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock could cause the market value to decline and could impair our ability to raise capital through subsequent equity offerings.

If we do not generate necessary cash from our operations to finance future business, we may need to raise additional funds through public or private financing opportunities. The issuance of a substantial number of our common shares to individuals or in the public markets, or the perception that these sales may occur, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline and could materially impair our ability to raise capital through the sale of additional equity securities. Any such issuances would dilute the equity interests of existing stockholders.

#### We do not intend to pay dividends

To date, we have never declared or paid a cash dividend on shares of our common stock. We currently intend to retain any future earnings for growth and development of business and, therefore, do not anticipate paying any dividends in the foreseeable future.

#### Possible "Penny Stock" Regulation

Trading of our common stock on the Bulletin Board may be subject to certain provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, commonly referred to as the "penny stock" rule. A penny stock is generally defined to be any equity security that has a market price less than \$1.00 per share, subject to certain exceptions. If our stock is deemed to be a penny stock, trading in our stock will be subject to additional sales practice requirements on broker-dealers.

These may require a broker dealer to:

- \* make a special suitability determination for purchasers of penny stocks;
- \* receive the purchaser's written consent to the transaction prior to the purchase; and
- \* deliver to a prospective purchaser of a penny stock, prior to the first transaction, a risk disclosure document relating to the penny stock market.

Consequently, penny stock rules may restrict the ability of broker-dealers to trade and/or maintain a market in our common stock. Also, many prospective investors may not want to get involved with the additional administrative requirements, which may have a material adverse effect on the trading of our shares.

#### Item 1B Unresolved Staff Comments

The staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC Staff) conducted a review of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 and issued a letter commenting on certain aspects of these reports. We believe that all matters addressed in the comment letters and our subsequent responses to these letters and discussions with the SEC Staff have been resolved with the exception of certain disclosures related to our proved undeveloped reserves. Based on discussions with staff members at the SEC regarding the response, the remaining unresolved comment will require that the Company file an amendment to its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 to remove our proven undeveloped reserves that do not meet the criteria to be reported based on our financial situation.

#### Item 2 Properties

Our properties consist of working and royalty interests owned by us in various oil and gas wells and leases located in West Virginia. Our proved reserves as of December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008 are set forth below:

	As of December 31,		2009	2008		
	2010			Oil and		
	Oil and	Natural Gas	Oil	Natural Gas	Oil	Natural Gas
	(BBL)	(MCF)	(BBL)	(MCF)	(BBL)	(MCF)
Developed Producing	148,567	7,795,932	158,545	5,002,524	199,596	5,861,734
Developed Non-Producing	35,175	4,995,712	-	1,562,532	209,588	2,348,857
Proved Undeveloped	-	-	-	-	-	9,124,721
Total Proved	183,742	12,791,644	158,545	6,565,056	409,184	17,335,312

The 2009 reserves have been restated to remove the proved undeveloped reserves. Proved undeveloped reserves for 2010 are also not reported even though we have wells in process of being drilled.

A review of our reserves was conducted at year-end 2010 and 2009 by Wright and Company, Inc., our independent petroleum consultants. The estimates for 2008 are based upon the reports of Schlumberger Technology Corporation, independent petroleum consultants. These engineers were selected for their geographic expertise and their historical experience in engineering certain properties. The technical person responsible for reviewing the reserve estimates meet the requirements regarding qualifications, independence, objectivity and confidentiality set forth in the Standards Pertaining to the Estimating and Auditing of Oil and Gas Reserves Information promulgated by the Society of



Petroleum Engineers. We have an internal petroleum engineer on staff who works closely with our independent petroleum consultants to ensure the integrity, accuracy and timeliness of data furnished to our independent petroleum consultants for their reserves review process. Throughout the year, our technical team meets periodically with representatives from our independent petroleum consultants to review properties and discuss methods and assumptions. While we have no formal committee specifically designated to review reserves reporting and the reserves estimation process, our senior management reviews and approves any internally estimated significant changes to our proved reserves. We provide historical information to our consultants for all of our producing properties such as ownership interest; oil and gas production; well test data; commodity prices and operating and development costs. The consultants perform an independent analysis and differences are reviewed.

All of our reserve estimates are reviewed and approved by our President. He is a graduate of Marietta College with a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering and has over thirty years experience in the oil & gas industry.

Effective for the year end 2009, SEC reporting rules require that year-end reserve calculations and future cash inflows be based on the simple average of the first day of the month price for the previous twelve month period. The benchmark prices for 2010 used in the above table were \$5.29 per MMBTU and \$70.60 per BBL. The benchmark prices used for 2009 were \$4.13 per MMBTU and \$61.18 per BBL. The prices used for 2008 were based on the spot price at December 31, 2008 of \$5.71 per MMBTU and \$44.60 per BBL.

Such reports are, by their very nature, inexact and subject to changes and revisions. Proved developed reserves are reserves expected to be recovered from existing wells with existing equipment and operating methods. Proved undeveloped reserves are expected to be recovered from new wells drilled to known reservoirs on undrilled acreage for which existence and recoverability of such reserves can be estimated with reasonable certainty, or from existing wells where a relatively major expenditure is required to establish production. No estimates of reserves have been included in any reports to any federal agency other than the SEC in 2010 and 2009. See Note 16, Supplementary Information on Oil and Gas Producing Activities included as part of our consolidated financial statements.

#### Productive Gas Wells

The following table summarizes the total number of wells and undrilled locations to which proved developed reserves and proved undeveloped reserves, respectively, are attributed. Wells are shown on a gross basis.

	As of December 31,		2009		2008	
	Oil	Natural Gas	Oil	Natural Gas	Oil	Natural Gas
Producing Wells	71	84	5	183	2	189
Non-Producing Wells	6	12	1	117	1	110
Undrilled Well Locations	-	-	-	-	-	20
Total Wells and Well Locations	77	96	6	300	3	319

We have removed unproved drilling locations for the year ended December 31, 2009, as well as excluding them for the year ended December 31, 2010 based on our discussions with the SEC (See Item 1B). Furthermore, we excluded all shallow wells with no or minimal production since we do not plan on a rework program at this time. In addition, we have reclassified certain wells for 2010 that are now primarily producing oil.

## Drilling Activity

The following table summarizes completed drilling activity for the past three years. Gross wells reflect the sum of all wells in which we own an interest. Net wells reflect the sum of our working interests in gross wells. As of December 31, 2010, we were in the process of drilling 4 gross (2 net) wells.

	During the Year Ended December 31,		2009		2008	
	2010 Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Development wells						
Productive	2	1	2	1	13	11.5
Dry	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exploratory wells						
Productive	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dry	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	1	2	1	13	11.5

## Oil and Gas Acreage

The following table summarizes our gross and net developed and undeveloped oil and gas acreage under lease as of December 31, 2010 and 2009.

	Developed Acres		Undeveloped Acres		Total	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
West Virginia						
2010	24,779	14,925	24,432	11,629	49,210	26,554
2009	21,569	14,619	18,100	9,299	39,669	23,918

The following table sets forth certain information regarding production volumes, revenue, average prices received and average production costs associated with our sales of oil and natural gas for the periods noted.

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2010	2009
Net Production:		
Oil (Bbl)		