

CONTANGO OIL & GAS CO  
Form 10-K/A  
August 21, 2013

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

Washington, D.C. 20549

**Form 10-K/A**

(Amendment No. 1)

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012

or

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 001-16317

**CONTANGO OIL & GAS COMPANY**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**95-4079863**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**3700 Buffalo Speedway, Suite 960**

**Houston, TX 77098**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**(713) 960-1901**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

**Common Stock, Par Value \$.04 per share**

**NYSE MKT**

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

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that 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 is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in 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 definition of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer, and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

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

As of December 31, 2011, the aggregate market value of the registrants common stock held by non-affiliates (based upon the closing sale price of shares of such common stock as reported on the NYSE MKT) was \$745,499,902. As of August 24, 2012, there were 15,292,448 shares of the registrants common stock outstanding.

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Contango Oil & Gas Company (the Company, Contango, we, our, us) is hereby amending its previously filed Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 (the Original Filing). This Amendment No. 1 (the Amendment) is being filed solely to amend the following items:

- Item 1 ( Business ) has been revised to clarify the Company's rights to continue operations of facilities located on Eugene Island 11 following the expiration of the Eugene Island lease in December of 2012.

- Item 2 ( Properties ) has been revised to: (i) clarify its disclosure of drilling activity by distinguishing between exploratory and developmental wells; (ii) provide the qualifications of the personnel at the Company who are primarily responsible for overseeing the preparation of the reserves estimates; (iii) clarify the basis for the inclusion of negative reserve quantities as proved reserves; (iv) clarify that the 6.2 Bcfe of proved undeveloped reserves attributable to the Mary Rose #6 well will be developed within five years of their original disclosure; (v) explain the material change in proved undeveloped reserves that occurred between June 30, 2011 and June 30, 2012; and (vi) explain why the Company did not drill any wells during fiscal year 2012.

- Item 7 ( Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ) has been revised to provide disclosure of production by final product sold for each field that contains 15% or more of the Company's total production for the last three years.

- Exhibit 99.1 in Item 15 ( Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules ) has been refiled to include an amended version of the Report of William M. Cobb & Associates, Inc. that was filed as Exhibit 99.1 to the Original Filing.

This Amendment should be read in conjunction with the Original Filing. This Amendment does not reflect events that occurred after the filing date of the Original Filing and no revisions are being made to the Company's financial statements pursuant to this Amendment. Other than the filing of the information identified above, this Amendment does not modify or update the disclosure in the Original Filing in any way.

## PART I

### Item 1. Business

#### Overview

Contango is a Houston-based, independent natural gas and oil company. The Company's core business is to explore, develop, produce and acquire natural gas and oil properties onshore and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico in water-depths of less than 300 feet. Contango Operators, Inc. (COI), our wholly-owned subsidiary, acts as operator on our properties.

#### Our Strategy

Our exploration strategy is predicated upon two core beliefs: (1) that the only competitive advantage in the commodity-based natural gas and oil business is to be among the lowest cost producers and (2) that virtually all the exploration and production industry's value creation occurs through the drilling of successful exploratory wells. As a result, our business strategy includes the following elements:

*Funding exploration prospects generated by Juneau Exploration, L.P., our alliance partner.* We depend primarily upon our alliance partner, Juneau Exploration, L.P. (JEX), for prospect generation expertise. JEX is experienced and has a successful track record in exploration.

*Using our limited capital availability to increase our reward/risk potential on selective prospects.* We have concentrated our risk investment capital in the exploration of i) offshore Gulf of Mexico prospects and ii) conventional and unconventional onshore plays. Exploration prospects are inherently risky as they require large amounts of capital with no guarantee of success. COI drills and operates our prospects. Should we be successful in any of our offshore prospects, we will have the opportunity to spend significantly more capital to complete development and bring the discovery to producing status.

*Sale of proved properties.* From time-to-time as part of our business strategy, we have sold and in the future expect to continue to sell some or a substantial portion of our proved reserves and assets to capture current value, using the sales proceeds to further our offshore exploration activities. Since its inception, the Company has sold approximately \$524 million worth of natural gas and oil properties, and views periodic reserve sales as an opportunity to capture value, reduce reserve and price risk, and as a source of funds for potentially higher rate of return natural gas and oil exploration opportunities.

*Controlling general and administrative and geological and geophysical costs.* Our goal is to be among the most efficient in the industry in revenue and profit per employee and among the lowest in general and administrative costs. We have ten employees. We plan to continue outsourcing our geological, geophysical, and reservoir engineering and land functions, and partnering with cost efficient operators.

*Structuring incentives to drive behavior.* We believe that equity ownership aligns the interests of our employees and stockholders. Our directors and executive officers beneficially own or have voting control over approximately 17% of our common stock.

#### Exploration Alliance with JEX

JEX is a private company formed for the purpose of generating offshore and onshore domestic natural gas and oil prospects. Additionally, JEX can generate offshore prospects through our 32.3% owned affiliated company, Republic Exploration LLC (REX). In addition to generating new prospects, JEX occasionally evaluates offshore and onshore exploration prospects generated by third-party independent companies for us to purchase. Once we have purchased a prospect from JEX, REX or a third-party, we have historically entered into participation agreements and joint operating agreements, which specify each participant's working interest, net revenue interest, and describe when such interests are earned, as well as allocate an overriding royalty interest of up to 3.33% to benefit employees of JEX. See Note 13 - Related Party Transactions for a detailed description of our transactions with JEX and REX.

On April 10, 2012, the Company announced that Mr. Brad Juneau, the sole manager of the general partner of JEX, had joined the Company's board of directors and that the Company had entered into an advisory agreement with JEX (the Advisory Agreement), whereby in addition to generating and evaluating offshore and onshore exploration prospects for the Company, JEX will direct Contango's staff on operational matters including drilling, completions and production. Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, JEX will be paid an annual fee of \$2 million and JEX, or employees of JEX, will continue to be eligible to receive overriding royalty interests, carried interests and certain back-in rights.

### **Offshore Gulf of Mexico Activities**

Contango, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, COI and its partially-owned affiliate, REX, conducts exploration activities in the Gulf of Mexico. COI drills, and operates our wells in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as attends lease sales and acquires leasehold acreage. Additionally, COI may acquire significant working interests in offshore exploration and development opportunities in the Gulf of Mexico, under farm-out agreements, or similar agreements, with REX, JEX and/or other third parties. In order to provide the most up-to-date information available, where possible we have provided data below as of the most recent practicable date prior to the date of the Original Filing.

As of August 24, 2012, the Company's offshore production was approximately 83.5 million cubic feet equivalent per day ( Mmcfed ), net to Contango, which consists mainly of seven federal and five state of Louisiana wells in the shallow waters of the Gulf of Mexico. These 12 operated wells produce via the following four platforms:

#### *Eugene Island 24 Platform*

This third-party owned and operated production platform at Eugene Island 24 was designed with a capacity of 100 million cubic feet per day ( Mmcfed ) and 3,000 barrels of oil per day ( bopd ). This platform services production from the Company's Dutch #1, #2 and #3 federal wells. From this platform, the gas flows through an American Midstream pipeline into a third-party owned and operated on-shore processing facility at Burns Point, Louisiana, and the condensate flows via an ExxonMobil pipeline to on-shore markets and multiple refineries. As of August 24, 2012, we were producing approximately 22.5 Mmcfed, net to Contango, from this platform.

The Company recently finished laying 6 auxiliary flowlines from the Dutch #1, #2, and #3 wells to our Eugene Island 11 Platform (see below) and is in the process of redirecting production from the Eugene Island 24 Platform to the Eugene Island 11 Platform. Our cost estimate for the installation of these three flowlines is \$2.5 million, net to Contango. As of June 30, 2012, the Company had incurred approximately \$0.8 million to install these flowlines.

#### *Eugene Island 11 Platform*

Our Company-owned and operated platform at Eugene Island 11 was designed with a capacity of 500 Mmcfed and 6,000 bopd. In September 2010 the Company installed a companion platform and two pipelines adjacent to the Eugene Island 11 platform to be able to access alternate markets. These platforms service production from the Company's five Mary Rose wells which are all located in state of Louisiana waters, as well as our Dutch #4 and Dutch #5 wells which are both located in federal waters. From these platforms, we can flow our gas to an American Midstream pipeline via our 8 pipeline and from there to a third-party owned and operated on-shore processing facility at Burns Point, Louisiana. We can flow our condensate via an ExxonMobil pipeline to on-shore markets and multiple refineries.

Alternatively, our gas and condensate can flow to our Eugene Island 63 auxiliary platform via our 20 pipeline, which has been designed with a capacity of 330 Mmcfed and 6,000 bopd, and from there to third-party owned and operated on-shore processing facilities near Patterson, Louisiana, via an ANR pipeline. As of August 24, 2012, we were producing approximately 44.6 Mmcfed, net to Contango, from this platform.

Based on production and decline rates, the Company has recently determined the need to place its Dutch and Mary Rose wells on compression in 2013. The Company is in the process of designing and building a large turbine type compressor for the platform at an estimated cost of \$6.8 million, net to Contango. This compressor will be of sufficient capacity to service all ten of the Company's Dutch and Mary Rose wells. As of June 30, 2012, the Company had incurred approximately \$2.3 million to design and build the compressor, which is expected to be installed in June 2013.

#### *Ship Shoal 263 Platform*

Our Company-owned and operated platform at Ship Shoal 263 was designed with a capacity of 40 Mmcfed and 5,000 bopd. This platform services natural gas and condensate production from our Nautilus well, which flows via the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline to onshore processing plants. As of August 24, 2012, we were producing approximately 3.0 Mmcfed, net to Contango, from this platform.

Effective October 1, 2010, the Company purchased an additional 7.5% working interest and 6.0% net revenue interest in Ship Shoal 263 for approximately \$7.5 million from JEX. The Company now owns a 100% working interest and 80% net revenue interest in this well and platform.

#### *Vermilion 170 Platform*

Our Company-owned and operated platform at Vermilion 170 was designed with a capacity of 60 Mmcfed and 2,000 bopd. This platform services natural gas and condensate production from our Swimmy well, which flows via the Sea Robin Pipeline to onshore processing plants. As of August 24, 2012, we were producing approximately 13.4 Mmcfed, net to Contango, from this platform.



Based on current production and decline rates, the Company has determined the need to place its Vermilion 170 well on compression in 2013, at a cost of \$1.4 million, net to Contango. As of June 30, 2012, the Company had incurred approximately \$0.4 million to design and build a compressor to service its Swimmy well, which is expected to be completed in late 2012.

*Other Activities*

On July 10, 2012 we spud our South Timbalier 75 prospect ( Fang ) with the Spartan 303 rig. The Company farmed-in this prospect in August 2011 from an independent third party. We have a 100% working interest in this wildcat exploration prospect, subject to back-ins if successful, and have budgeted to invest approximately \$28.0 million to drill this well. As of June 30, 2012, the Company had invested approximately \$0.4 million in Fang, which includes leasehold costs.

On July 3, 2012, we spud our Ship Shoal 134 prospect ( Eagle ) with the Hercules 205 rig. The Company purchased the deep mineral rights on Ship Shoal 134 from an independent third-party effective February 24, 2011. We have a 100% working interest in this wildcat exploration prospect, subject to back-ins if successful, and have budgeted approximately \$25.0 million to drill this well. As of June 30, 2012, the Company had invested approximately \$6.5 million in Eagle, which includes leasehold costs. We expect to know the drilling results of both the Eagle and Fang wells by November 2012.

On June 20, 2012, the Company was the apparent high bidder on six lease blocks at the Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 216/222. The Company bid an aggregate amount of approximately \$11 million on the following six blocks:

East Cameron 124

Eugene Island 31

Eugene Island 260

Ship Shoal 83

Ship Shoal 255

South Timbalier 110

An apparent high bid ( AHB ) is subject to Outer Continental Shelf ( OCS ) Bid Adequacy Review. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management ( BOEM ) (formerly the Minerals Management Service) may reject all bids for a given tract. The BOEM review process can take up to 90 days. Upon approval from the BOEM, our plan is to promptly obtain permits to drill these prospects and to drill them in 2013 and 2014. The Company will have a 100% working interest in these prospects, subject to back-ins if successful. In August 2012, the Company was notified that it had been awarded East Cameron 124, Eugene Island 31, Ship Shoal 83 and South Timbalier 110 effective September 1, 2012.

On March 1, 2012, the Company was awarded Brazos Area 543 by the BOEM, which was bid on at the Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale No. 218 held on December 14, 2011. As of June 30, 2012, the Company had invested approximately \$0.4 million in Brazos Area 543, which includes leasehold costs.

In June 2011, we completed a workover of our Eloise North well at a cost of approximately \$1.8 million, net to Contango, which enabled us to continue producing from the lower Rob-L sands. In October 2011, we commenced a workover of our Eloise North well to recomplete the well in the upper Rob-L sands. During the workover, the Company experienced difficulties and unexpected delays due to malfunctioning production tree valves, coiled tubing equipment failures, weather delays, and stuck equipment in the tubing. As a result, the Company plugged the Rob-L sands in January 2012 and recompleted uphole in the Cib-Op sands as our Mary Rose #5 well, at a cost of approximately \$0.5 million, net to Contango, based on the new higher ownership percentage and inclusive of a required well cost adjustment. The Mary Rose #5 well began producing on January 26, 2012 and by mid-March 2012 had stopped again. We are currently flowing the well intermittently until we can install compression in 2013.



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On December 21, 2011, the Company purchased an additional 3.66% working interest (2.67% net revenue interest) in Mary Rose #5 (previously Eloise North) for approximately \$0.2 million from an existing partner. This purchase brings the Company's working interest and net revenue interest in Mary Rose #5 to 37.80% and 27.59%, respectively.

In July 2011, we recompleted our Eloise South well uphole in the Cib-Op sands as our Dutch #5 well, at a cost of approximately \$5.7 million, net to Contango. The Company has a 47.05% working interest (38.1% net revenue interest) in Dutch #5. In addition to this \$5.7 million, the Dutch #5 well owners purchased the Eloise South well bore from the Eloise South well owners (the Well Cost Adjustment). The Company invested a net of approximately \$2.3 million related to this Well Cost Adjustment.

In September 2010, we drilled our Galveston Area 277L prospect (His Dudeness), a wildcat exploration well in the Gulf of Mexico, and determined it was a dry hole. The Company invested approximately \$9.5 million, including leasehold costs, to drill, plug and abandon this well.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, we drilled two dry holes in the Gulf of Mexico. The first was on a farm-in we obtained on block Vermillion 155 ( Paisano ). This well had a dry hole cost of approximately \$5.3 million. The second was our Matagorda Island 617 well ( Dude ), with a dry hole cost of approximately \$14.9 million. The Company had a 100% working interest in both of these wells.

*Republic Exploration LLC*

In his capacity as sole manager of the general partner of JEX, Mr. Juneau also controls the activities of REX, an entity owned 34.4% by JEX, 32.3% by Contango, and 33.3% by a third party which contributed other assets to REX. REX generates and evaluates offshore exploration prospects and has historically participated with the Company in the drilling and development of certain prospects through participation agreements and joint operating agreements, which specify each participant's working interest, net revenue interest, and describe when such interests are earned, as well as allocate an overriding royalty interest ( ORRI ) of up to 3.33% to benefit the employees of JEX. The Company proportionately consolidates the results of REX in its consolidated financial statements.

West Delta 36, a REX prospect, is operated by a third party. The Company depends on a third-party operator for the operation and maintenance of this production platform. As of August 24, 2012, the well was in the process of being recompleted uphole, at a cost of approximately \$0.1 million, net to Contango. REX has a 25.0% working interest ( WI ), and a 20.0% net revenue interest ( NRI ), in this well.

*Contango Offshore Exploration LLC*

Prior to its dissolution on June 1, 2010, in his capacity as sole manager of the general partner of JEX, Mr. Juneau controlled the activities of Contango Offshore Exploration LLC ( COE ), an entity then owned 65.63% by Contango and 34.37% by JEX. COE generated and evaluated offshore exploration prospects and had historically participated with the Company in the drilling and development of certain prospects through participation agreements and joint operating agreements, which specified each participant's working interest, net revenue interest, and described when such interests were earned, as well as allocate an overriding royalty interest ( ORRI ) of up to 3.33% to benefit the employees of JEX. The Company proportionately consolidated the results of COE in its consolidated financial statements.

Immediately prior to its dissolution, COE owed the Company \$5.9 million in principal and interest under a promissory note (the COE Note ) payable on demand. In connection with the dissolution, the Company assumed its 65.6% share of the obligation under the COE Note, while JEX assumed the remaining 34.4%, or approximately \$2 million. This \$2 million was paid back to the Company during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

**Offshore Properties**

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, State Lease 19396 expired and was returned to the state of Louisiana. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, the Company relinquished 12 lease blocks to the BOEM, and allowed two additional lease blocks to expire in accordance with their terms.

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*Producing Properties.* The following table sets forth the interests owned by Contango through its affiliated entities in the Gulf of Mexico which were capable of producing natural gas or oil as of August 24, 2012:

Area/Block	WI	NRI	Status
Eugene Island 10 #D-1 (Dutch #1)	47.05%	38.1%	Producing
Eugene Island 10 #E-1 (Dutch #2)	47.05%	38.1%	Producing
Eugene Island 10 #F-1 (Dutch #3)	47.05%	38.1%	Producing
Eugene Island 10 #G-1 (Dutch #4)	47.05%	38.1%	Producing
Eugene Island 10 #I-1 (Dutch #5)	47.05%	38.1%	Producing
S-L 18640 #1 (Mary Rose #1)	53.21%	40.5%	Producing
S-L 19266 #1 (Mary Rose #2)	53.21%	38.7%	Producing
S-L 19266 #2 (Mary Rose #3)	53.21%	38.7%	Producing
S-L 18860 #1 (Mary Rose #4)	34.58%	25.5%	Producing
S-L 19266 #3 and S-L 19261 (Mary Rose #5)	37.80%	27.6%	Intermittent
Ship Shoal 263 (Nautilus)	100.00%	80.0%	Producing
Vermilion 170 (Swimmy)	87.24%	68.0%	Producing
West Delta 36 (via REX)	8.1%	6.5%	Producing

*Leases.* The following table sets forth the interests owned by Contango through its related entities in leases in the Gulf of Mexico as of August 24, 2012:

Area/Block	WI	Lease Date	Expiration Date
Eugene Island 11	53.21%	Dec 07	Dec-12
East Breaks 369 (1)	(2)	Dec-03	Dec-13
South Timbalier 97 (via REX)	32.30%	Jun-09	Jun-14
Ship Shoal 121	100.00%	Jul-10	Jul-15
Ship Shoal 122	100.00%	Jul-10	Jul-15
Brazos Area 543	100.00%	Mar-12	Mar-17
Ship Shoal 134	100.00%	(3)	(3)
South Timbalier 75	100.00%	(4)	(4)

- (1) Dry Hole
- (2) Farm-out. COI retains a 2.41% ORRI
- (3) Purchased deep rights. Currently drilling
- (4) Farm-in. Currently drilling. Will earn lease once production begins (if successful)

The Eugene Island 11 block expires in December 2012, but this will not impact our ability to operate our facilities located on that block. Operators in the Gulf of Mexico may place platforms and facilities on any location without having to own the lease, provided that permission and proper permits from the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement ( BSEE ) have been obtained, and Contango has obtained such permission and permits. We chose to install our facilities at Eugene Island 11 because that was the optimal gathering location given where our wells and marketing pipelines were located, but we were not required to purchase the Eugene Island 11 block to place our facilities there.

### Onshore Exploration and Properties

#### *Alta Investments*

On April 12, 2011, the Company announced a commitment to invest up to \$20 million over two years in Alta Energy Canada Partnership ( Alta Energy ), a venture that will acquire, explore, develop and operate onshore unconventional oil and natural gas shale assets. As of August 24, 2012, we had invested approximately \$12.3 million in Alta Energy to purchase over 60,000 acres in the Kaybob Duvernay, a liquids rich shale play in Alberta, Canada. Alta Energy has built one of the largest acreage blocks in the core of the play. Alta Energy drilled and cored its first vertical well in 17 days which is highly competitive with offset operators. Alta Energy has drilled three vertical test wells and has taken whole cores on two of those.

Offsetting activity in the Kaybob Duvernay continues to provide encouraging early results. With four horizontal well results available, initial production began with 508 barrels of oil equivalent per day ( Boed ) for the first well and continuously improved to 2,123 Boed for the fourth

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well which tested 7.7 MMcfd and 839 Bbls per day. Condensate yields continue to rise to close to 100 bbls/MMcf plus encouraging amounts of NGL s. We expect an active summer of offsetting activity with

additional information being slowly provided by competitors to the market. Alta Energy began its summer drilling program which included spudding Alta's first horizontal well. Contango has a 2% interest in Alta Energy and a 5% interest in the Kaybob Duvernay project.

#### *Exaro Energy III LLC*

On April 9, 2012, the Company announced that through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Contaro Company, it had entered into a Limited Liability Company Agreement (the "LLC Agreement") to form Exaro Energy III LLC ("Exaro"). Pursuant to the LLC Agreement, the Company has committed to invest up to \$82.5 million in cash in Exaro over the next five years together with other parties for an aggregate commitment of \$182.5 million. The Company owns approximately a 45% interest in Exaro, subject to terms allowing another party to acquire up to \$15 million of the Company's commitment, which would decrease the Company's interest in Exaro to approximately 37%.

As of June 30, 2012, the Company had invested approximately \$41.3 million in Exaro. Exaro has entered into an Earning and Development Agreement (the "EDA Agreement") with Encana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. ("Encana") to provide funding of up to \$380 million to continue the development drilling program in a defined area of Encana's Jonah field asset located in Sublette County, Wyoming. This funding will be comprised of the \$182.5 million investment detailed above, debt, and cash flow from operations. Encana will continue to be the operator of the field and upon investing the full amount of the \$380 million, Exaro will have earned 32.5% of Encana's working interest in a defined joint venture area that comprises approximately 5,760 gross acres.

The Exaro-Encana venture currently has three rigs drilling, has completed five wells to date and achieved first production during mid-June 2012. The drilling project is progressing on schedule. As of June 30, 2012, there were no material natural gas or oil reserves associated with our investment in Exaro. During the period from inception to June 30, 2012, Exaro incurred a loss of approximately \$1.5 million, of which approximately \$0.5 million was recognized in the Company's consolidated statement of operations (net of \$0.2 million in taxes) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

#### *Tuscaloosa Marine Shale*

As of August 24, 2012, the Company had invested approximately \$8.7 million to lease approximately 25,000 acres in the Tuscaloosa Marine Shale ("TMS"), a shale play in central Louisiana and Mississippi. The TMS is an oil focused play and we intend to watch the play develop before we commit to drilling any exploratory wells. We do, however, plan to participate in outside operated wells with a small working interest prior to initiating an operated, high interest drilling program.

#### *Jim Hogg County, Texas*

We have entered into a letter agreement with a large south Texas mineral owner outlining the general terms and conditions of an exploration program involving acreage in Jim Hogg County, Texas. As of August 24, 2012, we had paid approximately \$1.2 million into this exploration program.

### **Discontinued Operations**

#### *Joint Venture Assets*

In October 2009, the Company entered into a joint venture with Patara Oil & Gas LLC ("Patara") to develop proved undeveloped Cotton Valley gas reserves in Panola County, Texas. B.A. Berilgen, a member of the Company's board of directors, is the Chief Executive Officer of Patara. On May 13, 2011, the Company sold to Patara its 90% interest and 5% overriding royalty interest in the 21 wells drilled under this joint venture for approximately \$36.2 million and recognized a pre-tax loss of approximately \$0.7 million. These 21 wells had proved reserves of approximately 16.7 Bcfe, net to Contango. The Company accounted for this sale as discontinued operations as of June 30, 2011 and has included the results of the joint venture operations in discontinued operations for all periods presented.

#### *Rexer Assets*

On May 13, 2011, the Company sold to Patara 100% of its interest in Rexer #1 and 75% of its interest in Rexer-Tusa #2 for approximately \$2.5 million and recognized a pre-tax loss of approximately \$0.3 million. Rexer #1 was a wildcat exploration well that was spud in June 2010 and began producing in October 2010. This well had proved reserves of approximately 0.5 Bcfe, net to Contango.

The remaining 25% working interest in Rexer-Tusa #2 was sold to Patara in October 2011 for \$10,000. Rexer-Tusa #2 was a wildcat exploration well that was spud in May 2011. This well had no proved reserves at the time of sale. The Company has accounted for the sale of Rexer #1 and Rexer-Tusa #2 as discontinued operations as of December 31, 2011 and has included the results of these operations in discontinued operations for all periods presented.



*Contango Mining Company*

Contango Mining Company ( Contango Mining ), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company and the predecessor to Contango ORE, Inc. ( CORE ), was initially formed on October 15, 2009 as a Delaware corporation registered to do business in Alaska for the purpose of engaging in exploration in the State of Alaska for (i) gold and associated minerals and (ii) rare earth elements. Contango Mining held leasehold interests in approximately 675,000 acres from the Tetlin Village Council, the council formed by the governing body for the Native Village of Tetlin, an Alaska Native Tribe, as well as additional acres in unpatented Federal and State of Alaska mining claims for the exploration of gold deposits and associated minerals and rare earth elements (collectively, the Properties ).

On November 29, 2010, CORE, then another wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, acquired the assets and assumed the obligations of Contango Mining, including the Properties, in exchange for its common stock which was subsequently distributed to the Company's stockholders of record as of October 15, 2010 on the basis of one share of common stock for each ten shares of the Company's common stock then outstanding. No fractional shares were issued, but a cash payment was made to shareholders with less than ten shares based upon the value established for CORE. The Company also contributed \$3.5 million in cash to CORE immediately prior to the distribution. The Company no longer has an ownership in CORE and has included its results of operations and gain on disposition in discontinued operations for all periods presented.

**Marketing and Pricing**

The Company currently derives its revenue principally from the sale of natural gas and oil. As a result, the Company's revenues are determined, to a large degree, by prevailing natural gas and oil prices. The Company currently sells its natural gas and oil on the open market at prevailing market prices. Major purchasers of our natural gas, oil and natural gas liquids for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 were Shell Trading US Company (25%), NJR Energy Services (13%), ConocoPhillips Company (22%), Exxon Mobil Oil Corporation (11%), Enterprise Products Operating LLC (14%), and TransLouisiana Gas Pipeline Inc. (8%). Market prices are dictated by supply and demand, and the Company cannot predict or control the price it receives for its natural gas and oil. The Company has outsourced the marketing of its offshore natural gas and oil production volume to a privately-held third party marketing firm.

Price decreases would adversely affect our revenues, profits and the value of our proved reserves. Historically, the prices received for natural gas and oil have fluctuated widely. Among the factors that can cause these fluctuations are:

The domestic and foreign supply of natural gas and oil

Overall economic conditions

The level of consumer product demand

Adverse weather conditions and natural disasters

The price and availability of competitive fuels such as heating oil and coal

Political conditions in the Middle East and other natural gas and oil producing regions

The level of LNG imports

Domestic and foreign governmental regulations

Special taxes on production

The loss of tax credits and deductions

**Competition**

The Company competes with numerous other companies in all facets of its business. Our competitors in the exploration, development, acquisition and production business include major integrated oil and gas companies as well as numerous independents, including many that have significantly greater financial resources and in-house technical expertise.

**Governmental Regulations**

*Federal Income Tax.* Federal income tax laws significantly affect the Company's operations. The principal provisions affecting the Company are those that permit the Company, subject to certain limitations, to deduct as incurred, rather than to capitalize and amortize, its domestic intangible drilling and development costs and to claim depletion on a portion of its domestic natural gas and oil properties and to claim a manufacturing deduction based on qualified production activities.

*Environmental Matters.* Domestic natural gas and oil operations are subject to extensive federal regulation and, with respect to federal leases, to interruption or termination by governmental authorities on account of environmental and other considerations such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ( CERCLA ) also known as the Super Fund Law . The trend towards stricter standards in environmental legislation and regulation could increase costs to the Company and others in the industry. Natural gas and oil lessees are subject to liability for the costs of clean-up of



pollution resulting from a lessee's operations, and may also be subject to liability for pollution damages. The Company maintains insurance against costs of clean-up operations, but is not fully insured against all such risks. A serious incident of pollution may also result in the Department of the Interior requiring lessees under federal leases to suspend or cease operation in the affected area.

The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (the "OPA") and regulations thereunder impose a variety of regulations on responsible parties related to the prevention of oil spills and liability for damages resulting from such spills in U.S. waters. The OPA assigns liability to each responsible party for oil removal costs and a variety of public and private damages. While liability limits apply in some circumstances, a party cannot take advantage of liability limits if the spill was caused by gross negligence or willful misconduct or resulted from violation of federal safety, construction or operating regulations. Few defenses exist to the liability imposed by the OPA. In addition, to the extent the Company's offshore lease operations affect state waters, the Company may be subject to additional state and local clean-up requirements or incur liability under state and local laws. The OPA also imposes ongoing requirements on responsible parties, including proof of financial responsibility to cover at least some costs in a potential spill. The Company believes that it currently has established adequate proof of financial responsibility for its offshore facilities. However, the Company cannot predict whether financial responsibility requirements under any OPA amendments will result in the imposition of substantial additional annual costs to the Company in the future or otherwise materially adversely affect the Company. The impact, however, should not be any more adverse to the Company than it will be to other similarly situated or less capitalized owners or operators in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Company's operations are subject to numerous federal, state and local laws and regulations controlling the discharge of materials into the environment or otherwise relating to the protection of the environment. Such laws and regulations, among other things, impose absolute liability on the lessee for the cost of clean-up of pollution resulting from a lessee's operations, subject the lessee to liability for pollution damages, may require suspension or cessation of operations in affected areas, and impose restrictions on the injection of liquids into subsurface aquifers that may contaminate groundwater. Such laws could have a significant impact on the operating costs of the Company, as well as the natural gas and oil industry in general. Federal, state and local initiatives to further regulate the disposal of natural gas and oil wastes are also pending in certain jurisdictions, and these initiatives could have a similar impact on the Company. The Company's operations are also subject to additional federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to protection of human health, natural resources, and the environment pursuant to which the Company may incur compliance costs or other liabilities.

*Impact of Deepwater Horizon Incident.* In April 2010, the deepwater Gulf of Mexico drilling rig Deepwater Horizon, engaged in drilling operations for another operator, sank after an apparent blowout and fire. The accident resulted in the loss of life and a significant oil spill and highlighted the dangers associated with exploration and production activities.

The legislative and regulatory response to the Deepwater Horizon Incident is ongoing. In 2010, the US Department of the Interior issued new rules designed to improve drilling and workplace safety, and various Congressional committees began pursuing legislation to greater regulate drilling activities and increase liability. In January 2011, the President's National Commission on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling released its report, recommending that the federal government require additional regulation and an increase in liability caps.

Additional regulatory review, slower permitting processes and increased oversight have resulted in longer development cycle time for our Gulf of Mexico projects. Cycle time is the length of time it takes for a project to progress from developing a prospect to beginning production, and longer development cycle times could result in lower rates of return on our investments.

Increased regulation impacting our activities in the Gulf of Mexico could result in extensive efforts to ensure compliance and incremental compliance costs. A significant delay or cancellation of our planned Gulf of Mexico exploratory activities will reduce our longer term ability to replace reserves, resulting in a negative impact on production over time. To the extent current exploration activities are significantly delayed, a gap could occur in our long-term production profile with a negative impact on our operating results and cash flows.

Additional legislation or regulation is being discussed which could require each company doing business in the Gulf of Mexico to establish and maintain a higher level of financial responsibility under its Certificate of Financial Responsibility ("COFR"), a certificate required under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 which evidences a company's financial ability to pay for cleanup and damages caused by oil spills. There have also been discussions regarding the establishment of a new industry mutual fund in which companies would be required to participate and which would be available to pay for consequential damages arising from an oil spill. These and/or other legislative or regulatory changes could require us to maintain a certain level of financial strength and may reduce our financial flexibility.

Future legislation or regulation is also likely to result in substantial increases in civil or criminal fines or sanctions. Such fines or sanctions could well exceed the actual cost of containment and cleanup associated with a well incident or spill. We are monitoring legislative and regulatory developments; however, the full legislative and regulatory response to the Deepwater Horizon Incident is not yet fully known.

*Other Laws and Regulations.* Various laws and regulations often require permits for drilling wells and also cover spacing of wells, the prevention of waste of natural gas and oil including maintenance of certain gas/oil ratios, rates of production and other matters. The effect of these laws and regulations, as well as other regulations that could be promulgated by the jurisdictions in which the Company has production, could be to limit the number of wells that could be drilled on the Company's properties and to limit the allowable production from the successful wells completed on the Company's properties, thereby limiting the Company's revenues.

The BOEM administers the natural gas and oil leases held by the Company on federal onshore lands and offshore tracts in the Outer Continental Shelf. The BOEM holds a royalty interest in these federal leases on behalf of the federal government. While the royalty interest percentage is fixed at the time that the lease is entered into, from time to time the BOEM changes or reinterprets the applicable regulations governing its royalty interests, and such action can indirectly affect the actual royalty obligation that the Company is required to pay. However, the Company believes that the regulations generally do not impact the Company to any greater extent than other similarly situated producers. At the end of lease operations, oil and gas lessees must plug and abandon wells, remove platforms and other facilities, and clear the lease site sea floor. The BOEM requires companies operating on the Outer Continental Shelf to obtain surety bonds to ensure performance of these obligations. As an operator, the Company is required to obtain surety bonds of \$200,000 per lease for exploration and \$500,000 per lease for developmental activities.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (the FERC) has embarked on wide-ranging regulatory initiatives relating to natural gas transportation rates and services, including the availability of market-based and other alternative rate mechanisms to pipelines for transmission and storage services. In addition, the FERC has announced and implemented a policy allowing pipelines and transportation customers to negotiate rates above the otherwise applicable maximum lawful cost-based rates on the condition that the pipelines alternatively offer so-called recourse rates equal to the maximum lawful cost-based rates. With respect to gathering services, the FERC has issued orders declaring that certain facilities owned by interstate pipelines primarily perform a gathering function, and may be transferred to affiliated and non-affiliated entities that are not subject to the FERC's rate jurisdiction. The Company cannot predict the ultimate outcome of these developments, or the effect of these developments on transportation rates. Inasmuch as the rates for these pipeline services can affect the natural gas prices received by the Company for the sale of its production, the FERC's actions may have an impact on the Company. However, the impact should not be substantially different for the Company than it would be for other similarly situated natural gas producers and sellers.

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## Risk and Insurance Program

In accordance with industry practice, we maintain insurance against many, but not all, potential perils confronting our operations and in coverage amounts and deductible levels that we believe to be economic. Consistent with that profile, our insurance program is structured to provide us financial protection from significant losses resulting from damages to, or the loss of, physical assets or loss of human life, and liability claims of third parties, including such occurrences as well blowouts and weather events that result in oil spills and damage to our wells and/or platforms. Our goal is to balance the cost of insurance with our assessment of the potential risk of an adverse event. We maintain insurance at levels that we believe are appropriate and consistent with industry practice and we regularly review our risks of loss and the cost and availability of insurance and revise our insurance program accordingly.

We expect the future availability and cost of insurance to be impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Incident. Impacts could include: tighter underwriting standards, limitations on scope and amount of coverage, and higher premiums, and will depend, in part, on future changes in laws and regulations regarding exploration and production activities in the Gulf of Mexico, including possible increases in liability caps for claims of damages from oil spills. We will continue to monitor the expected regulatory and legislative response and its impact on the insurance market and our overall risk profile, and adjust our risk and insurance program to provide protection at a level that we can afford considering the cost of insurance, against the potential and magnitude of disruption to our operations and cash flows.

We carry insurance protection for our net share of any potential financial losses occurring as a result of events such as the Deepwater Horizon Incident. As a result of the incident, we have increased our well control coverage from \$75 million to \$100 million on certain wells, which covers control of well, pollution cleanup and consequential damages. We have increased our general liability coverage from \$100 million to \$150 million, which covers pollution cleanup, consequential damages coverage, and third party personal injury and death. And we have increased our Oil Spill Financial Responsibility coverage from \$35 million to \$150 million, which covers additional pollution cleanup and third party claims coverage.

*Health, Safety and Environmental Program.* The Company's Health, Safety and Environmental (HS&E) Program is supervised by an operating committee of senior management to insure compliance with all state and federal regulations. In addition, to support the operating committee, we have contracted with J. Connors Consulting (JCC) to manage our regulatory process. JCC is a regulatory consulting firm specializing in the offshore Gulf of Mexico regulatory process, preparation of incident response plans, safety and environmental services and facilitation of comprehensive oil spill response training and drills to oil and gas companies and pipeline operators.

For our Gulf of Mexico operations, we have a Regional Oil Spill Plan in place with the BOEM. Our response team is trained annually and is tested through annual spill drills given by the BOEM. In addition, we have in place a contract with O'Brien's Response Management (O'Brien's). O'Brien's maintains a 24/7 manned incident command center located in Slidell, LA. Upon the occurrence of an oil spill, the Company's spill program is initiated by notifying O'Brien's that we have an emergency. While the Company would focus on source control of the spill, O'Brien's would handle all communication with state and federal agencies as well as U.S. Coast Guard notifications.

If a spill were to occur, we have contracted with Clean Gulf Associates (CGA) to assist with equipment and personnel needs. CGA specializes in onsite control and cleanup and is on 24 hour alert with equipment currently stored at six bases (Ingleside and Galveston, TX and Lake Charles, Houma, Venice and Pascagoula, LA), and is opening new sites in Leeville, Morgan City and Harvey, LA. The CGA equipment stockpile is available to serve member oil spill response needs including blowouts; open seas, near shore and shallow water skimming; open seas and shoreline booming; communications; dispersants; boat spray systems to apply dispersants; wildlife rehabilitation; and a forward command center. CGA has retainers with an aerial dispersant company and a company that provides mechanical recovery equipment for spill responses. CGA equipment includes:

HOSS Barge: the largest purpose-built skimming barge in the United States with 4,000 barrels of storage capacity.

Fast Response System (FRU): a self-contained skimming system for use on vessels of opportunity. CGA has nine of these units.

Fast Response Vessels (FRV): four 46 foot FRVs with cruise speeds of 20-25 knots that have built-in skimming troughs and cargo tanks, outrigger skimming arms, navigation and communication equipment.

In addition to being a member of CGA, the Company has contracted with Wild Well Control for source control at the wellhead, if required. Wild Well Control is one of the world's leading providers of firefighting, well control, engineering, and training services.



*Safety and Environmental Management System.* The Company has developed and implemented a Safety and Environmental Management System ( SEMS ) to address oil and gas operations in the Outer Continental Shelf ( OCS ), as required by the BSEE. Full implementation of the following thirteen mandatory elements of the American Petroleum Institute's Recommended Practice 75 (API RP 75) was required on or before November 15, 2011:

General provisions

Safety and environmental information

Hazards analyses

Management of change

Operating procedures

Safe work practices

Training

Mechanical integrity

Pre-startup review

Emergency response and control

Investigation of accidents

Audits

Records and documentation

Our SEMS program identifies, addresses, and manages safety, environmental hazards, and its impacts during the design, construction, start-up, operation, inspection, and maintenance of all new and existing facilities. The Company has established goals, performance measures, training, accountability for its implementation, and provides necessary resources for an effective SEMS, as well as reviews the adequacy and effectiveness of the SEMS program. Facilities must be designed, constructed, maintained, monitored, and operated in a manner compatible with industry codes, consensus standards, and all applicable governmental regulations. We have contracted with Island Technologies Inc. to manage our SEMS program for production operations.

The BSEE will enforce the SEMS requirements through audits. We must have our SEMS program audited by either an independent third-party or our designated and qualified personnel within 2 years of the initial implementation and at least once every 3 years thereafter. Failure of an audit may force us to shut-in our Gulf of Mexico operations.

**Employees**

We have ten employees, all of whom are full time. The Company outsources its human resources function to Insuperity, Inc. and all of the Company's employees are co-employees of Insuperity, Inc. In addition to our employees, we use the services of independent consultants and contractors to perform various professional services, including reservoir engineering, land, legal, environmental and tax services. We are dependent on JEX for prospect generation, evaluation and prospect leasing. As a working interest owner, we rely on outside operators to drill, produce and market our natural gas and oil for our onshore prospects and certain offshore prospects where we are a non-operator. In the offshore prospects where we are the operator, we currently rely on a turn-key contractor to drill and rely on independent contractors to produce and market our natural gas and oil. In addition, we utilize the services of independent contractors to perform field and on-site drilling and production operation services and independent third party engineering firms to calculate our reserves.

**Directors and Executive Officers**

The following table sets forth the names, ages and positions of our directors and executive officers:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position</b>
Kenneth R. Peak	67	Chairman and Director
Brad Juneau	52	President, Acting Chief Executive Officer and Director
Sergio Castro	43	Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary
Yaroslava Makalskaya	43	