

NEWFIELD EXPLORATION CO /DE/

Form S-8

June 04, 2004

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 4, 2004

Registration No. 333-

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM S-8

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

Newfield Exploration Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization)

72-1133047
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

**363 N. Sam Houston Pkwy E., Suite 2020
Houston, Texas 77060**
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

Newfield Exploration Company 2004 Omnibus Stock Plan
(Full title of the plan)

Terry W. Rathert
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Newfield Exploration Company
363 N. Sam Houston Pkwy E., Suite 2020
Houston, Texas 77060
(Name and address of agent for service)

(281) 847-6000
(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

James H. Wilson
Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.
2300 First City Tower, 1001 Fannin

Houston, Texas 77002-6760
(713) 758-2222

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of securities to be registered | Amount to be registered | Proposed maximum offering price per share** | Proposed maximum aggregate offering price** | Amount of registration fee |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| common stock, including attached preferred share purchase rights* | 3,000,000 shares | \$ 49.12 | \$147,360,000 | \$18,671 |

* Pursuant to Rule 416(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement also covers an indeterminate amount of additional shares as may become issuable upon exercise of the options as a result of the antidilution provisions of the Newfield Exploration Company 2004 Omnibus Stock Plan.

** Estimated, solely for the purposes of calculating the registration fee, in accordance with Rule 457(h) under the Securities Act of 1933 on the basis of the price of securities of the same class, as determined in accordance with Rule 457(c), using the average of the high and low sales prices as reported by New York Stock Exchange for the common stock on May 27, 2004.

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Opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.

Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

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PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents filed by the registrant (File No. 1-12534) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) pursuant to Section 12 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), are incorporated by reference and made a part of this registration statement: (a) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, (b) (i) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004 and (ii) Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 15, 2004, April 22, 2004 and April 28, 2004 and (c) the description of the registrant's common stock contained in the Form 8-A Registration Statement filed with the SEC on November 4, 1993.

All documents filed by the registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act subsequent to the effective date of this registration statement, will be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be a part of this document from the date of filing of such documents until all of the securities offered pursuant to this registration statement are sold or the offering pursuant to this registration statement is terminated. Any statement contained herein or in any document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this registration statement to the extent that a statement contained in any other subsequently filed document that also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed to constitute a part of this registration statement, except as so modified or superseded.

The financial statements incorporated in this registration statement by reference to the registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

None.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the DGCL) authorizes a corporation, under certain circumstances, to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation), by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such corporation, or is or was serving at the request of that corporation as a director,

officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, if he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation. With respect to any criminal action or proceeding, such indemnification is available if he or she had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

Article Seventh of the registrant's Second Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended (the Certificate of Incorporation), together with Article VI of the registrant's Restated Bylaws, as amended (the Bylaws), provide for indemnification of each person who is or was made a party to any actual or threatened civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding because such person is, was or has agreed to become an

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officer or director of the registrant or is a person who is or was serving or has agreed to serve at the request of the registrant as a director, officer, partner, venturer, proprietor, trustee, employee, agent or similar functionary of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL as it existed at the time the indemnification provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws were adopted or as may be thereafter amended. Article VI expressly provides that it is not the exclusive method of indemnification.

Section 145 of the DGCL also empowers a corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such corporation against liability asserted against or incurred by him in any such capacity, whether or not such corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under the provisions of Section 145.

Article Seventh of the registrant's Certificate of Incorporation and Article VI of the registrant's Bylaws also provide that the registrant may maintain insurance, at the registrant's expense, to protect the registrant and any director, officer, employee or agent of the registrant or of another entity against any expense, liability, or loss, regardless of whether the registrant would have the power to indemnify such person against such expense, liability or loss under the DGCL.

Section 102(b)(7) of the DGCL provides that a certificate of incorporation may contain a provision eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided that such provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (a) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, (b) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (c) under Section 174 of the DGCL (relating to liability for unauthorized acquisitions or redemptions of, or dividends on, capital stock) or (d) for any transaction from which the director derived improper personal benefit. Article Seventh of the Certificate of Incorporation contains such a provision.

Howard H. Newman, a director of the registrant and a Vice Chairman, Managing Director and member of Warburg Pincus L.L.C. and a general partner of Warburg, Pincus & Co., is indemnified by affiliates of Warburg Pincus L.L.C. and Warburg, Pincus & Co. against certain liabilities that he may incur as a result of his serving as a director of the registrant.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not Applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

Unless otherwise indicated below as being incorporated by reference to another filing of the registrant with the SEC, each of the following exhibits is filed herewith:

- 4.1 Newfield Exploration Company 2004 Omnibus Stock Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004 (File No. 1-12534))
- 4.2.1 Second Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999 (File No. 1-12534))

- 4.2.2 Certificate of Amendment to Second Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the registrant dated May 15, 1997 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1.1 to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-32582))
- *4.2.3 Certificate of Amendment to Second Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the registrant dated May 12, 2004.

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| 4.3 | Restated Bylaws of the registrant as amended by Amendment No. 1 thereto adopted January 1, 2000 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999 (File No. 1-12534)) |
| *5.1 | Opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. |
| *23.1 | Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP |
| 23.2 | Consent of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. (included in Exhibit 5.1) |
| 24.1 | Powers of Attorney (included on the signature pages to this registration statement) |

* Filed or furnished herewith.

Item 9. Undertakings.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(a) to file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment hereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement; and

(iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this registration statement or any material change to such information in this registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement;

(b) that, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof;

(c) to remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering;

(d) that, for the purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof; and

(e) insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. If a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or

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controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Houston, State of Texas, on the 3rd day of June, 2004.

By: /s/ Terry W. Rathert
Terry W. Rathert
Vice President and Chief Financial
Officer

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Terry W. Rathert, Brian L. Rickmers and C. William Austin, or any of them, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Form S-8 Registration Statement, and to file the same with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent or his substitute or substitutes may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on the 3rd day of June, 2004.

| <u>Signature</u> | <u>Title</u> |
|----------------------------|---|
| /s/ David A. Trice | President and Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer) |
| David A. Trice | |
| /s/ Terry W. Rathert | Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) |
| Terry W. Rathert | |
| /s/ Brian L. Rickmers | Controller (Principal Accounting Officer) |
| Brian L. Rickmers | |
| /s/ Philip J. Burguieres | Director |
| Philip J. Burguieres | |
| /s/ Charles W. Duncan, Jr. | Director |
| Charles W. Duncan, Jr. | |

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| Signature | Title |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| <hr/> | |
| | Director |
| <hr/> | |
| Claire S. Farley | |
| /s/ Joe B. Foster | Director |
| <hr/> | |
| Joe B. Foster | |
| <hr/> | Director |
| | |
| Dennis R. Hendrix | |
| /s/ John Randolph Kemp III | Director |
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| John Randolph Kemp III | |
| /s/ Howard H. Newman | Director |
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| Howard H. Newman | |
| /s/ Thomas G. Ricks | Director |
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| Thomas G. Ricks | |
| /s/ David F. Schaible | Director |
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| David F. Schaible | |
| /s/ C.E. Shultz | Director |
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| C.E. Shultz | |

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