CHESAPEAKE ENERGY CORP
Form 424B5
December 08, 2006
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Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-130196

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities Offered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)(2)	Amount of Registration Fee(3)
Common Stock	34,500,000	$ 1,163,685,000	$ 124,515

(1) Includes shares of Common Stock that may be purchased by the underwriters pursuant to their option to purchase additional shares to cover over-allotments.
(2) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee.
(3) A filing fee of $69,731, calculated in accordance with Rule 457(r), has been transmitted to the SEC in connection with the securities offered from Registration Statement No. 333-130196 by means of this prospectus supplement. Pursuant to Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act of 1933, the Registration Fee is being offset with $54,784 previously paid by Chesapeake Energy Corporation upon filing Registration Statement No. 333-138966, which was filed on November 27, 2006, with no sales of securities having been made thereunder. In accordance with Rule 457(p), such unutilized filing fee may be applied to the filing fee payable pursuant to this registration statement.

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Subject to Completion. Dated December 7, 2006

Prospectus Supplement

(To Prospectus dated December 8, 2005)

30,000,000 Shares

Common Stock

We are offering 30,000,000 shares of common stock to be sold in this offering. We will receive all of the net proceeds from the sale of such common stock.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CHK. The last reported sale price of our common stock on December 6, 2006 was $33.73 per share.

SEE RISK FACTORS BEGINNING ON PAGE S-5 OF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT TO READ ABOUT FACTORS YOU SHOULD CONSIDER BEFORE BUYING SHARES OF THE COMMON STOCK.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The underwriter has agreed to purchase the shares of common stock from us at a purchase price of $ per share, which will result in net proceeds to us before expenses of $. The shares of common stock will be offered at a public offering price of $ per share.

The underwriter may also purchase up to an additional 4,500,000 shares of common stock from us at the same price per share within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement. If the underwriter exercises the option in full, the total underwriting discount and commission will be $ and the total proceeds, before expenses, to us will be $.

The underwriter expects to deliver the shares against payment in New York, New York on , 2006.

Deutsche Bank Securities

The date of this prospectus supplement is , 2006.

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

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PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information from this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, but may not contain all information that may be important to you. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus include specific terms of this offering, information about our business and financial data. We encourage you to read this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated herein and therein in their entirety before making an investment decision. Unless otherwise indicated, this prospectus supplement assumes no exercise of the underwriter s option to purchase additional shares.

Chesapeake

We are the third largest independent producer of natural gas in the United States, and we own interests in approximately 33,700 producing oil and natural gas wells that are currently producing approximately 1.69 billion cubic feet equivalent, or bcfe, per day, 92% of which is natural gas. Our strategy is focused on discovering, developing and acquiring onshore natural gas reserves in the U.S. east of the Rocky Mountains. Our most important operating area has historically been in various conventional plays in the Mid-Continent region, which includes Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas and the Texas Panhandle. At September 30, 2006, 47% of our proved oil and natural gas reserves were located in the Mid-Continent region. During the past four years, we have also built significant positions in various conventional and unconventional plays in the South Texas and Texas Gulf Coast regions, the Permian Basin of West Texas and eastern New Mexico, the Barnett Shale area of North Texas, the Ark-La-Tex area of East Texas and northern Louisiana, the Appalachian Basin in West Virginia, eastern Kentucky, eastern Ohio and southern New York, the Caney and Woodford Shales in southeastern Oklahoma, the Fayetteville Shale in Arkansas, the Barnett and Woodford Shales in West Texas and the Conasauga, Floyd and Chattanooga Shales of Alabama.

As of December 31, 2005, we had 7.5 trillion cubic feet equivalent, or tcfe, of proved reserves, of which 92% were natural gas and all of which were onshore. During 2005, we produced an average of 1.3 bcfe per day, a 30% increase over the 1.0 bcfe per day produced in 2004. For 2005, we generated net income available to common shareholders of $880 million, or $2.51 per fully diluted common share, which was a 64% increase over the prior year.

During the first three quarters of 2006, we led the nation in drilling activity with an average utilization of 89 operated rigs and 74 non-operated rigs. Through this drilling activity, we drilled 1,024 (845 net) operated wells and participated in another 1,154 (141 net) wells operated by other companies. Our success rate was 98% for operated and non-operated wells. We replaced our 426 bcfe of production with an internally estimated 1.339 tcfe of new proved reserves for a reserve replacement rate of 314%. Reserve replacement through the drillbit was 825 bcfe, or 194% of production (including 541 bcfe of positive performance revisions and 387 bcfe of downward revisions resulting from oil and natural gas price declines between December 31, 2005 and September 30, 2006), and reserve replacement through acquisitions was 514 bcfe, or 120% of production. As a result, our proved reserves grew by 12% during the first three quarters of 2006, from 7.5 tcfe to 8.4 tcfe. Of the 8.4 tcfe, 63% were proved developed reserves.

In the first three quarters of 2006, we produced an average of 1.6 bcfe per day, a 26% increase over the 1.2 bcfe per day produced in the first three quarters of 2005. During the first three quarters of 2006, we generated net income available to common shareholders of $1.459 billion, or $3.40 per fully diluted common share, which was a 158% increase over the first three quarters of 2005. Also, in the first three quarters of 2006 we added approximately 1,700 new employees to support our growth, which increased our total employee base to approximately 4,600 employees at September 30, 2006, and invested $558 million in leasehold (excluding leasehold acquired through acquisitions) and 3-D seismic data, all of which we consider the building blocks of future value creation.

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From January 1, 1998 through September 30, 2006, we have been one of the most active consolidators of onshore U.S. natural gas assets, having purchased approximately 6.4 tcfe of proved reserves, at a total cost of approximately $13.4 billion (including $4.3 billion for unproved leasehold, but excluding $987 million of deferred taxes established in connection with certain corporate acquisitions). Excluding the amounts allocated to unproved leasehold and deferred taxes, our acquisition cost per proved thousand cubic feet equivalent, or mcfe, was $1.42 over this time period. During 2006, we have remained active in the acquisitions market. Acquisition expenditures in 2006 totaled $3.1 billion (including $2.1 billion for unproved leasehold). Through these acquisitions, we will have acquired an internally estimated 514 bcfe of proved oil and natural gas reserves.

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to repay outstanding indebtedness under our revolving bank credit facility, which may be reborrowed for general corporate purposes, including funding potential future acquisitions. Please see Use of Proceeds.

Our executive offices are located at 6100 North Western Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118, and our telephone number is (405) 848-8000.

Other Developments

In the past year, there has been significant focus on corporate governance and accounting practices in the grant of equity based awards to executives and employees of publicly traded companies, including the use of market hindsight to select award dates to favor award recipients. Like many other public companies, we have in recent months received occasional investor inquiries regarding our practices in granting employee and executive stock options in past years. On our own initiative and under the auspices of our audit committee, we undertook an internal review of our practices in this area, primarily for the purpose of confirming that the past accounting treatment of our equity compensation awards was appropriate. Recently, we received an investor inquiry questioning the timing of several option grants during the period from 1995 to 2003 in relation to the trading price of our common stock. We expanded our internal review to review these specific option grants and the results were reported to our audit committee. While these internal reviews revealed deficiencies in the documentation of our option grants in prior years, there was no evidence of any misconduct by our executives or directors in the timing or selection of our option grant dates, or that would cause us to conclude that our prior accounting for stock option grants was incorrect in any material respect.

Recent Developments

On December 6, 2006, we completed a public offering of 600 million of 6.25% Senior Notes due 2017 under an indenture dated December 6, 2006. Interest on the notes will be payable semi-annually on January 15 and July 15 of each year, commencing July 15, 2007. The notes will mature on January 15, 2017.

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THE OFFERING

Common stock offered by Chesapeake	30,000,000 shares(1)
Common stock outstanding after this offering	467,306,894 shares(1)(2)
Use of Proceeds	We expect the net proceeds to us from this offering, after deducting the discount to the underwriter and estimated expenses of the offering payable by us, to be approximately $ million, assuming an offering price per share of $. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to repay outstanding indebtedness under our revolving bank credit facility, which may be reborrowed for general corporate purposes, including funding potential future acquisitions. Please see Use of Proceeds.
New York Stock Exchange Symbol	CHK

(1) Excludes shares that may be issued to the underwriter pursuant to its option to purchase additional shares. If the underwriter exercises its option to purchase additional shares in full, the total number of shares of common stock offered will be 34,500,000, and the total number of shares of our common stock outstanding after this offering will be 471,806,894. We had 437,306,894 shares of our common stock outstanding at December 6, 2006.

(2) Excludes 6,638,567 shares of common stock potentially issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options at a weighted average price of $7.42 as of December 6, 2006. Also excludes, as of December 6, 2006:

184,100 shares of common stock potentially issuable upon conversion of the 3,065 shares of our outstanding issue of 4.125% Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock at an adjusted conversion price of $16.6485 per share;

17,855,820 shares of common stock potentially issuable upon conversion of the 4,600,000 shares of our outstanding issue of 5.00% Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock (Series 2005) at an adjusted conversion price of $25.762 per share;

7,810,455 shares of common stock potentially issuable upon conversion of the 3,450,000 shares of our outstanding issue of 4.50% Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock at an initial conversion price of $44.172 per share;

14,717,125 shares of common stock potentially issuable upon conversion of the 5,750,000 shares of our outstanding issue of 5.00% Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock (Series 2005B) at an initial conversion price of $39.07 per share;

19,793,570 shares of our common stock potentially issuable upon conversion of the 2,300,000 shares of our outstanding issue of 6.25% Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock at the minimum mandatory conversion price of $29.05 per share;

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17,660,619 shares of common stock potentially issuable upon conversion of the $690,000,000 of our outstanding 2.75% Contingent Convertible Senior Notes at an initial conversion ratio of 39.07; and

1,209,519 shares of treasury stock.

RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider all information in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein. In particular, you should evaluate the specific risk factors set forth in the section entitled Risk Factors in this prospectus supplement for a discussion of risks relating to an investment in the common stock.

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RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the following factors as well as other information contained in this prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated herein by reference before deciding to invest in our common stock.

Oil and gas prices are volatile. A decline in prices could adversely affect our financial position, financial results, cash flows, access to capital and ability to grow.

Our revenues, operating results, profitability and future rate of growth depend primarily upon the prices we receive for the oil and gas we sell. Prices also affect the amount of cash flow available for capital expenditures and our ability to borrow money or raise additional capital. The amount we can borrow from banks is subject to periodic redeterminations based on prices specified by our bank group at the time of redetermination. In addition, we may have ceiling test write-downs in the future if prices fall significantly.

Historically, the markets for oil and gas have been volatile and they are likely to continue to be volatile. Wide fluctuations in oil and gas prices may result from relatively minor changes in the supply of and demand for oil and natural gas, market uncertainty and other factors that are beyond our control, including:

- worldwide and domestic supplies of oil and gas;
- weather conditions;
- the level of consumer demand;
- the price and availability of alternative fuels;
- the proximity and capacity of natural gas pipelines and other transportation facilities;
- the price and level of foreign imports;
- domestic and foreign governmental regulations and taxes;
- the ability of the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to agree to and maintain oil price and production controls;
- political instability or armed conflict in oil-producing regions; and
- overall domestic and global economic conditions.

These factors and the volatility of the energy markets make it extremely difficult to predict future oil and gas price movements with any certainty. Declines in oil and natural gas prices would not only reduce revenue, but could reduce the amount of oil and gas that we can produce economically and, as a result, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and reserves. Further, oil and gas prices do not necessarily move in tandem. Because approximately 92% of our reserves at December 31, 2005 were natural gas reserves, we are more affected by movements in natural gas prices.

Our level of indebtedness and preferred stock may adversely affect operations and limit our growth, and we may have difficulty making debt service payments on our indebtedness as such payments become due.

As of September 30, 2006, we had long-term indebtedness of approximately $7.9 billion, with $1.5 billion of outstanding borrowings drawn under our revolving bank credit facility. Our long-term indebtedness represented 44% of our total book capitalization at September 30, 2006. As of December 6, 2006, we had approximately $1.641 billion outstanding under our revolving bank credit facility. We expect to continue to be highly leveraged in the foreseeable future.

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Our level of indebtedness and preferred stock affects our operations in several ways, including the following:

- a portion of our cash flows from operating activities must be used to service our indebtedness and pay dividends on our preferred stock and is not available for other purposes;
- we may be at a competitive disadvantage as compared to similar companies that have less debt;
- the covenants contained in the agreements governing our outstanding indebtedness and future indebtedness may limit our ability to borrow additional funds, pay dividends and make certain investments and may also affect our flexibility in planning for, and reacting to, changes in the economy and in our industry;
- additional financing in the future for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, general corporate or other purposes may have higher costs and more restrictive covenants;
- changes in the credit ratings of our debt may negatively affect the cost, terms, conditions and availability of future financing, and lower ratings will increase the interest rate and fees we pay on our revolving bank credit facility; and
- we may be more vulnerable to general adverse economic and industry conditions.

We may incur additional debt, including significant secured indebtedness, or issue additional series of preferred stock in order to make future acquisitions or to develop our properties. A higher level of indebtedness and/or additional preferred stock increases the risk that we may default on our obligations. Our ability to meet our debt obligations and to reduce our level of indebtedness depends on our future performance. General economic conditions, oil and gas prices and financial, business and other factors affect our operations and our future performance. Many of these factors are beyond our control. We may not be able to generate sufficient cash flow to pay the interest on our debt, and future working capital, borrowings or equity financing may not be available to pay or refinance such debt. Factors that will affect our ability to raise cash through an offering of our capital stock or a refinancing of our debt include financial market conditions, the value of our assets and our performance at the time we need capital.

In addition, our bank borrowing base is subject to periodic redetermination. A lowering of our borrowing base could require us to repay indebtedness in excess of the borrowing base, or we might need to further secure the lenders with additional collateral.

Competition in the oil and natural gas industry is intense, and many of our competitors have greater financial and other resources than we do.

We operate in the highly competitive areas of oil and natural gas acquisition, development, exploitation, exploration and production. We face intense competition from both major and other independent oil and natural gas companies in each of the following areas:

- seeking to acquire desirable producing properties or new leases for future exploration; and
- seeking to acquire the equipment and expertise necessary to develop and operate our properties.

Many of our competitors have financial and other resources substantially greater than ours, and some of them are fully integrated oil companies. These companies may be able to pay more for development prospects and productive oil and natural gas properties and may be able to define, evaluate, bid for and purchase a greater number of properties and prospects than our financial or human resources permit. Our ability to develop and exploit our oil and natural gas properties and to acquire additional properties in the future will depend upon our ability to successfully conduct operations, evaluate and select suitable properties and consummate transactions in this highly competitive environment.

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Significant capital expenditures are required to replace our reserves.

Our exploration, development and acquisition activities require substantial capital expenditures. Historically, we have funded our capital expenditures through a combination of cash flows from operations, our revolving bank credit facility and debt and equity issuances. Future cash flows are subject to a number of variables, such as the level of production from existing wells, prices of oil and gas, and our success in developing and producing new reserves. If revenues were to decrease as a result of lower oil and gas prices or decreased production, and our access to capital were limited, we would have a reduced ability to replace our reserves. If our cash flow from operations is not sufficient to fund our capital expenditure budget, we may not be able to access additional bank debt, debt or equity or other methods of financing on an economic basis to meet these requirements.

If we are not able to replace reserves, we may not be able to sustain production.

Our future success depends largely upon our ability to find, develop or acquire additional oil and gas reserves that are economically recoverable. Unless we replace the reserves we produce through successful development, exploration or acquisition activities, our proved reserves and production will decline over time. In addition, approximately 35% of our total estimated proved reserves (by volume) at December 31, 2005 were undeveloped. By their nature, estimates of undeveloped reserves are less certain. Recovery of such reserves will require significant capital expenditures and successful drilling operations. Our reserve estimates reflect that our production rate on producing properties will decline approximately 24% from 2006 to 2007. Thus, our future oil and natural gas reserves and production and, therefore, our cash flow and income are highly dependent on our success in efficiently developing and exploiting our current reserves and economically finding or acquiring additional recoverable reserves.

The actual quantities and present value of our proved reserves may prove to be lower than we have estimated.

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain estimates of our proved reserves and the estimated future net revenues from our proved reserves. These estimates are based upon various assumptions, including assumptions required by the SEC relating to oil and gas prices, drilling and operating expenses, capital expenditures, taxes and availability of funds. The process of estimating oil and gas reserves is complex. The process involves significant decisions and assumptions in the evaluation of available geological, geophysical, engineering and economic data for each reservoir. Therefore, these estimates are inherently imprecise.

Actual future production, oil and gas prices, revenues, taxes, development expenditures, operating expenses and quantities of recoverable oil and gas reserves most likely will vary from these estimates. Such variations may be significant and could materially affect the estimated quantities and present value of our proved reserves. In addition, we may adjust estimates of proved reserves to reflect production history, results of exploration and development drilling, prevailing oil and gas prices and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. Our properties may also be susceptible to hydrocarbon drainage from production by operators on adjacent properties.

At December 31, 2005, approximately 35% of our estimated proved reserves (by volume) were undeveloped. Recovery of undeveloped reserves requires significant capital expenditures and successful drilling operations. These reserve estimates include the assumption that we will make significant capital expenditures to develop the reserves, including approximately $1.8 billion in 2006. You should be aware that the estimated costs may not be accurate, development may not occur as scheduled and results may not be as estimated.

You should not assume that the present values referred to in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein represent the current market value of our estimated oil and gas reserves. In accordance with SEC requirements, the estimates of our present values are based on prices and costs as of the date of the estimates. The December 31, 2005 present value is based on weighted average oil and natural gas wellhead prices of $56.41 per barrel of oil and $8.76 per mcf of natural gas. Actual future prices and costs may be materially higher or lower than the prices and costs as of the date of an estimate.

Any changes in consumption by oil and natural gas purchasers or in governmental regulations or taxation will also affect actual future net cash flows.

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The timing of both the production and the expenses from the development and production of oil and gas properties will affect both the timing of actual future net cash flows from our proved reserves and their present value. In addition, the 10% discount factor, which is required by the SEC to be used in calculating discounted future net cash flows for reporting purposes, is not necessarily the most accurate discount factor. The effective interest rate at various times and the risks associated with our business or the oil and natural gas industry in general will affect the accuracy of the 10% discount factor.

Acquisitions may prove to be worth less than we paid because of uncertainties in evaluating recoverable reserves and potential liabilities.

Our recent growth is due in large part to acquisitions of exploration and production companies, producing properties and undeveloped leasehold. We expect acquisitions will also contribute to our future growth. Successful acquisitions require an assessment of a number of factors, including estimates of recoverable reserves, exploration potential, future oil and gas prices, operating costs and potential environmental and other liabilities. Such assessments are inexact and their accuracy is inherently uncertain. In connection with our assessments, we perform a review of the acquired properties which we believe is generally consistent with industry practices. However, such a review will not reveal all existing or potential problems. In addition, our review may not permit us to become sufficiently familiar with the properties to fully assess their deficiencies and capabilities. We do not inspect every well. Even when we inspect a well, we do not always discover structural, subsurface and environmental problems that may exist or arise. We are generally not entitled to contractual indemnification for preclosing liabilities, including environmental liabilities. Normally, we acquire interests in properties on an as is basis with limited remedies for breaches of representations and warranties. As a result of these factors, we may not be able to acquire oil and gas properties that contain economically recoverable reserves or be able to complete such acquisitions on acceptable terms.

As new owners, we may not effectively consolidate and integrate acquired operations, particularly when we make significant acquisitions outside our historical operating areas.

Significant acquisitions present operational and administrative challenges that may prove more difficult than anticipated. The failure to consolidate functions and integrate procedures, personnel and operations in an effective and timely manner may adversely affect our business and results of operations, at least temporarily. Significant acquisitions can change the nature of our operations and business depending upon the character of the acquired properties, which may have substantially different operating and geological characteristics or be in different geographic locations than our existing properties. To the extent that we acquire properties substantially different from the properties in our primary operating areas or acquire properties that require different technical expertise, we may not be able to realize the economic benefits of these acquisitions as efficiently as in our prior acquisitions.

Exploration and development drilling may not result in commercially productive reserves.

We do not always encounter commercially productive reservoirs through our drilling operations. The new wells we drill or participate in may not be productive and we may not recover all or any portion of our investment in wells we drill or participate in. The seismic data and other technologies we use do not allow us to know conclusively prior to drilling a well that oil or gas is present or may be produced economically. The cost of drilling, completing and operating a well is often uncertain, and cost factors can adversely affect the economics of a project. Our efforts will be unprofitable if we drill dry wells or wells that are productive but do not produce enough reserves to return a profit after drilling, operating and other costs. Further, our drilling operations may be curtailed, delayed or canceled as a result of a variety of factors, including:

- increases in the cost of, or shortages or delays in the availability of, drilling rigs and equipment;
- unexpected drilling conditions;
- title problems;
- pressure or irregularities in formations;

- equipment failures or accidents;
- adverse weather conditions; and
- compliance with environmental and other governmental requirements.

Future price declines may result in a write-down of our asset carrying values.

We utilize the full cost method of accounting for costs related to our oil and gas properties. Under this method, all such costs (for both productive and nonproductive properties) are capitalized and amortized on an aggregate basis over the estimated lives of the properties using the unit-of-production method. However, these capitalized costs are subject to a ceiling test which limits such pooled costs to the aggregate of the present value of future net revenues attributable to proved oil and natural gas reserves discounted at 10% plus the lower of cost or market value of unproved properties. The full cost ceiling is evaluated at the end of each quarter using the prices for oil and gas at that date, adjusted for the impact of derivatives accounted for as cash flow hedges. A significant decline in oil and gas prices from current levels, or other factors, without other mitigating circumstances, could cause a future writedown of capitalized costs and a non-cash charge against future earnings.

At December 31, 2005, our net book value of oil and natural gas properties less deferred income taxes was below the calculated ceiling by approximately $6.5 billion. From December 31, 2005 to September 30, 2006, spot natural gas prices decreased by approximately 59% from $10.08 to $4.18 per mcf. As a result, as of September 30, 2006, our ceiling test calculation indicated an impairment of our oil and natural gas properties of approximately $415 million. However, natural gas prices subsequent to September 30, 2006 have improved sufficiently to eliminate this calculated impairment. As a result, we were not required to record a write-down of our oil and natural gas properties under the full-cost method of accounting in the third quarter of 2006.

Our hedging activities may reduce the realized prices received for our oil and natural gas sales and require us to provide collateral for hedging liabilities.

In order to manage our exposure to price volatility in marketing our oil and gas, we enter into oil and gas price risk management arrangements for a portion of our expected production. Commodity price hedging may limit the prices we actually realize and therefore reduce oil and natural gas revenues in the future. The fair value of our oil and gas derivative instruments outstanding as of September 30, 2006 was an asset of approximately $1.476 billion. In addition, our commodity price risk management transactions may expose us to the risk of financial loss in certain circumstances, including instances in which:

- our production is less than expected;
- there is a widening of price differentials between delivery points for our production and the delivery point assumed in the hedge arrangement; or
- the counterparties to our contracts fail to perform under the contracts.

All but two of our commodity price risk management counterparties require us to provide assurances of performance in the event that the counterparties mark-to-market exposure to us exceeds certain levels. Most of these arrangements allow us to minimize the potential liquidity impact of significant mark-to-market fluctuations by making collateral allocations from our revolving bank credit facility or directly pledging oil and gas properties, rather than posting cash or letters of credit with the counterparties. As of September 30, 2006, we had outstanding collateral allocations and pledges of oil and gas properties, with respect to commodity price risk management transactions but were not required to post any collateral with our counterparties through letters of credit issued under our revolving bank credit facility. As of December 6, 2006, we had outstanding transactions with thirteen counterparties, eight of which hold collateral allocations from our revolving bank credit facility or liens against certain oil and gas properties under our secured hedging facilities, and two of which do not require us to provide security for our risk management transactions. As of December 6, 2006, we were not required to post cash or letters of credit with the remaining three counterparties. Future collateral requirements are uncertain and will depend on the arrangements with our counterparties and highly volatile natural gas and oil prices.

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Lower oil and gas prices could negatively impact our ability to borrow.

Our revolving bank credit facility limits our borrowings to the lesser of the borrowing base and the total commitments (currently both are $2.5 billion). The borrowing base is determined periodically at the discretion of the banks and is based in part on oil and natural gas prices. Additionally, some of our indentures contain covenants limiting our ability to incur indebtedness in addition to that incurred under our revolving bank credit facility. These indentures limit our ability to incur additional indebtedness unless we meet one of two alternative tests. The first alternative is based on our adjusted consolidated net tangible assets (as defined in all of our indentures), which is determined using discounted future net revenues from proved oil and natural gas reserves as of the end of each year. The second alternative is based on the ratio of our adjusted consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the relevant indentures) to our adjusted consolidated interest expense over a trailing twelve-month period. As of the date of this prospectus, we are permitted to incur significant additional indebtedness under both of these debt incurrence tests. Lower oil and gas prices in the future could reduce our adjusted consolidated EBITDA, as well as our adjusted consolidated net tangible assets, and thus could reduce our ability to incur additional indebtedness.

Oil and natural gas drilling and producing operations can be hazardous and may expose us to environmental liabilities.

Oil and natural gas operations are subject to many risks, including well blowouts, cratering and explosions, pipe failure, fires, formations with abnormal pressures, uncontrollable flows of oil, natural gas, brine or well fluids, and other environmental hazards and risks. Our drilling operations involve risks from high pressures and from mechanical difficulties such as stuck pipes, collapsed casings and separated cables. If any of these risks occurs, we could sustain substantial losses as a result of:

- injury or loss of life;
- severe damage to or destruction of property, natural resources and equipment;
- pollution or other environmental damage;
- clean-up responsibilities;
- regulatory investigations and administrative, civil and criminal penalties; and
- injunctions resulting in limitation or suspension of operations.

There is inherent risk of incurring significant environmental costs and liabilities in our exploration and production operations due to our generation, handling, and disposal of materials including wastes and petroleum hydrocarbons. We may incur joint and several, strict liability under applicable federal and state environmental laws in connection with releases of petroleum hydrocarbons and wastes on, under or from our leased or owned properties, some of which have been used for oil and natural gas exploration and production activities for a number of years, oftentimes by third parties not under our control. While we may maintain insurance against some, but not all, of the risks described above, our insurance may not be adequate to cover casualty losses or liabilities. Also, in the future we may not be able to obtain insurance at premium levels that justify its purchase.

In addition, in response to studies suggesting that emissions of certain gases may be contributing to warming of the Earth s atmosphere, many states are beginning to consider initiatives to track and record these gases, generally referred to as greenhouse gases, with several states having already adopted regulatory initiatives and one state, California, having adopted legislation aimed at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. Methane, a primary component of natural gas, and carbon dioxide a byproduct of the burning of natural gas, are included among the types of gases targeted by greenhouse gas initiatives and laws. This movement is in its infancy but regulatory initiatives or legislation placing restrictions on emissions of methane or carbon dioxide that may be imposed in various states of the United States could adversely affect our operations and the demand for our products.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We expect the net proceeds from the sale of 30,000,000 shares in this offering to be approximately $ million, after deducting the underwriter s discount and the estimated expenses of the offering payable by us. If the underwriter exercises its option to purchase additional shares in full, we expect to receive net proceeds of approximately $ million. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to repay borrowings under our revolving bank credit facility, which may be reborrowed for general corporate purposes, including funding potential future acquisitions. An affiliate of the underwriter in this offering is a lender under our existing revolving bank credit facility and may receive a portion of the proceeds from this offering. See Underwriting. As of September 30, 2006, the average interest rate on borrowings outstanding under our revolving bank credit facility, which matures on February 3, 2011, was 6.53%. As of December 6, 2006, we had approximately $1.641 billion outstanding under our revolving bank credit facility.

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PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK

Our common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CHK. The following table sets forth the range of high and low sales prices per share of our common stock for each calendar quarter.

	Sales Price High	Sales Price Low
2004:		
First Quarter	$ 13.98	$ 11.70
Second Quarter	$ 15.05	$ 12.68
Third Quarter	$ 16.24	$ 13.69
Fourth Quarter	$ 18.31	$ 15.17
2005:		
First Quarter	$ 23.65	$ 15.06
Second Quarter	$ 24.00	$ 17.74
Third Quarter	$ 38.98	$ 22.90
Fourth Quarter	$ 40.20	$ 26.59
2006:		
First Quarter	$ 35.57	$ 27.75
Second Quarter	$ 33.79	$ 26.81
Third Quarter	$ 33.76	$ 28.06
Fourth Quarter (through December 6, 2006)	$ 34.27	$ 27.90

On December 6, 2006, the closing sale price of our common stock, as reported by the New York Stock Exchange, was $33.73 per share. On that date, there were approximately 1,500 holders of record. We believe we have over approximately 299,000 beneficial owners of our common stock.

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CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

FOR NON-UNITED STATES HOLDERS

The following is a general discussion of the principal United States federal income and estate tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of our common stock by a non-U.S. holder. As used in this discussion, the term non-U.S. holder means a beneficial owner of our common stock that is not, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation (including any entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes) created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, or of any political subdivision of the United States;
- an estate whose income is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or
- a trust, if a U.S. court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more United States persons have authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or if it has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a United States person.

An individual may be treated as a resident of the United States in any calendar year for U.S. federal income tax purposes, instead of a nonresident, by, among other ways, being present in the United States for at least 31 days in that calendar year and for an aggregate of at least 183 days during a three-year period including in the current calendar year. For purposes of the 183-day calculation, all of the days present in the current year, one third of the days present in the immediately preceding year and one-sixth of the days present in the second preceding year are counted. Residents are taxed for U.S. federal income tax purposes as if they were U.S. citizens. This discussion does not consider:

- U.S. state or local or non-U.S. tax consequences;
- all aspects of U.S. federal income and estate taxes or specific facts and circumstances that may be relevant to a particular non-U.S. holder s tax position, including the fact that in the case of a non-U.S. holder that is an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the U.S. tax consequences of holding and disposing of our common stock may be affected by certain determinations made at the partner level;
- the tax consequences for partnerships (including entities treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes) and their partners, or for stockholders or beneficiaries of a non-U.S. holder;
- special tax rules that may apply to particular non-U.S. holders, such as financial institutions, insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, U.S. expatriates, broker-dealers, and traders in securities; or
- special tax rules that may apply to a non-U.S. holder that holds our common stock as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion transaction, synthetic security or other integrated investment.

The following discussion is based on provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, existing and proposed U.S. Treasury Regulations and administrative and judicial interpretations, all as of the date of this prospectus, and all of which are subject to change, retroactively or prospectively. The following summary assumes that a non-U.S. holder holds our common stock as a capital asset (that is, an investment).

Each non-U.S. holder should consult a tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal, state, local and non-U.S. income and other tax consequences of acquiring, holding and disposing of shares of our common stock.

Distributions on common stock

In the event that we make cash distributions on our common stock, these distributions generally will constitute dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent paid from our current or accumulated

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earnings and profits, as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. Dividends paid to non-U.S. holders of our common stock that are not effectively connected with the non-U.S. holder s conduct of a U.S. trade or business will be subject to U.S. withholding tax at a 30% rate, or if a tax treaty applies, a lower rate specified by the treaty. Non-U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding their entitlement to benefits under a relevant income tax treaty.

Dividends that are effectively connected with a non-U.S. holder s conduct of a trade or business in the United States and, if an income tax treaty applies, are attributable to a permanent establishment in the United States, are taxed on a net income basis at the regular graduated rates and in the manner applicable to United States persons. In that case, we will not have to withhold U.S. federal withholding tax if the non-U.S. holder complies with applicable certification and disclosure requirements. In addition, a branch profits tax may be imposed at a 30% rate, or a lower rate under an applicable income tax treaty, on dividends received by a foreign corporation that are effectively connected with its conduct of a trade or business in the United States.

A non-U.S. holder that claims the benefit of an applicable income tax treaty generally will be required to satisfy applicable certification and other requirements.

A holder that is a foreign partnership or a foreign trust is urged to consult its own tax advisor regarding the special certification requirements applicable to it.

A non-U.S. holder that is eligible for a reduced rate of U.S. federal withholding tax under an income tax treaty may obtain a refund or credit of any excess amounts withheld by filing an appropriate claim for refund with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

Gain on disposition of common stock

A non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on gain recognized on a disposition of our common stock unless:

- the gain is effectively connected with the non-U.S. holder s conduct of a trade or business in the United States and, if an income tax treaty applies, is attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States; in these cases, the gain will be taxed on a net income basis at the rates and in the manner applicable to United States persons, and if the non-U.S. holder is a foreign corporation, the branch profits tax described above may also apply;

- the non-U.S. holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the disposition and meets other requirements; in these cases, the individual non-U.S. holder will be subject to a flat 30% tax on the gain derived from the disposition which may be offset by U.S. source capital losses, even though the individual is not considered a resident of the United States; or

- we are or have been a United States real property holding corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes at any time during the shorter of the five-year period ending on the date of disposition or the period that the non-U.S. holder held our common stock.

Generally, a corporation is a United States real property holding corporation if the fair market value of its United States real property interests equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market value of its worldwide real property interests and its other assets used or held for use in a trade or business. We believe that we are a United States real property holding corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, the tax relating to stock in a United States real property holding corporation generally will not apply to a non-U.S. holder whose holdings, direct and indirect, at all times during the applicable period, constituted 5% or less of our common stock, provided that our common stock was regularly traded on an established securities market.

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U.S. federal estate tax

Common stock owned or treated as owned by an individual who is a non-U.S. holder for U.S. federal estate tax purposes at the time of death will be included in the individual s gross estate for U.S. federal estate tax purposes, unless an applicable estate tax or other treaty provides otherwise, and therefore may be subject to U.S. federal estate tax.

Information reporting and backup withholding tax

Dividends paid to you may be subject to information reporting and U.S. backup withholding. If you are a non-U.S. holder you will be exempt from this backup withholding tax if you properly provide a Form W-8BEN certifying that you are a non-U.S. holder or otherwise meet documentary evidence requirements for establishing that you are a non-U.S. holder, or you otherwise establish an exemption.

The gross proceeds from the disposition of our common stock may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding. If you sell your common stock outside the United States through a non-U.S. office of a non-U.S. broker and the sales proceeds are paid to you outside the United States, then the U.S. backup withholding and information reporting requirements generally will not apply to that payment. However, U.S. information reporting and backup withholding, will generally apply to a payment of sales proceeds, even if that payment is made outside the United States, if you sell your common stock through a non-U.S. office of a broker that:

is a United States person;

derives 50% or more of its gross income in specific periods from the conduct of a trade or business in the United States;

is a controlled foreign corporation for U.S. tax purposes; or

is a foreign partnership, if at any time during its tax year:

one or more of its partners are United States persons who in the aggregate hold more than 50% of the income or capital interests in the partnership; or

the foreign partnership is engaged in a U.S. trade or business,

unless the broker has documentary evidence in its files that you are a non-U.S. person and certain other conditions are met, or you otherwise establish an exemption.

If you receive payments of the proceeds of a sale of our common stock to or through a U.S. office of a broker, the payment is subject to both U.S. backup withholding and information reporting unless you properly provide a Form W-8BEN certifying that you are a non-U.S. person or you otherwise establish an exemption.

You generally may obtain a refund of any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules that exceed your U.S. federal income tax liability by timely filing a properly completed claim for refund with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

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UNDERWRITING

The company and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. have entered into an underwriting agreement with respect to the shares being offered.

Subject to certain conditions, the underwriter is committed to take and pay for all of the shares being offered, if any are taken, other than the shares covered by the option described below unless and until this option is exercised.

The company has granted to the underwriter an option to buy up to an additional 4,500,000 shares from the company to cover over-allotments. The underwriter may exercise that option for 30 days.

The company will pay to the underwriter an underwriting discount and commission equal to $ per share or $ in the aggregate. If the underwriter exercises its option to purchase 4,500,000 additional shares, the aggregate underwriting discount and commission will be $.

Shares sold by the underwriter to the public will initially be offered at the initial public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement. If all the shares are not sold at the initial public offering price, the underwriter, may change the offering price and the other selling terms.

In connection with the offering, the underwriter may purchase and sell shares of common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover positions created by short sales. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriter of a greater number of shares than it is required to purchase in the offering. Covered short sales are sales made in an amount not greater than the underwriter s option to purchase additional shares from the company in the offering. The underwriter may close out any covered short position by either exercising its option to purchase additional shares or purchasing shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered short position, the underwriter will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which it may purchase additional shares pursuant to the option granted to it. Naked short sales are any sales in excess of such option. The underwriter must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriter is concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common stock in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of various bids for or purchases of common stock made by the underwriter in the open market prior to the completion of the offering.

Purchases to cover a short position and stabilizing transactions, as well as other purchases by the underwriter for its own accounts, may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the company s stock and may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the common stock. As a result, the price of the common stock may be higher than the price that otherwise might exist in the open market. If these activities are commenced, they may be discontinued at any time. These transactions may be effected on the New York Stock Exchange, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

Except for the common stock offered hereby, we have agreed not to offer, sell, contract to sell or otherwise issue any shares of common stock or other capital stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for, or any rights to acquire, common stock or other capital stock, with certain exceptions, prior to the expiration of 60 days from the date of this prospectus supplement without the prior written consent of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. Aubrey K. McClendon has agreed not to, directly or indirectly, offer, sell or otherwise dispose of shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for, or any rights to acquire, our common stock or our other capital stock for 60 days following the date of this prospectus supplement without the prior written consent of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.

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We estimate that our share of the total expenses of the offering, excluding the underwriting discount and commission, will be approximately $150,000. The underwriter has also agreed to reimburse us for up to $150,000 in expenses incurred by us in connection with this offering.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933.

The underwriter has from time to time provided, and in the future may provide, certain investment banking and financial advisory services to us and our affiliates, for which it has received, and in the future would receive, customary fees. An affiliate of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. is a lender under our existing revolving bank credit facility and a counterparty to our secured hedging facility. Amounts outstanding under our existing revolving bank credit facility will be repaid in connection with this offering.

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WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC.

We incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement the following documents filed with the SEC pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act):

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005;

- our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2006, June 30, 2006 and September 30, 2006; and

- our current reports on Form 8-K filed on November 1, 2005, January 10, 2006, January 18, 2006, January 26, 2006, January 30, 2006 (two reports of the same date), February 1, 2006, February 3, 2006, February 8, 2006, February 10, 2006, February 15, 2006 (two reports of the same date), February 21, 2006, February 24, 2006, February 28, 2006, March 8, 2006, March 22, 2006, April 7, 2006, April 21, 2006, May 2, 2006, May 8, 2006, May 31, 2006, June 6, 2006, June 8, 2006 (two reports of the same date), June 15, 2006 (three reports of the same date), June 27, 2006 (one such report as amended on July 24, 2006), June 30, 2006 (two reports of the same date), July 10, 2006, July 28, 2006, August 3, 2006, August 9, 2006, September 27, 2006, October 2, 2006, October 6, 2006, October 16, 2006, October 23, 2006, October 27, 2006, November 13, 2006, November 17, 2006, November 20, 2006, November 21, 2006, November 28, 2006, November 29, 2006 and December 6, 2006 (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of any such current report on Form 8-K).

We also incorporate by reference any future filings made by us with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of any such current report on Form 8-K that is filed in the future and is not deemed filed under the Exchange Act), until the underwriter has sold all of the shares of common stock.

The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus supplement, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information as well as the information included in this prospectus supplement.

You may read and copy any document we file with the SEC at the SEC public reference room located at:

100 F Street, N.E.

Room 1580

Washington, D.C. 20549

Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room and its copy charges. Our SEC filings are also available to the public on the SEC s web site at http://www.sec.gov and through the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, on which our shares of common stock are traded.

During the course of the offering and prior to sale, we invite each offeree of the common stock to ask us questions concerning the terms and conditions of the offering and to obtain any additional information necessary to verify the accuracy of the information in this prospectus supplement which is material to the offering to the extent that we possess such information or can acquire it without unreasonable effort or expense. You may obtain a copy of any or all of the documents summarized in this prospectus supplement or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, without charge, by request directed to us at the following address and telephone number:

Jennifer M. Grigsby

Corporate Secretary

Chesapeake Energy Corporation

6100 North Western Avenue

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118

Telephone: (405) 879-9225

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