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ITEM 9. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release dated September 15, 2006

SIGNATURES

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

Date: September 18, 2006

Empire Petroleum Corporation

BY: /s/Albert E. Whitehead

Chief Executive Officer

EXHIBIT 99.1

NEWS RELEASE

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

September 15, 2006

For Immediate Release

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION ANNOUNCES COMMENCEMENT OF TEST WELL IN NEVADA AND COMPLETION OF FINANCING

Empire Petroleum Corporation (OTCBB: EMPR), a Tulsa, Oklahoma based company, announced today that drilling operations were commenced September 14, 2006 on the Empire Cobble Cuesta 1-12-12N-34E, Nye County, Nevada. It is expected that the total depth of this exploratory well will be 6,500 feet and the well should take 25 to 30 days to drill.

Empire said the well was being drilled on a large surface structure, which was further defined by gravity data, photo-geologic mapping, satellite imagery, detailed surface mapping and a new 2-D seismic program. Additionally, a test well drilled about four miles from the Cobble Cuesta location had good oil shows.

Empire owns a ten percent (10%) working interest in 44,604 lease acres and has entered into an agreement to earn an additional thirty percent (30%) interest by paying forty-five percent (45%) of the costs of drilling the Cobble Cuesta well. In addition, Empire has a forty percent (40%) interest in another 30,917 lease acres, bringing the total lease acres in the prospect to 75,521.

The Company has completed a private placement of 7,250,000 shares at \$0.20 per share for a total of \$1,450,000. For each four shares purchased the buyer received one share purchase warrant which is exercisable for one year at \$0.50 per share. The total number of warrants issued was 1,812,500. These funds will be used to pay Empire's well costs.

Statements in this press release other than purely historical information, including statements relating to the Company's future plans and objectives or

