

Edgar Filing: EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORP - Form 10-Q

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORP  
Form 10-Q  
August 13, 2010

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
Form 10-Q

(Mark One)

Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2010

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 001-16653

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| DELAWARE   | 73-1238709                           |
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) | (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) |

8801 S. Yale, Suite 120, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74137-3575  
(Address of principal executive offices)

(918) 488-8068  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

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(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes                       No

Indicate by 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 (Sec. 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes                       No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company.

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See the definitions 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   
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

APPLICABLE ONLY TO ISSUERS INVOLVED IN BANKRUPTCY  
PROCEEDING DURING THE PRECEDING FIVE YEARS:

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Sections 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a Plan confirmed by a court.

Yes  No

APPLICABLE ONLY TO CORPORATE ISSUERS:

The number of shares of the registrant's common stock, \$0.001 par value, outstanding as of August 13, 2010 was 83,069,235

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
Item 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

BALANCE SHEETS

|   | June 30,<br>2010<br>(Unaudited) | December 31,<br>2009 |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>   |                                 |                      |
| Current assets:   |                                 |                      |
| Cash  | \$ 916,410                      | \$ 1,171,565         |
| Accounts receivable<br>(net of allowance of \$3,750<br>at June 30, 2010 and<br>December 31, 2009)   | 45,915                          | 45,915               |
| Total current assets  | <u>962,325</u>                  | <u>1,217,480</u>     |
| Property & equipment, net of accumulated<br>depreciation and depletion  | 1,468,604                       | 920,215              |
| Total assets  | <u>\$ 2,430,929</u>             | <u>\$ 2,137,695</u>  |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>   |                                 |                      |
| Current liabilities:  |                                 |                      |
| Account payable and accrued<br>liabilities  | \$ 19,786                       | \$ 10,583            |
| Total current liabilities   | <u>19,786</u>                   | <u>10,583</u>        |
| Long-term liabilities:  |                                 |                      |
| Asset retirement obligation   | 34,200                          | 34,200               |
| Total liabilities   | <u>53,986</u>                   | <u>44,783</u>        |
| Stockholders' equity:   |                                 |                      |
| Common stock - \$.001 par value,<br>authorized 100,000,000 shares,<br>issued and outstanding 80,569,233<br>and 74,553,361 shares,<br>respectively | 80,569                          | 74,553               |
| Additional paid in capital  | 13,644,942                      | 13,149,578           |
| Accumulated deficit   | (11,348,568)                    | (11,131,219)         |
| Total stockholders' equity  | <u>2,376,943</u>                | <u>2,092,912</u>     |
| Total liabilities and stockholders'<br>equity   | <u>\$ 2,430,929</u>             | <u>\$ 2,137,695</u>  |

See accompanying notes to unaudited financial statements.

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(UNAUDITED)

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|   | Three Months Ended |             | Six Months Ended |             |
|---|--------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
|   | June 30,           |             | June 30,         |             |
|   | 2010               | 2009        | 2010             | 2009        |
| <b>Revenue:</b>   |                    |             |                  |             |
| Petroleum sales   | \$ 0               | \$ 5,292    | \$ 0             | \$ 9,794    |
|   | 0                  | 5,292       | 0                | 9,794       |
| <b>Costs and expenses:</b>  |                    |             |                  |             |
| Production & operating  | 71,896             | 25,001      | 81,826           | 41,387      |
| General & administrative  | 71,369             | 65,175      | 138,430          | 118,597     |
|   | 143,265            | 90,176      | 220,256          | 159,984     |
| Operating loss  | (143,265)          | (84,884)    | (220,256)        | (150,190)   |
| <b>Other income and (expense):</b>                                      |                    |             |                  |             |
| Gain on sale of Cheyenne  |                    |             |                  |             |
| River Prospect  | 0                  | 102,708     | 0                | 102,708     |
| Interest income   | 1,266              | 0           | 2,907            | 0           |
| Interest expense  | 0                  | 0           | 0                | 0           |
| Total other income and (expense)  | 1,266              | 102,708     | 2,907            | 102,708     |
| Net income (loss)   | \$ (141,999)       | \$ (17,824) | \$ (217,349)     | \$ (47,482) |
| Net income (loss) per common share, basic and diluted                   | \$ (.00)           | \$ (.00)    | \$ (.00)         | \$ (.00)    |
| Weighted average number of common shares outstanding, basic and diluted | 78,776,024         | 57,193,128  | 77,931,359       | 57,193,128  |

See accompanying notes to unaudited financial statements.

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(UNAUDITED)

Six Months Ended

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|  | June 30,<br>2010 | June 30,<br>2009 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities:  |                  |                  |
| Net loss   | \$ (217,349)     | \$ (47,482)      |
| Adjustments to reconcile net loss<br>to net cash used in operating activities: |                  |                  |
| Value of services contributed by employee                                      | 25,000           | 25,000           |
| Stock option plan expense  | 16,380           | 0                |
| Gain on sale of cheyenne river prospect  | 0                | (102,708)        |
| Change in operating assets and liabilities:                                    |                  |                  |
| Accounts receivable  | 0                | 3,040            |
| Prepaid expenses   | 0                | 6,050            |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities                                       | 9,203            | (18,838)         |
| Net cash used in<br>operating activities                                       | (166,766)        | (134,938)        |
| Cash flows from investing activities:  |                  |                  |
| Acquisition of lease acres   | (35,000)         | 0                |
| Well equipment & drilling costs  | (513,389)        | 0                |
| Sale of cheyenne river interests   | 0                | 166,524          |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing<br>activities                         | (548,389)        | 166,524          |
| Cash flows from financing activities:  |                  |                  |
| Proceeds from private equity placement   | 460,000          | 0                |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash  | (255,155)        | 31,586           |
| Cash - Beginning of period   | 1,171,565        | 124,121          |
| Cash - End of period   | \$ 916,410       | \$ 155,707       |

See accompanying notes to unaudited financial statements.

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2010

(UNAUDITED)

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

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The accompanying unaudited financial statements of Empire Petroleum Corporation ("Empire" or the "Company") have been prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and the instructions to Form 10-Q. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by United States generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments considered necessary for a fair presentation of the Company's financial position, the results of operations, and the cash flows for the interim period are included. All adjustments are of a normal, recurring nature. Operating results for the interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2010.

The information contained in this Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and related notes for the year ended December 31, 2009 which are contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on March 30, 2010.

The Company has incurred significant losses in recent years. The continuation of the Company as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the Company to attain future profitable operations. These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of United States generally accepted accounting principles applicable to a company with continuing operations, which assume that the Company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its obligations in the normal course of operations. Management believes the going concern assumption to be appropriate for these financial statements. If the going concern assumption were not appropriate for these financial statements, then adjustments might be necessary to adjust the carrying value of assets and liabilities and reported expenses.

The Company continues to explore and develop its oil and gas interests. The ultimate recoverability of the Company's investment in its oil and gas interests is dependent upon the existence and discovery of economically recoverable oil and gas reserves, confirmation of the Company's interest in the oil and gas interests, the ability of the Company to obtain necessary financing to further develop the interests, and the ability of the Company to attain future profitable production.

In June 2005, the Company completed a private placement of 5,000,000 shares of its common stock along with warrants to purchase 1,250,000 shares of its common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$500,000. Subject to certain restrictions, the warrants may be exercised until November 15, 2010 (extended from the previous date of August 15, 2010) at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share. Proceeds of the private placement were allocated \$67,875 to common stock warrants and \$432,125 to common stock and paid-in capital. These funds were used for general corporate purposes and to pay

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the Company's share of the costs associated with its then 10% interest in the Gabbs Valley Oil Prospect in Nevada. By subsequent agreement with Cortez Exploration, LLC (formerly O. F. Duffield) dated May 8, 2006, Empire acquired an additional 30% interest by agreeing to pay \$675,000 in land and related costs to Cortez and 45% of the drilling and completion costs on a test well to be known as the Empire Cobble Cuesta 1-12-12-34E, Nye County, Nevada. When combined with the original 10% working interest in the well and lease block which was expanded to 75,201 gross acres by the acquisition of an additional 30,917 acres from the U. S. Department of the Interior on June 14, 2006, the Company's working interest increased to 40%, after paying 55% of the drilling and completion costs of the Empire Cobble Cuesta 1-12-12N-34E test well. To

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fund this increased interest, the Company initiated a private placement of common stock along with warrants to purchase common stock in June 2006. In connection with this private placement, the Company issued 7,250,000 shares of common stock and warrants to purchase 1,812,500 shares of its common stock at an exercise price of \$0.50 per share for an aggregate purchase price of \$1,450,000. In April 2007, the Company raised \$1,000,000 through a private placement of 5,000,000 shares of its common stock along with warrants to purchase 1,250,000 shares of its common stock which have an exercise price of \$0.50 per share which expires November 15, 2010. On August 2, 2007, the Company acquired an additional 17% interest, which increased its interest in the Gabbs Valley Prospect and leases to 57% (See Note 2). The Company acquired an additional 9,943.91 acres of leases at a September 2008 lease sale and 7,680 acres at a September 2009 lease sale bringing the total acreage in which it has a 57% interest to 92,825 acres. The Company was encouraged by the data it acquired in connection with the drilling, logging and testing of the well. Such data, additional studies of such data, the assistance of geological and engineering consultants and an Advanced Geochemical Imaging Survey conducted in December 2008 led the Company to determine that further drilling is warranted.

As of June 30, 2010, the Company had \$916,410 of cash on hand. In order to sustain the Company's operations on a long-term basis, the Company continues to look for merger opportunities and consider public or private financings. The Company anticipates that it has the funds necessary to continue its operations through the next twelve months.

### Compensation of Officers and Employees

The Company's only executive officer serves without pay or other compensation. The fair value of these services is estimated by management and is recognized as a capital contribution. For the six months ended June 30, 2010, the Company recorded \$25,000 as a capital contribution by its executive officer.

### Fair Value Measurements

The Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") fair value measurement standards defines fair value, establishes a consistent framework for measuring fair value and establishes a fair value hierarchy based on the observability of inputs used to measure fair value. The Company's primary marketable asset is cash, and it owns no marketable securities.

## 2. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT:

### GABBS VALLEY PROSPECT

The Company owns a 57% working interest in oil and gas leases in Nye and Mineral Counties, Nevada (the "Gabbs Valley Prospect"). Initially,

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the Company's working interest was 10% and the Gabbs Valley Prospect consisted of 44,604 acres, but now consists of 92,825 acres.

As of December 31, 2005, there had been no wells drilled on the Gabbs Valley Prospect. However, in November 2005, the Company received the results of a 19-mile 2-D swath seismograph survey conducted on the prospect and, based on the results of the survey, the Company and its partners determined that a test well should be drilled on the prospect. The Company also elected to increase its interest in the prospect by taking a farm-in from Cortez Exploration LLC (formerly O. F. Duffield). Empire agreed to pay Cortez \$675,000 in lease costs plus 45% of the costs associated with the drilling of a test well to earn an additional 30% working interest which made its total working interest 40%. The lease block

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of 44,604 acres was increased to 75,521 acres by the acquisition of an additional 30,917 acres from the Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management) in June 2006. The block was reduced to 75,201 acres due to the expiration of one 320-acre lease during 2007. In 2008 and 2009, the Company acquired leases on 17,624 additional acres through federal lease sales, bringing its total to 92,825 acres.

After reaching 5,195 feet in connection with drilling this first test well, the Company and its partners elected to suspend operations on the well, release the drilling rig, and associated equipment and personnel to evaluate the drilling and logging data. After the study was completed, Empire and its partners decided to conduct a thorough testing program on the well. The Company re-entered the well on April 17, 2007 and conducted a series of drill stem tests and recovered only drilling mud. It was then determined after considerable study that the formation is likely very sensitive to mud and water used in drilling which may have caused clays in the formation to swell preventing any oil that might be present to flow into the wellbore. During 2007, the Company increased its interest in the prospect leases to 57% when one of the joint participants elected to surrender its 30% share of the prospect. The Company and its joint owners assumed liabilities of approximately \$68,000 to acquire this interest.

Other than a 5,000 barrel-per-day refinery located approximately 200 miles from the Gabbs Valley Prospect, there are no pipelines or service networks located near the prospect. A small refinery located about 115 miles from the prospect has now shut down.

In 2008, the Company and its partners engaged W. L. Gore and Associates to carryout an Amplified Geochemical Imaging Survey which covered approximately sixteen square miles. The survey was concentrated along the apex of the large Cobble Cuesta structure which included the areas around the Empire Cobble Cuesta 1-12 exploratory test and the other test well drilled in the immediate area. Both of these tests encountered oil shows and the geochemical survey indicated potential hydrocarbons beyond the two well bores. A new Federal drilling unit has been formed and approved by the Bureau of Land Management. This unit is known as the Paradise Drilling Unit and contains 40,073 acres out of our total lease block now containing 92,825 acres. The Company is projecting the commencement of drilling operations of a new test well on the 2-12 location in July 2010.

### SOUTH OKIE PROSPECT

On August 4, 2009, the Company purchased, for \$25,000 and payment of lease rentals of \$4,680, a nine-month option to purchase 2,630 net acres of oil and gas leases known as the South Okie Prospect in Natrona County, Wyoming.

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The option allowed the Company to purchase the leasehold interests for \$35,000 which has been exercised in 2010. The Tensleep Sand at depths from 3,300 feet to 4,500 feet is the primary target. The Tensleep is an excellent oil reservoir with the potential of 700 barrels of oil per acre foot recovery. The Company has completed its geological and seismic studies and subsequent to the completion of these studies it has carried out a thorough engineering study. This later study focused on the most promising locations and potential reserves. The Company has elected to concentrate on drilling its Nevada prospect before deciding on a course of action on this prospect.

### 3. EQUITY

On June 14, 2010 the Company extended all of its outstanding warrants to November 15, 2010. Fair values of the extended warrants were estimated at the date of extension using the Black-Scholes Option Valuation Model with

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the following weighted average assumptions: risk free interest rate of .15%, volatility factor of the expected market price of the Company's common stock of 154%, no dividend yield, and a weighted average expected life of the warrants of 5 months. As a result of the extension, the outstanding warrants were revalued at \$131,125, which had no income statement effect.

On March 17, 2010, John C. Kinard, a member of the Company's Board of Directors, was issued options to purchase 70,000 shares of the Company's common stock under the 2006 Stock Option Plan at a strike price of \$0.25 per share. The options immediately vested and expire after ten years. The Company recorded an expense of \$16,380 for the options. Fair values were estimated at the date of grant of the options, using the Black-Scholes Option Valuation Model with the following weighted average assumptions: risk free interest rate of 3.65%, volatility factor of the expected market price of the Company's common stock of 162%, no dividend yield, and a weighted average expected life of the options of 5 years. For the purpose of determining the expected life of the options, the Company utilizes the Simplified Method as defined in Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 issued by the SEC.

Diluted EPS gives effect to all dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period. The computation of Diluted EPS does not assume conversion, exercise or contingent exercise of securities that would have an anti-dilutive effect on losses. As a result, if there is a loss from continuing operations, Diluted EPS is computed in the same manner as Basic EPS. At June 30, 2010, the Company had 1,045,000 and 5,284,725 options and warrants outstanding, respectively, that were not included in the calculation of earnings per share for the periods then ended. Such financial instruments may become dilutive and would then need to be included in future calculations of Diluted EPS. At June 30, 2010, the outstanding options and warrants were considered anti-dilutive since the strike prices were below the market price and since the Company has incurred losses year to date.

In January, 2010, the Company received stock subscriptions of \$285,000 as a part of its private placement offering, which concluded on January 26, 2010. The subscribers received 4,071,428 shares of stock valued at \$.07 per share. Subsequent to this private placement, the Company determined that it needed to enter into the farm-in agreement (See Note 4) and raise additional funds in order to successfully drill a new test well on the Gabbs Valley Prospect.

As of June 30, 2010 the Company had issued 1,944,444 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 972,225 shares of common stock (with an exercise

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price of \$0.50 per share and which expire in June, 2011), with an aggregate purchase price of \$175,000 as a part of its most recent private placement offering. Proceeds of the private placement were allocated \$43,750 to common stock warrants and \$131,250 to common stock and paid in capital. The value of the warrants was estimated using the Black-Scholes Valuation Model with the following weighted average assumptions: risk free interest rate of .30%, no dividend yield, volatility factor of the expected market price of the Company's common stock of 155%, and a weighted average expected life of the warrants of one year. The funds will be used for general corporate purposes and to pay for costs associated with the exploratory well the Company is drilling in the Gabb's Valley Prospect in Nevada.

On July 13, 2010, the Company completed its private placement offering by issuing 2,500,002 additional shares of common stock, and 1,250,001 additional warrants to purchase shares of common stock at a price of \$.50, which expire in June and July, 2011, as applicable. Proceeds from the two private placements described above will be utilized for the Company's share of costs

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to drill a new well on the Gabbs Valley Prospect (See Note 2). Any remaining funds will be used for general working capital purposes.

### 4. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent to June 30, 2010 the Company entered into a farm-in agreement with its joint lease holders holding a 41% working interest in the 40,073 acre Paradise Unit. On July 19, 2010, the Company commenced drilling a test well in the Paradise Unit on the Gabbs Valley Prospect in Nevada.

In July, 2010, the Company issued 2,500,002 shares of its common stock and 1,250,001 warrants as a part of its private placement offering (See Note 3). Proceeds of the private placement were allocated \$77,500 to common stock warrants and \$322,500 to common stock and paid in capital. The value of the warrants was estimated using the Black-Scholes Valuation Model with the following weighted average assumptions: risk free interest rate of .30%, no dividend yield, volatility factor of the expected market price of the Company's common stock of 157%, and a weighted average expected life of the warrants of one year. The funds will be used for general corporate purposes and to pay for costs associated with the exploratory well the Company is drilling in the Gabb's Valley Prospect in Nevada.

### 5. RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) periodically issues new accounting standards in a continuing effort to improve standards of financial accounting and reporting. The Company has reviewed the recently issued pronouncements and concluded that the following new accounting standards are applicable:

In January 2010, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2010-06, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (Topic 820) - Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements." This Update requires new disclosures regarding the amount of transfers in or out of Levels 1 and 2 along with the reason for such transfers and also requires a greater level of disaggregation when disclosing valuation techniques and inputs used in estimating Level 2 and Level 3 fair value measurements. This Update also includes conforming amendments to the guidance on employers' disclosures about postretirement benefit plan assets. The disclosures are required for reporting beginning in the first quarter 2010. Also, beginning with the first quarter 2011, the

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standard requires additional categorization of items included in the rollforward of activity for Level 3 inputs on a gross basis. Adoption of this standard will not have a material effect on the financial statements.

### Item 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

##### GENERAL TO ALL PERIODS

The Company's primary business is the exploration and development of oil and gas interests. The Company has incurred significant losses from operations, and there is no assurance that it will achieve profitability or obtain the funds necessary to finance its operations. Sales revenue in 2009 was attributable to the production of oil from the Company's Timber Draw #1-AH and the Hooligan Draw #1-AH wells located in the Eastern Powder River Basin in the State of Wyoming, otherwise known as the Cheyenne River Prospect, which was sold in 2009. For all periods presented, the Company's effective

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tax rate is 0%. The Company has generated net operating losses since inception, which would normally reflect a tax benefit in the statement of operations and a deferred asset on the balance sheet. However, because of the current uncertainty as to the Company's ability to achieve profitability, a valuation reserve has been established that offsets the amount of any tax benefit available for each period presented in the statements of operations.

THREE MONTH PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2010, COMPARED TO THREE MONTH PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2009.

For the three months ended June 30, 2010, sales revenue decreased \$5,292 to \$0 compared to \$5,292 for the same period during 2009. The decrease in sales revenue was the result of the Timber Draw #1-AH and the Hooligan Draw #1-AH wells being sold in 2009.

Production and operating expenses increased \$46,895 to \$71,896 for the three months ended June 30, 2010, from \$25,001 for the same period in 2009. The increase was primarily due to Empire's higher share of Gabbs Valley lease rentals due to its increased percentage.

General and administrative expenses increased by \$6,194 to \$71,369 for the three months ended June 30, 2010, from \$65,175 for the same period in 2009. The increase was primarily due to costs associated with the increase in accounting and legal fees.

SIX MONTH PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2010, COMPARED TO SIX MONTH PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2009.

For the six months ended June 30, 2010, sales revenue decreased \$9,794 to \$0 compared to \$9,794 for the same period during 2009. As of June 30, 2009 the Timber Draw #1-AH and the Hooligan Draw #1-AH wells had been sold.

Production and operating expenses increased \$40,439 to \$81,826 for the six months ended June 30, 2010, from \$41,387 for the same period in 2009. The increase was primarily due to Empire's higher share of Gabbs Valley lease rentals due to its increased percentage.

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General and administrative expenses increased by \$19,833 to \$138,430 for the six months ended June 30, 2010, from \$118,597 for the same period in 2009. The increase was primarily due to costs associated with the issuance of stock options in 2010.

### RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) periodically issues new accounting standards in a continuing effort to improve standards of financial accounting and reporting. The Company has reviewed the recently issued pronouncements and concluded that the following new accounting standards are applicable:

In January 2010, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2010-06, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (Topic 820) - Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements." This Update requires new disclosures regarding the amount of transfers in or out of Levels 1 and 2 along with the reason for such transfers and also requires a greater level of disaggregation when disclosing valuation techniques and inputs used in estimating Level 2 and Level 3 fair value measurements. This Update also includes conforming amendments to the guidance on employers' disclosures about postretirement

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benefit plan assets. The disclosures are required for reporting beginning in the first quarter 2010. Also, beginning with the first quarter 2011, the standard requires additional categorization of items included in the rollforward of activity for Level 3 inputs on a gross basis. Adoption of this standard will not have a material effect on the financial statements.

### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

#### GENERAL

As of June 30, 2010, the Company had \$916,410 of cash on hand. The Company believes that its cash on hand will allow it to finance its operations for the next twelve months. In order to sustain the Company's operations on a long-term basis, the Company intends to continue to look for merger opportunities and consider public or private financings. The Company plans to undertake further exploration of the Gabbs Valley Prospect in 2010.

#### OUTLOOK

As stated elsewhere in this Form 10-Q, on May 1, 2007, after further testing of the Company's only well in the Gabbs Valley Prospect, the Company decided to partially plug and abandon the well since no hydrocarbons were recovered. However, the Company was encouraged by the data it acquired in connection with the drilling, logging and testing of the well. Such data, additional studies of such data, the assistance of geological and engineering consultants and an Advanced Geochemical Imaging Survey conducted in December 2008 led the Company to determine that further drilling is warranted. It is possible that excessive mud exposure in the hole for over five months seriously impeded the process of recovering hydrocarbons. It was determined that a new test well should be drilled using a different method of drilling. The Company has secured the necessary funds to pay its 57% interest in a new test well which will be located in close proximity to the Cobble Cuesta 1-12.

#### MATERIAL RISKS

The Company has incurred significant losses from operations and there is no

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assurance that it will achieve profitability or obtain the funds necessary to finance continued operations. For other material risks, see the Company's Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2009, which was filed on March 30, 2010.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, including this section, includes certain statements that may be deemed "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of federal securities laws. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, that address activities, events or developments that the Company expects, believes or anticipates will or may occur in the future, including future sources of financing and other possible business developments, are forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to a number of assumptions, risks and uncertainties and could be affected by a number of different factors, including the Company's failure to secure short and long-term financing necessary to sustain and grow its operations, increased competition, changes in the markets in which the Company participates and the technology utilized by the Company and new legislation regarding environmental matters. These risks and other risks that could affect the Company's business are more fully described in reports it files with the SEC, including its Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009. Actual results may vary materially from the forward-looking statements.

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The Company undertakes no duty to update any of the forward-looking statements in this Form 10-Q.

### Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company carried out an evaluation under the supervision of the Company's Chief Executive Officer (and principal financial officer) of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e). Based on this evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer (and principal financial officer) has concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report are effective. During the period covered by this report, there was no change in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting that has materially affected or that is reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

### PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

#### Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

During the three months ended June 30, 2010, the Company received subscriptions for 1,944,444 shares of its common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, through a private placement. During such period, it also issued warrants to purchase 972,225 shares of its common stock in connection with the private placement (with an exercise price of \$0.50 per share and which expire in June, 2011). The aggregate offering price for such shares and warrants was \$175,000. The private placement concluded on July 13, 2010. In total (including events subsequent to June 30, 2010), the Company received subscriptions for 4,444,446 shares of its common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and warrants to purchase 2,222,226 shares of its common stock (with an exercise price of \$0.50 per share and which expire in June and July, 2011, as applicable), with an aggregate offering price of \$400,000. The material terms and conditions applicable to the purchase and sale of the securities in the private placement are set forth in the form of the securities purchase agreement and the

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common warrant certificate, which are included as exhibits hereto. The funds raised in the private placement will be used for the purposes discussed in Notes 3 and 4 to the financial statements.

The offers and sales related to the shares described above were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, in reliance upon the exemption from the registration requirements of that act provided by Section 4 (2) thereof and Regulation D promulgated by the SEC thereunder. Each of the investors in the private placement is a sophisticated accredited investor with the experience and expertise to evaluate the merits and risks of an investment in the Company's stock and the financial means to bear the risks of such an investment. In addition, each investor was provided access to all of the material information regarding the Company that such investor would have received if the offer and sale of the securities had been registered.

#### Item 6. Exhibits

##### a) Exhibits

10.1 Form of securities purchase agreement entered into between Empire Petroleum Corporation and certain accredited investors in connection with the 2010 private placement (submitted herewith).

10.2 Form of common share warrant certificate issued by Empire

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Petroleum Corporation in favor of certain accredited investors in connection with the 2010 private placement (submitted herewith).

- 31 Certification of Chief Executive Officer (and principal financial officer) pursuant to Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and Item 601(b)(31) of Regulation S-K, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (submitted herewith).
- 32 Certification of Chief Executive Officer (and principal financial officer) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (submitted herewith).

### EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION 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 thereunto duly authorized.

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Date: August 13, 2010

By: /s/ Albert E. Whitehead

\_\_\_\_\_  
Albert E. Whitehead  
Chairman, Chief Executive  
Officer and Principal  
Financial Officer

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### EXHIBIT INDEX

| NO.  | DESCRIPTION   |
|------|---|
| 10.1 | Form of securities purchase agreement entered into between Empire Petroleum Corporation and certain accredited investors in connection with the 2010 private placement (submitted herewith).  |
| 10.2 | Form of common share warrant certificate issued by Empire Petroleum Corporation in favor of certain accredited investors in connection with the 2010 private placement (submitted herewith).  |
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| 32   | Certification of Chief Executive Officer (and principal financial officer) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (submitted herewith).   |

EXHIBIT 10.1

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## SECURITIES PURCHASE AGREEMENT

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION  
8801 S. Yale, Suite 120  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74137-3575

\_\_\_\_\_, 2010

TO: [Name and address of Investor]

The undersigned, Empire Petroleum Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), hereby agrees with you as follows, effective as of the date above written:

### 1. Authorization and Sale of the Securities.

1.1 Authorization. The Company represents that it has authorized the issuance to you pursuant to the terms and conditions hereof of:

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_ shares of its common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the "Common Stock"); and
- (b) a warrant (the "Warrant") to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ shares of the Company's Common Stock ("Warrant Shares") in accordance with the terms set forth in the form of the Common Share Warrant Certificate attached hereto as Exhibit A.

The shares of Common Stock and Warrant to be purchased pursuant to the terms of this Agreement are collectively referred to herein as the "Securities."

1.2 Sale. Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, on the Purchase Date (as defined Section 2 below), the Company shall issue and sell to you and you shall purchase from the Company, the Securities for an aggregate purchase price of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (the "Purchase Price").

### 2. Payment of Purchase Price; Delivery.

Upon the execution of this Agreement, you shall deliver to the Company wire funds or a check payable to the Company in the amount of the Purchase Price. Upon receipt of the Purchase Price from you (the "Purchase Date"), the Company shall promptly issue and deliver to you the Securities.

### 3. Representations and Warranties of the Company.

The Company hereby represents and warrants to you as follows:

3.1 Organization and Standing; Articles and Bylaws. The Company is a corporation duly organized and existing under, and by virtue of, the laws of the State of Delaware and is in good standing under such laws. The Company is qualified, licensed or domesticated as a foreign corporation in all jurisdictions where the nature of its business conducted or the character of its properties owned or leased makes such qualification, licensing or domestication necessary at this time except in those jurisdictions where the failure to be so qualified or licensed and in good standing does not and will not have a materially adverse effect on the Company, the conduct of its business or the ownership or operation of its properties. The Company's Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, and Bylaws, which have been filed as attachments to the Company reports it files with Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), are true, correct and complete, and contain all amendments through the date of this Agreement.

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3.2 Corporate Power. The Company has the requisite corporate power to own and operate its properties and assets, and to carry on its business as presently conducted and as proposed to be conducted. The Company has now, and will have at the Purchase Date, all requisite legal and corporate power to enter into this Agreement, to sell the Securities hereunder, and to carry out and perform its obligations under the terms of this Agreement.

3.3 Capitalization. The authorized capital stock of the Company consists of 100,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share. There are issued and outstanding approximately 78,624,789 shares of common stock. The issued and outstanding shares of common stock are fully paid and nonassessable. Except as disclosed in the Disclosure Materials (as defined in Section 4.1 below), there are no outstanding options, warrants or other rights, including preemptive rights, entitling the holder thereof to purchase or acquire shares of common stock of the Company.

### 3.4 Authorization.

(a) All corporate action on the part of the Company, its officers, directors and shareholders necessary for the sale and issuance of the Securities pursuant hereto and the performance of the Company's obligations hereunder has been taken or will be taken prior to the Purchase Date. This Agreement is a legal, valid and binding obligation of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with its terms, except as limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or similar laws of general application affecting enforcement of creditors' rights, and except as limited by application of legal principles affecting the availability of equitable remedies.

(b) The Securities, when issued in compliance with the provisions of this Agreement, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable, and will be free of any liens or encumbrances; provided, however, that such Securities and the Warrant Shares will be subject to restrictions on transfer under state and/or Federal securities laws, and as may be required by future changes in such laws.

(c) No shareholder of the Company has any right of first refusal or any preemptive rights in connection with the issuance of the Securities or of any other capital stock of the Company.

3.5 Compliance with Instruments. The Company is not in violation of any terms of its Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, or Bylaws, or, to the knowledge of the Company, any judgment, decree or order applicable to it. The execution, delivery and performance by the Company of this Agreement, and the issuance and sale of the Securities pursuant hereto, will not result in any such violation or be in conflict with or constitute a default under any such term, or cause the acceleration of maturity of any loan or material obligation to which the Company is a party or by which it is bound or with respect to which it is an obligor or guarantor, or result in the creation or imposition of any material lien, claim, charge, restriction, equity or encumbrance of any kind whatsoever upon, or, to the knowledge of the Company, give to any other person any interest or right (including any right of termination or cancellation) in or with respect to any of the material properties, assets, business or agreements of the Company.

3.6 Litigation, etc. There are no actions, proceedings or, to the knowledge of the Company, investigations pending which might result in any material adverse change in the business, prospects, conditions, affairs or operations of the Company or in any of its properties or assets, or in any impairment of the right or ability of the Company to carry on its business as proposed to be conducted, or in any material liability on the part of the Company, or which question the validity of this Agreement or any action taken or

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to be taken in connection herewith.

3.7 Governmental Consent, etc. Except as may be required in connection with any filings required under the Federal securities laws and/or the securities laws of any state due to the offer and sale of the Securities pursuant to this Agreement, no consent, approval or authorization of, or designation, declaration or filing with, any governmental unit is required on the part of the Company in connection with the valid execution and delivery of this Agreement, or the offer, sale or issuance of the Securities or the consummation of any other transaction contemplated hereby.

3.8 Securities Registration and Filings. The outstanding shares of the Company's Common Stock are registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). The Company has filed all reports required by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act during the last two fiscal years. All of such reports were, at the time they were filed, complete and accurate in all material respects and did not include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

#### 4. Representations and Warranties of Purchaser and Restrictions on Transfer Imposed by the Securities Act.

4.1 Representations and Warranties by Purchaser. You represent and warrant to the Company as follows:

(a) You have reviewed the following copies of the Company's (all of which are collectively referred to as the "Disclosure Materials"):

(i) Annual Report on Form 10-K for year ended December 31, 2009 located at <http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/887396/000088739610000008/r10k-2009.txt>;

(ii) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010 located at <http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/887396/000088739610000010/r10q-03312010.txt>; and

(iii) Supplement to Disclosure Materials dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2010, which was provided to you via a separate letter.

You have also reviewed the Company's Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, and Bylaws.

(b) You are experienced in evaluating and investing in companies such as the Company. Further, you understand that the Securities purchased hereby are of a highly speculative nature and could result in the loss of your entire investment.

(c) You have been furnished by the Company with all information requested concerning the proposed operations, affairs and current financial condition of the Company. Such information and access have been available to the extent you consider necessary and advisable in making an intelligent investment decision. In addition, you have received and reviewed copies of the Disclosure Materials and have had the opportunity to discuss the Company's business, management and financial affairs with its Chief Executive Officer. You understand that such discussions, as well as the Disclosure Materials and any other written information issued by the Company, were intended to describe certain aspects of the Company's business and prospects which it believes to be material but were not necessarily a thorough or exhaustive description.

(d) The Securities to be acquired by you will be acquired, solely

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for your account, for investment purposes only and not with a view to the resale or distribution thereof, are not being purchased for subdivision or fractionalization thereof, and you have no contract, undertaking, agreement or arrangement with any person to sell or transfer such Securities to any person and do not intend to enter into such contract or arrangement.

(e) You understand that the Securities have not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), nor are they registered or qualified under the blue sky or securities laws of any state, by reason of their issuance in a transaction exempt from the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act pursuant to Sections 3(b) or 4(2) of the Securities Act and available exemptions from the registration requirements of any applicable state securities laws. You further understand that the Securities must be held by you indefinitely and you must therefore bear the economic risk of such investment indefinitely, unless a subsequent disposition thereof is registered under the Securities Act or is exempt from registration.

(f) You have the full right, power and authority to enter into and perform this Agreement, and this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation upon you, except as may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or similar laws of general application affecting enforcement of creditors' rights, and except as limited by application of legal principles affecting the availability of equitable remedies.

(g) You are able to bear the full economic risk of your investment in the Securities, including the risk of a total loss of your investment in connection therewith. You are an accredited investor as that term is defined in Rule 501(a) of Regulation D promulgated by the SEC.

(h) You were not offered the Securities by means of general solicitations, publicly disseminated advertisements or sales literature.

4.2 Legends. The instrument representing the Securities and the Warrant Shares shall be endorsed with the legend set forth below:

THE SECURITIES REPRESENTED BY THIS CERTIFICATE HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED, OR UNDER ANY STATE SECURITIES ACT. THE SECURITIES HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED FOR INVESTMENT AND MAY NOT BE SOLD, TRANSFERRED, PLEDGED OR HYPOTHECATED UNLESS (I) THEY HAVE BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED, AND ANY APPLICABLE STATE SECURITIES ACT, OR (II) THE COMPANY SHALL HAVE BEEN FURNISHED AN OPINION OF COUNSEL, SATISFACTORY TO COUNSEL FOR THE COMPANY, THAT REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED UNDER ANY OF SUCH ACTS.

In addition, each instrument representing the Securities and the Warrant Shares shall be endorsed with any other legend required by any state securities laws. The Company need not register a transfer of legended Securities and the Warrant Shares, and may also instruct its transfer agent not to register the transfer of the Securities and the Warrant Shares, unless one of the conditions specified in each of the foregoing legends is satisfied.

### 5. Indemnification by Purchaser.

You acknowledge and understand that the Company has agreed to offer and sell the Securities to you based upon the representations and warranties made by you in this Agreement, and you hereby agree to indemnify the Company and to hold the Company and its incorporators, officers, directors and professional advisors harmless against all liability, costs or expenses (including attorneys' fees) arising by reason of or in connection with any misrepresentation or any breach of such representations and warranties by you,

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or arising as a result of the sale or distribution of any Securities by you in violation of the Securities Act or other applicable law.

### 6. Miscellaneous.

6.1 Successors and Assigns. All the provisions of this Agreement by or for the benefit of the parties shall bind and inure to the benefit of respective successors and permitted assigns of each party.

6.2 Notices. All notices and other communications required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall be mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed (a) if to you, at your address set forth on the first page hereof, or at such other address as you shall have furnished to the Company in writing, or (b) if to the Company, at its address set forth on the first page hereof, or at such other address as the Company shall have furnished to you in writing in accordance with this Section 6.2.

6.3 Waivers; Amendments. Any provision of this Agreement may be amended or modified with (but only with) the written consent of the Company and you. Any amendment, modification or waiver effected in compliance with this Section 6.3 shall be binding upon the Company and you. No failure or delay of the Company or you in exercising any power or right hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right or power, or any abandonment or discontinuance of steps to enforce such a right or power, preclude any other or further exercise thereon or the exercise of any other right or power. The rights and remedies of the Company and you hereunder are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights or remedies which each would otherwise have.

6.4 Separability. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions contained herein shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby. The parties shall endeavor in good faith negotiations to replace the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provisions with valid provisions, the economic effect of which comes as close as possible to that of the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provisions.

6.5 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma without regard to principles of conflicts of law, except as otherwise required by mandatory provisions of law.

6.6 Section Headings. The section headings used herein are for convenience of reference only and shall not be construed in any way to affect the interpretation of any provisions of this Agreement.

6.7 Entire Agreement. This Agreement and the other documents delivered pursuant hereto constitute the full and entire understanding and agreement between the parties hereto with regard to the subjects hereof and thereof.

6.8 Finder's Fees. You represent and warrant to the Company that no finder or broker has been retained by you in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and you hereby agree to indemnify and to hold the Company and its respective officers, directors and controlling persons, harmless of and from any liability for any commission or compensation in the nature of a finder's fee to any broker or other person or firm (and the costs and expenses of defending against such liability or asserted liability) for which you, or any of your employees or representatives, are responsible. The Company hereby agrees to indemnify and to hold you, and your respective officers, directors and controlling persons, harmless of and from any liability for any commission or compensation in the nature of a finder's fee

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to any broker or other person or firm (and the costs and expenses of defending against such liability or asserted liability) for which it, or any of its employees or representatives, are responsible.

6.9 Other Documents. The parties to this Agreement shall in good faith execute such other and further instruments, assignments or documents as may be necessary or advisable to carry out the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

6.10 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original, but all of which together shall constitute one instrument, and which shall become effective when there exist copies signed by the Company and by you.

[Signatures on Next Page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives effective as of the date set forth on the first page hereof.

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Albert E. Whitehead, Chief Executive Officer

Accepted and agreed to this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

BUYER \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

EXHIBIT 10.2

THE SECURITIES REPRESENTED BY THIS CERTIFICATE HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED, OR UNDER ANY STATE SECURITIES ACT. THE SECURITIES HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED FOR INVESTMENT AND MAY NOT BE SOLD, TRANSFERRED, PLEDGED OR HYPOTHECATED UNLESS (I) THEY HAVE BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED, AND ANY APPLICABLE STATE SECURITIES ACT, OR (II) THE COMPANY SHALL HAVE BEEN FURNISHED AN OPINION OF COUNSEL, SATISFACTORY TO COUNSEL FOR THE COMPANY, THAT REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED UNDER ANY OF SUCH ACTS.

No. \_\_\_\_\_, 2010

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

COMMON SHARE WARRANT CERTIFICATE

Warrant to Purchase \_\_\_\_\_ Common Shares

Expiring \_\_\_\_\_, 2011

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THIS CERTIFIES THAT \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Warrant Holder"), in consideration for entering into that certain Securities Purchase Agreement dated as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010 ("Purchase Agreement"), by and between the Warrant Holder and Empire Petroleum Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), at any time following the date hereof, on any Business Day on or prior to 5:00 p.m., Pacific Time, on the Expiration Date (as defined in Section 1 below), is entitled to subscribe for and purchase from the Company, up to \_\_\_\_\_ Common Shares (as defined in Section 1 below) at a price per Common Share equal to the Exercise Price (as defined in Section 1 below); provided, however, that the number of Common Shares issuable upon any exercise of this Warrant (as defined in Section 1 below) shall be adjusted and readjusted from time to time in accordance with Section 4 below.

### 1. Certain Definitions.

The following terms, as used herein, have the following meanings:

"Affiliate" means, with respect to any Person, any other Person that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with such Person.

"Business Day" means any day except a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which commercial banks in New York City are authorized by law to close.

"Commission" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Common Share(s)" means the Company's currently authorized class of Common Stock, par value \$0.001.

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or any successor Federal statute, and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder, all as the same shall be in effect at the time. Reference to a particular section of the Exchange Act shall include a reference to the comparable section, if any, of any such successor Federal statute.

"Exercise Price" means \$0.50 with respect to up to \_\_\_\_\_ Warrant Shares.

"Early Expiration Date" has the meaning specified in Section 2.3 hereof.

"Expiration Date" means the earlier to occur of (i) \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, or (ii) an Early Expiration Date.

"Person" means an individual, a corporation, a partnership, a limited liability company, an association, a trust or any other entity or organization, including a government or political subdivision or an agency or instrumentality thereof.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or any successor Federal statute, and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder, all as the same shall be in effect at the time. Reference to a particular section of the Securities Act shall include a reference to the comparable section, if any, of any such successor Federal statute.

"Warrant" means the rights granted to the Warrant Holder pursuant to this Warrant Certificate.

"Warrant Certificate" means this Common Share Warrant Certificate.

"Warrant Share(s)" means the \_\_\_\_\_ Common Shares issued or issuable upon exercise of this Warrant, as adjusted from time to time pursuant to Section 4.

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### 2. Vesting, Exercise and Early Expiration.

2.1 Vesting. The Warrant and the Warrant Shares shall immediately vest upon the execution of this Warrant Certificate.

#### 2.2 Exercise of Warrant.

(a) The Warrant Holder may exercise this Warrant by delivering to the Company a duly executed notice (a "Notice of Exercise") in the form of Annex A attached hereto, at the election of the Warrant Holder, in which the Warrant Holder shall receive from the Company the number of Warrant Shares as to which this Warrant is being exercised and shall pay to the Company the Exercise Price for each such Warrant Share by check payable to the order of the Company in an amount equal to the product of: (a) the Exercise Price times (b) the number of Warrant Shares as to which the Warrant is being exercised.

(b) As soon as practicable, but not later than five (5) Business Days after the Company shall have received such Notice of Exercise and payment, the Company shall execute and deliver or cause to be executed and delivered, in accordance with such Notice of Exercise, a certificate or certificates representing the number of Common Shares specified in such Notice of Exercise, issued in the name of the Warrant Holder. This Warrant shall be deemed to have been exercised and such share certificate or certificates shall be deemed to have been issued, and such Warrant Holder shall be deemed for all purposes to have become a holder of record of Common Shares, as of the date that such Notice of Exercise and payment shall have been received by the Company.

(c) The Warrant Holder shall surrender this Warrant Certificate to the Company when it delivers the Notice of Exercise, and in the event of a partial exercise of the Warrant, the Company shall execute and deliver to the Warrant Holder, at the time the Company delivers the share certificate or certificates issued pursuant to such Notice of Exercise, a new Warrant Certificate for the unexercised portion of this Warrant Certificate, but in all other respects identical to this Warrant Certificate.

(d) The Company shall pay all expenses, taxes and other charges payable in connection with the preparation, issuance and delivery of certificates for the Warrant Shares and a new Warrant Certificate, if any, except that if the certificates for the Warrant Shares or the new Warrant Certificate, if any, are to be registered in a name or names other than the name of the Warrant Holder, funds sufficient to pay all transfer taxes payable as a result of such transfer shall be paid by the Warrant Holder at the time of its delivery of the Notice of Exercise or promptly upon receipt of a written request by the Company for payment.

(e) No fractional Common Shares will be issued in connection with any exercise of the Warrant, and any fractional Common Share (resulting from any adjustment pursuant to Section 4 or otherwise) in the aggregate number of Common Shares being purchased upon any exercise of the Warrant shall be eliminated.

#### 2.3 Early Expiration.

(a) In the event that the closing bid price of the Company's Common Shares, as reported by the Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc., exceeds the Exercise Price for any Warrant Shares to which the Warrant Holder is entitled to receive upon exercising any portion of this Warrant for any period of 30 consecutive trading days, the Warrant shall expire with respect to such Warrant Shares on the 180th day thereafter (each, an "Early Expiration Date"); provided, however, that the Company must give prior written notice to the Warrant Holder not less than 30 days prior to any Early Expiration Date for such Early Expiration Date to be applicable to the Warrant Holder; and, provided further, that the Warrant Holder shall remain entitled to exercise

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this Warrant with respect to such Warrant Shares at any time up to and including the Business Day immediately preceding the applicable Early Expiration Date.

(b) In the event that the Warrant Holder fails to exercise any portion of the Warrant subject to expiration in accordance with Section 2.3(a) above prior to any Early Expiration Date, all rights of the Warrant Holder under this Warrant Certificate with respect to such Warrant Shares shall cease and this Warrant shall no longer be deemed to be outstanding with respect to such Warrant Shares.

### 3. Validity of Warrant and Issuance of Common Shares.

The Company represents and warrants that this Warrant has been duly authorized and is validly issued. The Company further represents and warrants that on the date hereof it has duly authorized and reserved, and the Company hereby agrees that it will at all times until the Expiration Date have duly authorized and reserved, such number of Common Shares as will be sufficient to permit the exercise in full of the Warrant, and that all such Common Shares are and will be duly authorized and, when issued upon exercise of the Warrant, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable, and free and clear of all security interests, claims, liens, equities and other encumbrances.

### 4. Adjustment Provisions.

The number of Warrant Shares that may be purchased upon any exercise of the Warrant, shall be subject to change or adjustment as follows:

4.1 Common Share Reorganization. If the Company shall subdivide its outstanding Common Shares into a greater number of shares, by way of share split, share dividend or otherwise, or consolidate its outstanding Common Shares into a smaller number of shares (any such event being herein called a "Common Share Reorganization"), then (a) the definition of Exercise Price shall be adjusted, effective immediately after the effective date of such Common Share Reorganization, so that each amount contained in the definition of the Exercise Price is equal to such amount multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the number of Common Shares outstanding on such effective date before giving effect to such Common Share Reorganization and the denominator of which shall be the number of Common Shares outstanding after giving effect to such Common Shares Reorganization, and (b) the number of Common Shares subject to purchase upon exercise of this Warrant shall be adjusted, effective at such time, to a number determined by multiplying the number of Common Shares subject to purchase immediately before such Common Share Reorganization by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the number of shares outstanding after giving effect to such Common Share Reorganization and the denominator of which shall be the number of Common Shares outstanding immediately before giving effect to such Common Share Reorganization.

4.2 Capital Reorganization. If there shall be any consolidation or merger to which the Company is a party, other than a consolidation or a merger of which the Company is the continuing corporation and that does not result in any reclassification of, or change (other than a Common Share Reorganization) in, outstanding Common Shares, or any sale or conveyance of the property of the Company as an entirety or substantially as an entirety, or any recapitalization of the Company (any such event being called a "Capital Reorganization"), then, effective upon the effective date of such Capital Reorganization, the Warrant Holder shall no longer have the right to purchase Common Shares, but shall have instead the right to purchase, upon exercise of this Warrant, the kind and amount of Common Shares and other securities and property (including cash) which the Warrant Holder would have owned or have been entitled to receive pursuant to such Capital Reorganization, if the Warrant had been exercised immediately prior to the effective date of such

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Capital Reorganization.

### 4.3 Adjustment Rules.

(a) Any adjustments pursuant to this Section 4 shall be made successively whenever any event referred to herein shall occur, except that, notwithstanding any other provision of this Section 4, no adjustment shall be made to the number of Warrant Shares to be delivered to the Warrant Holder (or to the Exercise Price) if such adjustment represents less than one-percent (1%) of the number of Warrant Shares previously required to be so delivered, but any lesser adjustment shall be carried forward and shall be made at the time and together with the next subsequent adjustment which together with any adjustments so carried forward shall amount to one-percent (1%) or more of the number of Warrant Shares to be so delivered.

(b) If the Company shall take a record of the holders of its Common Shares for any purpose referred to in this Section 4, then (i) such record date shall be deemed to be the date of the issuance, sale, distribution or grant in question and (ii) if the Company shall legally abandon such action prior to effecting such action, no adjustment shall be made pursuant to this Section 4 in respect of such action.

(c) As a condition precedent to the taking of any action which would require an adjustment pursuant to this Section 4, the Company shall take any action which may be necessary, including obtaining regulatory approvals or exemptions, in order that the Company may thereafter validly and legally issue as fully paid and nonassessable all Common Shares which the Warrant Holder is entitled to receive upon exercise of this Warrant.

### 5. Transfer of Warrant.

5.1 No Transfer Without the Consent of the Company. This Warrant is personal to the Warrant Holder and this Warrant Certificate and the rights of the Warrant Holder hereunder may not be sold, assigned, transferred or conveyed, in whole or in part, except with the prior written consent of the Company.

5.2 Permitted Transfers. Upon transfer of the Warrant permitted under Section 5.1 above, the Warrant Holder must deliver to the Company a duly executed Warrant Assignment in the form of Annex B, attached hereto, with funds sufficient to pay any transfer tax imposed in connection with such assignment. Upon surrender of this Warrant to the Company, the Company shall execute and deliver a new Warrant in the form of this Warrant, with appropriate changes to reflect such assignment, in the name or names of the assignee or assignees specified in the fully executed Warrant Assignment or other instrument of assignment and, if the Warrant Holder's entire interest is not being transferred or assigned, in the name of the Warrant Holder, and this Warrant shall promptly be canceled. In connection with any transfer or exchange of this Warrant permitted hereunder, the transferring Warrant Holder shall pay all costs and expenses relating thereto, including, without limitation, all transfer taxes, if any, and all reasonable expenses incurred by the Company (including legal fees and expenses). Any new Warrant issued shall be dated the date hereof. The terms "Warrant" and "Warrant Holder" as used herein include all Warrants into which this Warrant (or any successor Warrant) may be exchanged or issued in connection with the permitted transfer or assignment of this Warrant, any successor Warrant and the holders of those Warrants, respectively.

### 6. Lost Mutilated or Missing Warrant Certificates.

Upon receipt by the Company of evidence satisfactory to it of the loss, theft, destruction or mutilation of this Warrant Certificate and, in the case

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of loss, theft or destruction, upon receipt of indemnification satisfactory to the Company, or, in the case of mutilation, upon surrender and cancellation of the mutilated Warrant Certificate, the Company shall execute and deliver a new Warrant Certificate of like tenor and representing the right to purchase the same aggregate number of Warrant Shares. The recipient of any such Warrant Certificate shall reimburse the Company for all reasonable expenses incidental to the replacement of such lost, mutilated or missing Warrant Certificate.

### 7. Miscellaneous.

7.1 Successors and Assigns. All the provisions of this Warrant Certificate by or for the benefit of the Company or the Warrant Holder shall bind and inure to the benefit of their respective successors and permitted assigns.

7.2 Notices. All notices, requests, demands and other communications hereunder shall be given in accordance with the terms of the Purchase Agreement.

7.3 Waivers; Amendments. Any provision of this Warrant Certificate may be amended or modified with (but only with) the written consent of the Company and the Warrant Holder. Any amendment, modification or waiver effected in compliance with this Section 7.3 shall be binding upon the Company and the Warrant Holder. No failure or delay of the Company or the Warrant Holder in exercising any power or right hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right or power, or any abandonment or discontinuance of steps to enforce such a right or power, preclude any other or further exercise thereon or the exercise of any other right or power. The rights and remedies of the Company and the Warrant Holder hereunder are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights or remedies which each would otherwise have.

7.4 No Rights as a Shareholder. The Warrant shall not entitle the Warrant Holder, prior to the exercise of the Warrant, to any rights as a holder of shares of the Company.

7.5 Separability. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Warrant shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions contained herein shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby. The parties shall endeavor in good faith negotiations to replace the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provisions with valid provisions, the economic effect of which comes as close as possible to that of the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provisions.

7.6 Governing Law. This Warrant shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma without regard to principles of conflicts of law, except as otherwise required by mandatory provisions of law.

7.7 Section Headings. The section headings used herein are for convenience of reference only and shall not be construed in any way to affect the interpretation of any Provisions of the Warrant.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this Warrant Certificate to be duly executed and attested by its Chief Executive Officer, all as of the day and year first above written.

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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Albert E. Whitehead, Chief Executive Officer

ANNEX A

Form of Notice of Exercise

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Empire Petroleum Corporation

Reference is made to the Common Share Purchase Warrant dated \_\_\_\_\_ issued to the undersigned by Empire Petroleum Corporation. Terms defined therein are used herein as therein defined.

The undersigned, pursuant to the provisions set forth in the Warrant Certificate, hereby irrevocably elects and agrees to purchase the number of Common Shares at the Exercise Price(s) set forth below, and makes payment herewith by check payable to the order of the Company in an amount equal to \$\_\_\_\_\_.

| Number of Warrant Shares | Applicable Exercise Price |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| _____                    | _____                     |
| _____                    | _____                     |
| _____                    | _____                     |

If said number of shares is less than all of the shares purchasable hereunder, the undersigned hereby requests that a new Warrant Certificate representing the remaining balance of the Warrant Shares be issued to me.

The undersigned hereby represents that it is exercising the Warrant for its own account for investment purposes and not with the view to any sale or distribution and that the Warrant Holder will not offer, sell or otherwise dispose of the Warrant or any underlying Warrant Shares in violation of applicable securities laws.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

ANNEX B

Form of Warrant Assignment

Reference is made to the Common Share Purchase Warrant dated \_\_\_\_\_, issued to the undersigned by Empire Petroleum Corporation. Terms defined therein are used herein as therein defined.

FOR VALUE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Assignor") hereby sells, assigns and transfers all of the rights of the Assignor as set forth in the Warrant Certificate with respect to the number of Warrant Shares covered thereby as set forth below, to the Assignee(s) as set forth below:

| Name(s) of Assignee(s) | Address(es) | Number of Applicable Warrant Shares | Exercise Price of Warrant Share |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

All notices to be given by the Company to the Assignor as Warrant Holder shall be sent to the Assignee(s) at the above listed address(es), and, if the number of Warrant Shares being hereby assigned is less than all of the Warrant Shares covered by the Warrant Certificate held by the Assignor, then also to the Assignor.

In accordance with Section 5 of the Warrant Certificate, the Assignor requests that the Company execute and deliver a new Warrant Certificate or Warrant Certificates in the name or names of the Assignee or Assignees, as is appropriate, or, if the number of Warrant Shares being hereby assigned is less than all of the Warrant Shares covered by the Warrant held by the Assignor, new Warrant Certificates in the name or names of the Assignee or the Assignees, as is appropriate, and in the name of the Assignor.

The undersigned represents that the Assignee has represented to the Assignor that the Assignee or each Assignee, as is appropriate, is acquiring the Warrant for its own account or the account of an Affiliate for investment purposes and not with the view to sell or distribute, and that the Assignee or each Assignee, as is appropriate, will not offer, sell or otherwise dispose of the Warrant or the Warrant Shares except under circumstances as will not result in a violation of applicable securities laws.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

EXHIBIT 31

CERTIFICATION

I, Albert E. Whitehead, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Empire Petroleum Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

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- (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
- (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

August 13, 2010

/s/ Albert E. Whitehead  
Albert E. Whitehead,  
Chief Executive Officer and  
Principal Financial Officer

EXHIBIT 32

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the quarterly report of Empire Petroleum Corporation (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ending June 30, 2010 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Albert E. Whitehead, Chief Executive Officer (and principal financial officer) of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

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- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

August 13, 2010

/s/ Albert E. Whitehead  
Albert E. Whitehead  
Chief Executive Officer and  
Principal Financial Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

The foregoing certification is being furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Report and shall not be considered filed as part of the Report.