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FORM 8-K

PLAINS EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION CO - PXP

Filed: January 27, 2010 (period: January 27, 2010)

Report of unscheduled material events or corporate changes.

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 27, 2010

**PLAINS EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION COMPANY
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)**

**Delaware
(State of Incorporation)**

**33-0430755
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)**

**001-31470
(Commission File No.)**

**700 Milam, Suite 3100
Houston, Texas 77002
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)
(Zip Code)**

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (713) 579-6000

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

On January 27, 2010, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation released the attached press release announcing the results of the Lucius sidetrack appraisal well in Keathley Canyon Block 875. The release mentions Plains Exploration & Production Company, which owns a 33.33% working interest in Lucius. The press release is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

The information presented herein under Item 7.01 shall not be deemed “filed” under the Securities Exchange Act 1934, as amended, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as may be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibit 99.1

Press release by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, dated January 27, 2010.

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.

PLAINS EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Date: January 27, 2010

/s/ Cynthia A. Feeback

Cynthia A. Feeback

Vice President—Accounting, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit 99.1

Press release by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, dated January 27, 2010.

ANADARKO ANNOUNCES LUCIUS APPRAISAL WELL ENCOUNTERS MORE THAN 600 NET FEET OF PAY

CONFIRMS MAJOR OIL DISCOVERY IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

HOUSTON, Jan. 27, 2010 – Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (NYSE: APC) today announced the Lucius sidetrack appraisal well, located in Keathley Canyon block 875 in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, encountered almost 600 net feet of high-quality oil pay with additional gas-condensate pay in thick subsalt Pliocene and Miocene sands.

“The successful Lucius appraisal well confirms this is a major discovery with substantial resource potential,” said Bob Daniels, Anadarko Sr. Vice President, Worldwide Exploration. “We were very encouraged by what we saw in the discovery well, and the results from this appraisal further heighten our enthusiasm. The reservoirs are characterized by excellent porosity and permeability and contain high-quality oil. We anticipate additional appraisal activity in 2010 as we continue to evaluate development options for this very large accumulation.”

The Lucius appraisal well was drilled as an up-dip sidetrack, approximately 3,200 feet due south of the discovery well. It was drilled to a total depth of approximately 20,600 feet in approximately 7,100 feet of water. The Lucius discovery well, announced last month, was drilled to a total depth of about 20,000 feet and encountered more than 200 net feet of pay.

Anadarko operates the Lucius well with a 50-percent working interest. Co-owners in the discovery include Plains Exploration & Production Company (NYSE: PXP) with a 33.33-percent working interest and Mariner Energy, Inc. (NYSE: ME) with 16.67-percent working interest.

Once operations are complete at the Lucius appraisal well, Anadarko plans to move the rig to drill an appraisal of Anadarko’s subsalt Miocene Heidelberg discovery in the Green Canyon area of the Gulf of Mexico, which was announced in early 2009. Anadarko operates Heidelberg with a 44.25-percent working interest.

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation’s mission is to deliver a competitive and sustainable rate of return to shareholders by exploring for, acquiring and developing oil and natural gas resources vital to the world’s health and welfare. As of year-end 2008, the company had approximately 2.3 billion barrels-equivalent of proved reserves, making it one of the world’s largest independent exploration and production companies. For more information about Anadarko, please visit www.anadarko.com.

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Anadarko believes that its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions. No assurance, however, can be given that such expectations will prove to have been correct. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from the projections, anticipated results or other expectations expressed in this news release, including Anadarko's ability to successfully drill, complete, test and produce the wells identified in this news release. See "Risk Factors" in the company's 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K and other public filings and press releases. Anadarko undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements.

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ANADARKO CONTACTS

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