

HOUSTON EXPLORATION CO

Form 8-K

July 10, 2006

**Table of Contents**

**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): July 10, 2006**

**THE HOUSTON EXPLORATION COMPANY**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation)

**001-11899**

(Commission File Number)

**22-2674487**

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**1100 Louisiana, Suite 2000**

**Houston, Texas**

(Address of principal executive  
offices)

**77002-5215**

(Zip Code)

**(713) 830-6800**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former names or former address, if changed since last report)

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))
-

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

SIGNATURES

EXHIBIT INDEX

Slide Presentation

---

**Table of Contents**

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

In July 2006, The Houston Exploration Company (the Company) will be conducting a series of meetings with investors and analysts, during which members of senior management will be reviewing the Company's onshore operations as of July 2006. A copy of the Company's slide presentation is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report and incorporated by reference herein. In addition, the slides can be viewed under the Presentations tab in the Shareholder/Financial section of the Company's Web site at <http://www.houstonexploration.com>.

The slide presentation includes forward looking statements which are subject to the cautionary statements set forth in the presentation and in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward looking statements contained in the presentation. Certain of the slides also contain non-GAAP financial information. A reconciliation of such non-GAAP financial information to GAAP financial measures is included in Exhibit 99.1.

The information in the slide presentation shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liability of that section. Further, the slide presentation shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into the Company's filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as set forth with respect thereto in any such filing.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(c) Exhibits

99.1 The Houston Exploration Company slide presentation to investors and analysts reviewing onshore operations as of July 2006.

*[The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.]*

---

**Table of Contents**

**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.

Date: July 10, 2006

**THE HOUSTON EXPLORATION  
COMPANY**

By: /s/ James F. Westmoreland  
James F. Westmoreland  
Vice President and Chief Accounting  
Officer

---

**Table of Contents**

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
99.1	The Houston Exploration Company slide presentation to investors and analysts reviewing onshore operations as of July 2006