ASPEN EXPLORATION CORP Form 10KSB September 28, 2007

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549	
FORM 10-KSB	
(Mark One) [X] ANNUAL REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE A	CT OF 1934.
For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007	
TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANG	SE ACT OF 1934.
For the transition period fromto	
Commission file number: 001-12531	
ASPEN EXPLORATION CORPORATION	ON
(Name of small business issuer in its charter)	
<b>Delaware</b> (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	84-0811316 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
2050 S. Oneida St., Suite 208	
Denver, Colorado	80224-2426
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)
Issuer s telephone number(303) 639-9860	
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Ac	t: None
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:	
Common Stock, \$0.005 par value	
Check whether the issuer is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchan	ge Act: [ ]
Check whether the issuer (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Excha for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such	uch filing requirements for the past 90
days. Yes $\underline{X}$ No Check if there is no disclosure of delinquent filers in response to Item 405 of Regul disclosure will be contained, to the best of registrant s knowledge, in definitive proxy or information stated III of this Form 10-KSB or any amendment to this Form 10-KSB. [ ]	

Indicate by checkmark whether the issuer is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act) (check one): Yes \_\_\_\_ No XX

Aspen s revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007 were \$4,418,231.

At August 31, 2007, the aggregate market value of the shares held by non-affiliates was approximately \$14,994,230. The aggregate market value was calculated by multiplying the mean of the closing bid and asked prices (\$3.15) of the common stock of Aspen on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board listing for that date, by the number of shares of stock held by non-affiliates of Aspen (4,760,073).

At August 31, 2007, there were 7,259,622 shares of common stock (Aspen's only class of voting stock) outstanding.

Transitional Small Business Disclosure Format (check one): Yes  $\underline{\hspace{0.2cm}}$  No  $\underline{X}$ 

1

#### PART I

#### **ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

Because we want to provide you with more meaningful and useful information, this Annual Report on Form 10-KSB contains certain "forward-looking statements" (as such term is defined in Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). These statements reflect our current expectations regarding our possible future results of operations, performance, and achievements. These forward-looking statements are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, regulation of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and common law.

Wherever possible, we have tried to identify these forward-looking statements by using words such as "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "plan," "intend," and similar expressions. These statements reflect our current beliefs and are based on information currently available to us. Accordingly, these statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties, and contingencies, which could cause our actual results, performance, or achievements to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, such statements. These risks, uncertainties and contingencies include, without limitation, the factors set forth under "Item 6. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Conditions or Plan of Operation Factors that may affect future operating results." We have no obligation to update or revise any such forward-looking statements that may be made to reflect events or circumstances a fter the date of this Form 10-KSB.

#### **Summary of Our Business:**

Aspen was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware on February 28, 1980 for the primary purpose of acquiring, exploring and developing oil and gas and other mineral properties. Our principal executive offices are located at 2050 S. Oneida St., Suite 208, Denver, Colorado 80224-2426. Our telephone number is (303) 639-9860, and our facsimile number is (303) 639-9863. Our websites are www.aspenexploration.com and <a href="https://www.aspnx.com">www.aspnx.com</a>. Our email address is aecorp2@qwest.net. We are currently engaged primarily in the exploration, development and production of oil and gas properties in California and Montana. We have an interest in an inactive subsidiary: Aspen Gold Mining Co., a company that has not been engaged in business since 1995.

Oil and Gas Exploration and Development. Our major emphasis has been participation in the oil and gas segment, acquiring interests in producing oil or gas properties and participating in drilling operations. We engage in a broad range of activities associated with the oil and gas business in an effort to develop oil and gas reserves. Our participation in the oil and gas exploration and development segment consists of two different lines of business ownership of working interests and operating properties.

- We own working interests in oil and gas wells. We also own working interests in properties which we explore for oil or natural gas and, if our exploration efforts are successful, we produce and sell oil or natural gas from those properties. Where we hold working interests, we bear a proportionate share of the exploration and development costs of a property and if the property is successful will receive a proportionate return based on our interest percentage. We currently have working interests in 84 wells in the Sacramento Valley of northern California. Additionally, during fiscal 2007 we purchased a working interest in 33 oil and gas wells located in the Williston Basin of Roosevelt County, Montana.
- We are also actively engaged in the operation of oil and gas wells and, where possible, we attempt to be the operator of each property in which we own a working interest. As operator of oil and gas properties, we manage exploration and development activities for the working interest owners (which includes ourselves) and accomplish all of the administrative functions for the joint interest owners. The joint interest owners pay us management fees for those services. All consideration received from sales or transfers of properties in connection with partnerships, joint venture operations, or various other forms of drilling arrangements involving oil and gas exploration and development activities are credited to the full cost account, except to the extent of amounts that represent reimbursement of organization, offering, general and administrative expenses, that are identifiable with the transaction, which are currently incurred and charged to expense. As of June 30, 2007, we act as the operator of 63 wells in the Sacramento Valley of northern California.

With the assistance of our management, independent contractors retained from time to time by us, and, to a lesser extent, unsolicited submissions, we have identified and will continue to identify prospects that we believe are suitable for drilling and acquisition. Currently, our primary areas of interest are in the state of California and in the state of Montana.

#### **Company Strategy:**

We hold working interests in oil and gas properties, many of which have wells producing oil or natural gas. Where we acquire an interest in a property or acreage on which exploration or development drilling is planned, we will seldom assume the entire risk of acquisition or drilling. Rather, we prefer to assess the relative potential and risks of each prospect and determine the degree to which we will participate in the exploration or development drilling. Generally, we have determined that it is more beneficial to invite industry participants to share the risk and the reward of the prospect by financing some or all of the costs of drilling contemplated wells, and as such have entered into industry standard joint operating agreements with other parties. In such cases, we may retain a carried working interest, a reversionary interest, or other promotional interest, and we generally are required to fin ance all or a portion of our proportional interest in the prospect. Although this approach reduces our potential return should the drilling operations prove successful, it also reduces our risk and financial commitment to a particular prospect. Fees assessed for the participation in these prospects are credited to the full-cost pool.

Conversely, we may from time to time participate in drilling prospects offered by other persons if we believe that the potential benefit from the drilling operations outweighs the risk and the cost of the proposed operations. This approach allows us to diversify into a larger number of prospects at a lower cost per prospect, but these operations (commonly known as farm-ins) are generally more expensive than operations where we offer the participation to others (known as farm-outs). During the year ended June 30, 2007, we participated in the drilling of 2 farm-in wells.

In addition to properties having producing wells or reserves, Aspen also owns some unproved properties that it believes may have value for oil and gas exploration and development. These properties are disclosed in more detail, below. We do not believe that our capitalized costs associated with these unproved properties are, at June 30, 2007, material in amount. Such costs include lease acquisition, geological and geophysical work, delay rentals. These costs are capitalized in our full cost pool and included in our amortization computation. We review the capitalized costs of all properties against our full-cost pool on a quarterly basis.

We also occasionally acquire unevaluated acreage in conjunction with the purchase of oil and gas leases. While unproved properties are properties we believe are valuable for oil and gas exploration based on the exploration work performed, unevaluated properties are properties that have been acquired but which have not been evaluated based on exploration work known to have been performed by others. Costs attributable to unevaluated acreage are considered immaterial at June 30, 2007. These costs are included in our full cost pool and amortization computation.

From time-to-time we may also engage in mineral and natural resource exploration and similar business activities not associated with the oil and gas industry. To date, we have not devoted a material amount of resources to these other business activities nor have we generated material revenues from these other business activities.

**Principal Products Produced and Services Rendered.** Our principal products during fiscal 2007 were crude oil and natural gas. Crude oil and natural gas are generally sold to various entities, including pipeline companies, which usually service the area in which our producing wells are located. In the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, our crude oil and natural gas sales totaled \$4,418,231.

Both our produced crude oil and natural gas are subject to pricing in the local markets where the production occurs. It is customary that such products are priced based on local or regional supply and demand factors. California heavy crude sells at a discount to WTI, the U.S. benchmark for crude oil, primarily due to the additional cost to refine gasoline or light product out of a barrel of heavy crude. Natural gas field prices are normally priced off of Henry Hub NYMEX price, the benchmark for U.S. natural gas. Aspen s gas prices are based on the PG&E Citygate Index. While we attempt to contract for the best possible price in each of our producing locations, there is no assurance that past price differentials will continue into the future. Numerous factors may influence local pricing, such as refinery capacity, pipeline capacity and specifications, upsets in the mid-stream or downstream sec tors of the industry, trade restrictions, governmental regulations, and other factors. We may be adversely impacted by a widening differential on the products sold.

**Distribution Methods of the Products or Services.** We are not involved in the distribution aspect of the oil and gas industry. We sell our produced natural gas and oil to third parties for distribution.

**Status of any Publicly Announced New Products or Services.** During our 2007 fiscal year we did not have a new product or service that would require the investment of a material amount of our assets or which we believe is material to our business. Therefore, during our 2007 fiscal year we did not made a public announcement of, nor have we made information otherwise public about, any such product or service.

As outlined above, from time-to-time we may also engage in business activities not associated with the oil and gas industry. In January 2007 we announced that we entered into a joint venture with Hemis Corporation whereby Hemis will be the operator of a venture engaged in permit acquisition and exploration for commercial quantities of gold in and near Cook Inlet, Alaska. We were paid \$50,000 upon entering the agreement and will be paid \$50,000 on each anniversary date until production of gold begins. Additionally, we retained a 5% gross royalty on production. In June 2007, Hemis announced that it had begun a preliminary oceanographic survey of the gold project and was optimistic regarding the project s potential. However, Hemis will continue to survey the area with additional equipment and is continuing to negotiate with contractors for potential drilling later this calendar year.

**Competitive Business Conditions.** The exploration for, and development, production and acquisition of, oil, gas, precious metals and other minerals are subject to intense competition. The principal methods of compensation for the acquisition of oil and gas and other mineral properties are the payment of:

- (i) cash bonuses at the time of the acquisition of leases;
- (ii) delay rentals and the amount of annual rental payments;
- (iii) advance royalties and the use of differential royalty rates; and
- (iv) stipulations requiring exploration and production commitments by the lessee.

Some of our current competitors, and many of our potential competitors, in the oil and gas industry have vast experience, are larger and have significantly greater financial resources, existing staff and labor forces, equipment, and other resources than we do. Consequently, these competitors may be in a better position to compete for oil and gas projects. Because of our relatively small size, we have a minimal competitive position in the oil and gas industry.

In addition, the availability of a ready market for oil and gas depends upon numerous factors beyond our control, including the overall amount of domestic production and imports of oil and gas, the proximity and capacity of pipelines, and the effect of federal and state regulation of oil and gas sales, as well governmental environmental regulations applicable to the exploration, production and usage of oil and gas. Further, we expect that competition for leasing of oil and gas prospects will become even more intense in the future.

**Sources and Availability of Raw Materials.** As part of the business of engaging in the operation of oil and gas properties, we depend on such items as drilling rigs and other equipment, casing pipe, drilling mud and other supplies and equipment necessary for our operations. At the present time, drilling rigs are in short supply, and are demanding a premium price. Nevertheless, we have been able to obtain the services of drilling rigs when needed for our exploration and development activities.

Most other items that we need have been commonly available from a number of sources. Although we do not foresee a shortage in supply or foresee having difficulty in acquiring any equipment relevant to the conduct of business, we cannot offer any assurances that the necessary equipment will be available or that we will be able to acquire the items on economically feasible terms.

**Dependence Upon One or a Few Major Customers.** We generally sell our oil and gas production to a limited number of companies. In fiscal 2007 and 2006 we obtained more than 10% of our revenues from sales to Calpine Corporation and Enserco Energy, Inc., (15% and 77%, respectively). We do not believe the loss of these customers would adversely impact our revenues because we believe that oil and gas sales are primarily market driven and are not dependent on particular purchasers. Consequently, we believe that substitute purchasers would be available based on the widespread uses of and the need for oil and gas.

**Need for Governmental Approval of Principal Products or Services.** We do not need to seek government approval of our principal products.

Effect of Existing or Probable Governmental Regulation. Oil and gas exploration and production are open to significant governmental regulation including worker health and safety laws, employment regulations and environmental regulations. Part of the regulatory environment in which we operate includes, in some cases, federal requirements for obtaining environmental assessments, environmental impact studies and/or plans of development before commencing exploration and production activities. These regulations affect our operations and limit the quantity of oil and natural gas we may produce and sell. Operations that occur on public lands may be subject to further regulation by the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, or the U.S. Forest Service as well as other federal and state agencies. P>

A major risk inherent in our drilling plans is the need to obtain drilling permits from state, and local authorities. Delays in obtaining regulatory approvals or drilling permits, the failure to obtain a drilling permit for a well or the receipt of a permit with unreasonable conditions or costs could have a negative effect on our ability to explore on or develop its properties. Additionally, the oil and natural gas regulatory environment could change in ways that might substantially increase the financial and managerial costs to comply with the requirements of these laws and regulations and, consequently, adversely affect our profitability.

Estimate of Amounts Spent on Research and Development Activities. We have not engaged in any material research and development activities since our inception.

Costs and Effects of Compliance with Environmental Laws (federal, state and local). Because we are engaged in extracting natural resources, our business is subject to various federal, state and local provisions regarding environmental and ecological matters. Therefore, compliance with environmental laws may necessitate significant capital outlays, affect our earnings potential, and cause material changes in our current and proposed business activities.

At the present time, however, the environmental laws do not materially hinder nor adversely affect our business. Capital expenditures relating to environmental control facilities have not been material to our operations since our inception.

### **Employees:**

As of June 30, 2007, we have 2 full-time employees and 1 part-time employee. We also employ independent contractors and other consultants, as needed.

# **ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

#### **General Information:**

We have a significant amount of information regarding the proven developed and undeveloped oil and gas reserves which can be found below in this Item 2 as well as in the notes to our financial statements.

# **Drilling and Acquisition Activity:**

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, we participated in the drilling of 11 gross (2.927 net) operated wells, eight of which were completed as gas wells, for a 73% success ratio. The estimated lives of the individual wells drilled during the fiscal year range from 1 to 13 years. Of the eight successful gas wells drilled during the 2007 fiscal year, four gas wells were drilled in the West Grimes Field, one gas well was drilled in the Grimes Field, 1 gas well was drilled in the Malton Black Butte Field, and 1 gas well was drilled in the Kirk Buckeye Field. Aspen also purchased an interest in 33 producing gross oil wells (4.125 net) in certain oil producing assets encompassing 22,600 acres in the East Poplar Unit and the Northwest Poplar Field in Roosevelt County, Montana located in the Williston Basin.

Our decisions to develop and operate prospects or properties depend in part on data obtained through geophysical and geological analyses, production data and engineering studies, the results of which are often uncertain. Even when used and properly interpreted, 3-D seismic data and visualization techniques only assist geoscientists in identifying subsurface structures and hydrocarbon indicators. They do not allow the interpreter to know conclusively if hydrocarbons are present or producible economically. In addition, the use of 3-D seismic and other advanced technologies requires greater pre-drilling expenditures than traditional drilling strategies. Because of these factors, we could incur losses as a result of exploratory drilling expenditures. Poor results from exploration activities could have a material adverse effect on our future cash flows, results of operations and financial position.

Below is a summary of our primary drilling and acquisition activity occurring during our 2007 fiscal year and our activities to-date conducted during our 2008 fiscal year by geographic areas.

# West Grimes Field, Colusa County, California

The first 16 wells drilled in the West Grimes Gas Field were successful with 15 wells currently producing and 1 well waiting on completion. These wells were drilled based on a 10.5 square mile 3-D seismic program located over a portion of Aspen s 10,000 plus leased acres in this field. We believe several additional excellent drilling prospects have been identified. The wells in this field produce from multiple Forbes intervals ranging in depth from 6,000 feet to 8,500 feet and have produced over 80 billion cubic feet (BCF) of gas to date. Numerous wells in this immediate area have produced at very prolific flow rates (4,000 MCFPD), have yielded excellent per well reserves (3 to 4 BCF per well), and have long productive well lives. Several of the 10 producing wells that Aspen acquired in this field in 2003 have been producing for 40 years. Aspen believes that several of these wells may have addit ional gas potential in behind-pipe zones, which have not yet been perforated. Aspen s operated working interests in this field range from 21% to 34%.

The WGU #14-10 well was directionally drilled in May 2007 to a depth of 8,460 feet and encountered approximately 55 feet of potential net gas pay in several intervals in the Forbes formation. One of these intervals was perforated and tested gas on a 12/64 inch choke at a stabilized flow rate of 2,678 MCFPD with a flowing tubing pressure of 3,300 psig and a flowing casing pressure of 3,480 psig. The shut in tubing and casing pressures were 3,810 psig. Gas sales commenced on May 30, 2007.

The WGU #15-13 well was directionally drilled in May and June 2007 to a depth of 8,300 feet and encountered approximately 50 feet of potential gas pay in several intervals in the Forbes formation. One of these intervals was perforated and tested gas on a 1/4 inch choke at a stabilized flow rate of 1,764 MCFPD. The shut in tubing pressure was 4,020 psig and the shut in casing pressure was 4,030 psig. Gas sales commenced on June 30, 2007.

In August 2007, the WGU #15-14 well was directionally drilled to a depth of 7,770 feet and encountered approximately 80 feet of potential gross gas pay in several intervals in the Forbes formation. One of these intervals was perforated and tested gas on a 1/4 inch choke at a stabilized flow rate of 1,130 MCFPD. The shut in tubing and shut in casing pressures were 3,200 psig. Gas sales commenced on August 28, 2007.

The Morris #12-4 well was drilled in July 2007 to a depth of 8,007 feet and encountered approximately 115 feet of potential gross gas pay in several intervals in the Forbes formation. Production casing was run based on favorable mud log and electric log responses. Several of these intervals were perforated and tested gas on a ¼ inch choke at a stabilized flow rate of 500 MCFPD. The shut in tubing and shut in casing pressures were 3,150 psig. This was the sixteenth successful gas well out of sixteen attempts by Aspen in this field. Aspen is currently drilling one additional well in this field.

# Grimes Gas Field

The Nelson #1-10 well was directionally drilled in June and July 2007 to a depth of 8,320 feet and encountered approximately 100 feet of potential net gas pay in several intervals in the Forbes formation. The first interval perforated in this well tested gas on a 1/4 inch choke at a stabilized flow rate of 2,642 MCFPD. An additional zone was perforated and tested gas on a 1/4 inch choke at a stabilized flow rate of 1,836 MCFPD. The combined test rate from the two zones is approximately 4,500 MCFPD. Gas sales commenced on July 25, 2007. Aspen has a 30.0% operated working interest in this well.

The Reason Farms #18-1 was drilled in June 2007 to a depth of 7,200 feet and was plugged and abandoned.

#### Kirk Buckeye Gas Field

The Heidrick #11-2 well was drilled in May 2007 to a depth of 8,300 feet and encountered approximately 145 feet of potential gross gas pay in several intervals in the Forbes formation. One of these intervals was perforated and tested gas on a 1/4 inch choke at a stabilized flow rate of 5,047 MCFPD with a flowing tubing pressure of 3,490 psig and a flowing casing pressure of 3,760 psig. The shut in tubing pressure was 3,700 psig and the shut in casing pressure was 3,850 psig. Gas sales commenced on June 6, 2007. Aspen has a 41.60% operated working interest in this well before payout and a 46.55% operated working interest after payout.

This was the fifth successful gas well out of six attempts by Aspen in this field.

#### Malton Black Butte

Aspen has successfully drilled 8 gas wells out of 10 attempts in this field during the last 4 fiscal years. These wells produce from multiple horizons in the Kione and Forbes formation from depths ranging from 1,700 feet to 5,000 feet. Aspen has operated working interests in these wells ranging from 21% to 36%.

The Johnson Unit #12 well was drilled to a depth of 4,700 feet and encountered potential gas pay in several intervals in the Forbes formation. Production casing was run based on favorable mud log and electric log responses. One of these Forbes intervals was perforated and tested gas on a 3/16 inch choke at a stabilized rate of 141 MCFPD. Gas sales commenced on October 27, 2006. We have a 36% operated working interest in this well.

#### Poplar Field, Roosevelt County, Montana

In February 2007, we purchased from Nautilus Poplar, LLC, a non-operating working interest in certain oil producing assets encompassing 22,600 acres in the East Poplar Unit and the Northwest Poplar Field in Roosevelt County, Montana located in the Williston Basin. These properties contain a total of 33 producing oil wells, and 7 salt-water disposal wells. Current production is 230 gross BOPD from the Charles B reservoir. Our interest in revenues from the Poplar Field will remain at 12.5% of the total interest acquired by Nautilus (about a 10% net revenue interest based on an average 80% NRI) until Aspen receives a return of 110% of its investment. Thereafter, Aspen s interest will be reduced to 10% of that acquired by Nautilus (approximately an 8.0% net revenue interest to Aspen). The crude oil is 400 API sweet and is readily marketed at the lease boundary. All produced water is disposed within the Unit boundary.

We believe that the acquisition has provided us with diversification into long-lived oil reserves. There is also upside reserve potential via increased water disposal capacity, re-activation of old wells, water shut off techniques, behind-pipe potential in the Charles A, B, & C, and drilling potential in the Mission Canyon and Nisku. This acquisition also provides ownership in 3-D seismic data over 22,600 acres. We do not expect to realize any material revenue from this acquisition for the first two years.

Aspen will pay 12.5% of the costs for a 10% working interest in the project. During the first year, Aspen will also receive 12.5% of the net revenues (after deduction for royalties, taxes, operating expenses, etc.) until 110% payout, at which time Aspen s working interest reverts to 10%. After the first year, even if 110% payout has not occurred, Aspen will only pay 10% of the costs and receive 12.5% of the net revenues until 110% payout. After 110% payout, Aspen will have a 10% working interest and receive 10% of the net revenues.

The initial cost to Aspen for its 12.5% before payout working interest (including its share of the acquisition costs) was approximately \$1,450,000, which is approximately \$1,075,000 after deduction of \$375,000 (12.5% of the \$3,000,000 loan proceeds obtained by Nautilus in connection with the purchase), with an additional \$400,000 of anticipated capital expenditures during the first year. Aspen funded its participation in this project with a combination of bank debt of \$600,000, cash on hand, and the sale of approximately 100,000 shares of UR Energy stock (which yielded about \$330,000). Closing of this acquisition occurred on February 13, 2007.

# **Drilling Activity:**

The following table sets forth the results of our drilling activities during the fiscal years ended June 30, 2006 and 2007:

Year		Drilling Activity						
		Gross Wells			Net Wells			
	Total	Producing	Dry	Total	Producing	Dry		
2006 Exploratory	14	13	1	3.69	3.34	0.35		
2007 Exploratory	11	8	3	2.93	2.15	0.78		

Aspen did not drill any development wells during the past three fiscal years, or subsequently.

#### **Production Information:**

# Net Production, Average Sales Price and Average Production Costs (Lifting)

The table below sets forth the net quantities of oil and gas production (net of all royalties, overriding royalties and production due to others) attributable to Aspen for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006, and the average sales prices, average production costs and direct lifting costs per unit of production.

	Years Ended June 3		
	2007		2006
Net Production			
Oil (Bbls)	3986		176
Gas (MMcf)	598		696
Average Sales Prices			
Oil (per Bbl)	\$ 58.30	\$	81.12
Gas (per Mcf)	\$ 7.00	\$	7.76
Average Production Cost <sup>1</sup>			
Per equivalent			
Bbl of oil	\$ 27.04	\$	17.81
Average Lifting Costs <sup>2</sup>			
Per equivalent			
Bbl of oil	\$ 8.08	\$	4.63

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Production costs include depreciation, depletion and amortization, lease operating expenses and all associated taxes.

# **Productive Wells and Acreage:**

Gross and Net Productive Gas Wells, Developed Acres, and Overriding Royalty Interests

<u>Leasehold Interests - Productive Wells and Developed Acres</u>: The tables below set forth Aspen's leasehold interests in productive and shut-in gas wells, and in developed acres, at June 30, 2007:

<sup>2</sup> Direct lifting costs do not include impairment expense, ceiling write-down, or depreciation, depletion and amortization.

# Producing and Shut-In Wells

	Gross	Net1
Prospect	Gas	Gas
California	84	17.95287
	Gross	Net1
	Oil	Oil
Montana	33	4.12500

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A net well is deemed to exist when the sum of fractional ownership working intetests in gross wells equals one. The number of net wells is the sum of the fractional working interests owned in gross wells expressed as whole numbers and fractions thereof.

# Developed Acreage Table

	Aspen's Develop	ped Acres1
County	Gross2	Net3
California:		
Colusa	5,817	1,319
Glenn	1,356	281
Kern	120	22
Solano	1,431	341
Sutter	1,663	389
Tehama	1,654	396
Yolo	120	30
TOTAL	12,161	2,778

<sup>1</sup> Consists of acres of spaced or assignable to productive wells.

<u>Royalty Interests in Productive Wells and Developed Acreage:</u> The following tables set forth Aspen's royalty interest in productive gas wells and developed acres at June 30, 2007:

<sup>2</sup> A gross acre is an acre in which a working interest is owned. The number of gross acres is the total of acres in which a working interest is owned.

<sup>3</sup> A net acre is deemed to exist when the sum of fractional ownership working interests in gross acres equals one. The number of net acres is the sum of the frractional working interests owned in gross acres expressed as whole numbers and fractions thereof.

# Overriding Royalty Interests

		Productive	
		Wells	Gross
Prospect	Interest (%)	Gas	Acreage1
California:			
Malton Black Butte	5.926365	3	765
Momentum	3.671477	2	320
Grimes Gas	0.101590	1	615
TOTAL		6	1,700

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Consists of acres spaced or assignable to productive wells.

# **Undeveloped Acreage:**

<u>Leasehold Interests Undeveloped Acreage:</u> The following table sets forth Aspen's leasehold interest in undeveloped acreage at June 30, 2007:

	Undevelope	Undeveloped Acreage		
	Gross	Net		
California:				
Colusa	11,505	2,826		
Kern	160	37		
Solano	2,594	338		
Sutter	1,454	1,294		
TOTAL	15,713	4,495		

# **Gas Delivery Commitments:**

We have entered into a series of gas sales contracts with Enserco. In each of the contracts, Enserco was required to purchase the stated quantities at stated prices, less transportation and other expenses. The contracts contain monetary penalties for non-delivery of the gas. The following table sets forth some additional information about those contracts:

Date of Contract	Term	Fixed Price	Quantity
July 31, 2006	11/1/2006-3/31/2007	\$10.15 per MMBTU	2,000 MMBTU per day
October 4, 2006	12/1/2006-3/31/2007	\$7.30 per MMBTU	2,000 MMBTU per day
January 30, 2007	4/1/2007-10/31/2007	\$7.65 per MMBTU	2,000 MMBTU per day
April 12, 2007	11/1/2007-3/31/2008	\$9.02 per MMBTU	2,000 MMBTU per day

We expect to have sufficient gas available for delivery to Enserco from anticipated production from our California fields. Aspen s sales of natural gas under the contracts qualify for the Normal Purchases and Normal Sales exception in paragraph 10(b) of FAS 133. The contract is a normal industry sales contract that provides for the sale of gas over a reasonable period of time in the normal course of business.

#### **Present Activities:**

We are currently the operator of 63 gas wells, have a non-operated interest in 21 additional gas wells, and have a non-operating working interest in approximately 33 oil wells in Montana. In February 2007 we announced plans to drill approximately 9 gas tests in the Sacramento Valley gas province of northern California and 2 oil tests in Kern County, California.

As of the date of this report, of these 63 gas wells one is in the process of drilling, and none of the oil wells are currently in the process of drilling.

# **Drilling Commitments:**

We have a proposed drilling budget for the period July 2007 through June 2008. The budget includes drilling eight gas wells in the Sacramento gas province of northern California and one oil well test in the San Joaquin Basin near Bakersfield, California. Our share of the estimated costs to complete this program is set forth in the following table:

			Completion & Equipping				
Area	Wells	Dri	lling Costs	Costs			Total
Grimes Gas Field							
Solano County, CA	2	\$	416,000	\$	163,000	\$	579,000
West Grimes Field							
Colusa County, CA	3		702,000		399,000		1,101,000
Butte Sink Field							
Colusa County, CA	1		248,000		112,000		360,000
Crossroads Field							
Yolo County, CA	1		149,000		98,000		247,000
Ord Bend Field							
Glenn County, CA	1		156,000		135,000		291,000
Rosedale Ranch Field							
Kern County, CA	1		264,000		133,000		397,000
Total	9	\$	1,935,000	\$	1,040,000	\$	2,975,000

# **Reserve Information** Oil and Gas Reserves:

Cecil Engineering, Inc. evaluated our oil and gas reserves attributable to our properties at June 30, 2007. Reserve calculations by independent petroleum engineers involve the estimation of future net recoverable reserves of oil and gas and the timing and amount of future net revenues to be received therefrom. Those estimates are based on numerous factors, many of which are variable and uncertain. Reserve estimators are required to make numerous judgments based upon professional training, experience and educational background. The extent and significance of the judgments in them are sufficient to render reserve estimates of future events, actual production determinations involve estimates inherently imprecise, since reserve revenues and operating expenses may not occur as estimated. Accordingly, it is common for the actual production and revenues later received to vary from earlier estimates. Estimat es made in the first few years of production from a property are generally not as reliable as later estimates based on a longer production history. Reserve estimates based upon volumetric analysis are inherently less reliable than those based on lengthy production history. Also, potentially oil and productive gas wells may not generate revenue immediately due to lack of pipeline connections and potential development wells may have to be abandoned due to unsuccessful completion techniques. Hence, reserve estimates may vary from year to year.

<u>Estimated Proved Reserves/Developed and Undeveloped Reserves:</u> The following tables set forth the estimated proved developed and proved undeveloped oil and gas reserves of Aspen for the years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006. See Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements and the above discussion.

# **Estimated Proved Reserves**

Proved Reserves	Oil (Bbls)		
Estimated quantity, June 30, 2005	2,000	2,278,000	
Revisions of previous estimates	14	(319,983)	
Discoveries	-	1,488,804	
Production	(176)	(696,105)	
Estimated quantity, June 30, 2006	1,838	2,750,716	
Revisions of previous estimates	(79)	(325,865)	
Discoveries	-	874,010	
Acquisitions	132,072	-	
Production	(3,986)	(597,660)	
Estimated quantity, June 30, 2007	129,845	2,701,201	

# Developed and Undeveloped Reserves

	Developed	Undeveloped	Total
Oil (Bbls)			
June 30, 2007	129,845	-	129,845
June 30, 2006	1,838	-	1,838
Gas (Mcf)			
Gas (MCI)			
June 30, 2007	2,701,201	-	2,701,201
June 30, 2006	2,750,716	-	2,750,716

For information concerning the standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows, estimated future net cash flows and present values of such cash flows attributable to our proved oil and gas reserves as well as other reserve information, see Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

*Qil and Gas Reserves Reported to Other Agencies:* We did not file any estimates of total proved net oil or gas reserves with, or include such information in reports to, any federal authority or agency during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, or subsequently thereafter.

Title Examinations: Oil and Gas: As is customary in the oil and gas industry, we perform only a perfunctory title examination at the time of acquisition of undeveloped properties. Prior to the commencement of drilling, in most cases, and in any event where we are the Operator, a thorough title examination is conducted and significant defects remedied before proceeding with operations. We believe that the title to our properties is generally acceptable to a reasonably prudent operator in the oil and gas industry. The properties we own are subject to royalty, overriding royalty and other interests customary in the industry, liens incidental to operating agreements, current taxes and other burdens, minor encumbrances, easements and restrictions. We do not believe that any of these burdens materially detract from the value of the properties or will materially interfere with our business.

We have purchased producing properties on which no updated title opinion was prepared. In such cases, we have retained third party certified petroleum landmen to review title.

#### Office Facilities:

Our principal office is located in Denver, Colorado. We also have an office located in Bakersfield, California. The Denver office consists of approximately 1,108 square feet with an additional 750 square feet of basement storage. We entered into a month-to-month lease agreement on January 1, 2005 for a lease rate of \$1,261 per month.

We entered into a lease agreement for our Bakersfield, California office, which consists of approximately 546 square feet. The Bakersfield, California lease payments are \$901-\$934 per month over the term of the lease, which expires July 31, 2008.

# **ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

We are not subject to any pending or, to our knowledge, threatened, legal proceedings.

#### ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

No matters were presented to security holders for a vote during the year ended June 30, 2007, or any subsequent period.

#### PART II

# ITEM 5. MARKET FOR COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

#### **Market Information:**

Our common stock is quoted on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board (OTCBB) under the symbol "ASPN". The OTCBB rules provide that companies not current in their reporting requirements under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 will be removed from the quotation service. At present and at June 30, 2007 and June 30, 2006, we believe that we were in full compliance with these rules.

The table below sets forth the high and low closing prices of the Company s Common Stock during the periods indicated as reported by the Internet source Yahoo Finance (<a href="http://finance.yahoo.com">http://finance.yahoo.com</a>). The quotations reflect inter-dealer prices without retail mark-up, mark-down or commission and may not reflect actual transactions. The market data and dividends for 2007 and 2006 are shown below:

			2007						2006		
	Price Range			Γ	Dividends P			Price Range		Dividends	
		High		Low	F	Per Share		High		Low	Per Share
First Quarter	\$	5.45	\$	3.50	\$	-	\$	9.95	\$	3.50	\$-
Second Quarter		4.09		2.85		0.05		8.10		5.09	-
Third Quarter		3.00		2.23		-		6.15		4.17	-
Fourth Quarter		3.95		2.41		-		5.00		3.70	-
Total Dividend											
Paid					\$	0.05					\$-

#### **Holders:**

As of June 30, 2007, there were approximately 1,046 holders of record of our Common Stock. This does not include an indeterminate number of persons who hold our Common Stock in brokerage accounts and otherwise in street name.

#### **Dividends:**

Holders of common stock are entitled to receive such dividends as may be declared by Aspen s Board of Directors. On November 8, 2006, the Company declared a cash dividend in the amount of \$0.05 per share. A total of \$357,981 was paid to the shareholders on December 6, 2006, as determined by shareholders of record as of November 20, 2006. Decisions concerning dividend payments in the future will depend on income and cash requirements. There are no contractual restrictions on our ability to pay dividends to our shareholders.

# Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans:

The following is provided with respect to compensation plans (including individual compensation arrangements) under which equity securities are authorized for issuance as of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

	Equity Compensation Plan In	formation1			
			Number of Securities		
			Remaining Available		
	Number of Securities		for Future Issuance		
	to be Issued Upon	Weighted-Average	<b>Under Equity</b>		
	Exercise of	Exercise Price of	Compensation Plans		
	Outstanding Options,	Outstanding Options,	(Excluding Securities		
	Warrants, and	Warrants, and	Reflected in Column		
Plan Category	Rights	Rights	(a)		
and Description	(a)	(b)	(c)		
Equity Compensation Plans					
Approved by Security Holders	-	\$ -	-		
Equity Compensation Plans Not					
Approved by Security Holders	230,000	2.26	-		
Total	230,000	\$ 2.26	-		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This does not include options held by management and directors that were not granted as pursuant to a compensation plan or compensation arrangement. In each case, the disclosure refers to options or warrants unless otherwise specifically stated.

# 

The following sets forth information regarding sales of unregistered securities during the June 30, 2007 fiscal year and subsequently as required by Item 701 of Regulation S-B.

On August 11, 2006, our chairman, R. V. Bailey, exercised options for 50,000 shares of our common stock granted March 14, 2002, at an average price of \$0.57 per share. Mr. Bailey paid us \$28,500 to exercise his options on the 50,000 shares.

- (a) The options were exercised on August 11, 2006, to purchase 50,000 shares of our common stock.
- (b) No underwriter, placement agent, or finder was involved in the transaction. The Chairman is an accredited

#### investor.

- (c) The total exercise price for the options was \$28,500, which was paid in cash. No underwriting discounts or commission were paid.
- (d) We relied on the exemption from registration provided by Section 4(2) and 4(6) under the Securities Act of 1933 for this transaction and Regulation D for the issuance. We did not engage in any public advertising or general solicitation in connection with this transaction, and we provided the accredited investor with disclosure of all aspects

of our business, including providing the accredited investor with our reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, our press releases, access to our auditors, and other financial, business, and corporate information. Based on our investigation, we believe that the accredited investor obtained all information regarding Aspen Exploration it requested, received answers to all questions it (and its advisors) posed, and otherwise understood the risks of accepting our securities for investment purposes.

- (e) The common stock issued in this transaction is not convertible or exchangeable.
- (f) We used the proceeds for working capital, as well as expenses of drilling and (when warranted) completing oil and gas wells.

On August 14, 2006, an employee performed a cashless exercise of an option which resulted in an acquisition of 17,000 shares of our common stock. The option to acquire 17,000 shares was originally granted March 14, 2002, at an exercise price of \$0.57 per share.

- (a) The options were exercised on August 14, 2006, to purchase 17,000 shares of our common stock. The option holder exercised options to acquire 17,000 shares in the cashless exercise which had a value of \$9,690 by surrendering 2,019 shares of Aspen s common stock with a fair value based on a ten-day average bid price immediately prior to the exercise date of \$4.80.
- (b) No underwriter, placement agent, or finder was involved in the transaction. The employee is an accredited investor.
- (c) The total exercise price for the options was \$9,690, which was paid by surrendering 2,019 shares to purchase 17,000 shares. No underwriting discounts or commission were paid.
- (d) We relied on the exemption from registration provided by Section 4(2) under the Securities Act of 1933 for this transaction and Regulation D for the issuance. We did not engage in any public advertising or general solicitation in connection with this transaction, and we provided the accredited investor with disclosure of all aspects of our business, including providing the accredited investor with our reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, our press releases, access to our auditors, and other financial, business, and corporate information. Based on our investigation, we believe that the accredited investor obtained all information regarding Aspen Exploration it requested, received answers to all questions it (and its advisors) posed, and otherwise understood the risks of accepting our securities for investment purposes.
- (e) The common stock issued in this transaction is not convertible or exchangeable.
- (f) We received no proceeds from the exercise of this transaction.

On September 11, 2006, we granted our then newly appointed non-employee director an option to purchase 10,000 shares of Aspen common stock.

Aspen appointed Kevan B. Hensman a director of Aspen effective September 11, 2006. In connection with that appointment, Aspen granted Mr. Hensman an option to purchase 10,000 shares of Aspen common stock.

- (a) On September 11, 2006, we issued an option to purchase 10,000 shares of Aspen s common stock to Kevan B. Hensman. The options are exercisable at \$3.70, expire September 11, 2011 and vested immediately.
- (b) No underwriters were involved in this transaction.
- (c) The stock options were issued in consideration of Mr. Hensman joining the board of directors and Aspen received no cash therefore.
- (d) The transaction was exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended by reason of Section 4(2) and 4(6) of the Securities Act of 1933.
- (e) The options are exercisable to purchase shares of common stock as described above.
- (f) No proceeds were received.

On April 9, 2007, our President and CEO, Robert Cohan, exercised options for 100,000 shares of our common stock granted March 14, 2002, at an average price of \$0.57 per share. Mr. Cohan paid \$57,000 to exercise his options on the 100,000 shares.

- (a) The options were exercised on April 9, 2007, to purchase 100,000 shares of our common stock.
- (b) No underwriter, placement agent, or finder was involved in the transaction. Mr. Cohan is an accredited investor.
- (c) The total exercise price for the options was \$57,000, which was paid in cash. No underwriting discounts or commission were paid.
- (d) We relied on the exemption from registration provided by Section 4(2) and 4(6) under the Securities Act of 1933 for this transaction and Regulation D for the issuance. We did not engage in any public advertising or general solicitation in connection with this transaction, and we provided the accredited investor with disclosure of all aspects of our business, including providing the accredited investor with our reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, our press releases, access to our auditors, and other financial, business, and corporate information. Based on our investigation, we believe that the accredited investor obtained all information regarding Aspen Exploration it requested, received answers to all questions it (and its advisors) posed, and otherwise understood the risks of accepting our securities for investment purposes.
- (e) The common stock issued in this transaction is not convertible or exchangeable.
- (f) We used the proceeds for working capital, as well as expenses of drilling and (when warranted) completing oil and gas wells.

# ITEM 6. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION OR PLAN OF OPERATION

The management discussion and analysis and other portions of this report contain forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). These statements reflect our current expectations regarding our possible future results of operations, performance, and achievements. These forward-looking statements are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Wherever possible, we have tried to identify these forward-looking statements by using words such as anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, plan, intend, and similar expressions. These statements reflect our current beliefs and are based on information currently available to us.

Accordingly, these statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties, and contingencies, which could cause our actual results, performance, or achievements to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, such statements.

#### Overview:

Aspen Exploration Corporation was organized in 1980 for the purpose of acquiring, exploring and developing oil and gas properties. Since 1996, we have focused our efforts on the exploration, development and operation of natural gas properties in the Sacramento Valley of northern California, and in 2007 we acquired interests in oil properties in Montana. Our business activities are primarily focused in two separate aspects of the oil and gas industry:

- (1) holding and acquiring operating interests in oil and gas properties where we act as the operator of oil and gas wells and properties; and
- (2) holding non-operating interests in oil and gas properties.

16

We are currently the operator of 63 gas wells in the Sacramento Valley of northern California. Additionally, we have a non-operated interest in 21 gas wells in the Sacramento Valley of northern California and non-operating working interest in approximately 33 oil wells in Montana When appropriate we may engage in business activities related to the exploration and development of other minerals and resources.

Where possible, we attempt to be the operator of each property in which we invest. We believe that our knowledge of drilling and operating wells in the Sacramento Valley allows us to maximize the potential return of each property. In addition, the other working interest owners are obligated to pay us fees pursuant to the overhead reimbursement provisions of the COPAS Accounting Procedures which are included as an attachment to the operating agreements. These accounting procedures define the overhead expenses that are charged to the joint accounts and permit us to charge some expenses (such as salaries, wages and Personal Expenses of Technical Employees directly employed on the Joint Property and drilling expenses) directly to the joint interest owners. In almost all cases, Aspen also charges a general monthly producing overhead rate per well. We do not recognize these fees rec eived from the joint interest owners as revenues; rather they are offset against (and are a deduction from) our general and administrative expenses as reflected in our statement of operations. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, these administrative charges to the properties help cover approximately 37.6% of our selling, general and administrative expenses.

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates:**

We believe the following critical accounting policies affect our most significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### Reserve Estimates:

Our estimates of oil and natural gas reserves, by necessity, are projections based on an interpretation of geologic and engineering data. There are uncertainties inherent in the interpretation of such data as well as the projection of future rates of production and the timing of development expenditures. Reserve engineering is a subjective process of estimating underground accumulations of oil and natural gas that are difficult to measure. The accuracy of any reserve estimate is a function of the quality of available data, engineering and geological interpretation and judgment. Estimates of economically recoverable oil and natural gas reserves and future net cash flows necessarily depend upon a number of variable factors and assumptions, such as historical production from the area compared with production from other producing areas, the assumed effects of regulations by governmental agencies and assumptions governing future oil and natural gas prices, future operating costs, severance and excise taxes, development costs and workover and remedial costs, all of which may in fact vary considerably from actual results. For these reasons, estimates of the economically recoverable quantities of oil and natural gas attributable to any particular group of properties, classifications of such reserves based on risk of recovery, and estimates of the future net cash flows expected therefrom may vary substantially. Any significant variance in the assumptions could materially affect the estimated quantity and value of the reserves, which could affect the carrying value of our oil and gas properties and/or the rate of depletion of the oil and gas properties. Actual production, revenues and expenditures with respect to our reserves will likely vary from estimates, and such variances may be material.

Many factors will affect actual future net cash flows, including:

- the amount and timing of actual production;
- supply and demand for oil and natural gas;
- · curtailments or increases in consumption by purchasers; and
- changes in governmental regulations or taxation.

# **Gas Delivery Commitments:**

We have entered into a contract for sale and purchase of natural gas with Enserco Energy Inc. The original, master contract is dated November 1, 2005. Aspen and Enserco have continuously renewed this contract since then. Aspen s sales of natural gas under the Enserco Contract qualify for the Normal Purchases and Normal Sales exception in paragraph 10(b) of FAS 133. The Enserco Contract is a normal industry sales contract that provides for the sale of gas over a reasonable period of time in the normal course of business. The contract contains net settlement provisions should Aspen fail to deliver natural gas when required under the Enserco Contract. Those provisions are mutual and establish the sole and exclusive remedy of the parties in the event of a breach of a firm obligation to deliver or receive natural gas as agreed.

#### Property, Equipment and Depreciation:

We follow the full-cost method of accounting for oil and gas properties. Under this method, all productive and nonproductive costs incurred in connection with the exploration for and development of oil and gas reserves are capitalized. Such capitalized costs include lease acquisition, geological and geophysical work, delay rentals, drilling, completing and equipping oil and gas wells, including salaries, benefits and other internal salary related costs directly attributable to these activities. All capitalized costs are depleted on a composite units-of-production method based on estimated proved reserves attributable to the oil and gas properties owned by Aspen. Costs associated with production and general corporate activities are expensed in the period incurred. When the Company acts as operator of our producing wells, we receive management fees for these services, which serve to offset our selling, general, and administrative expenses. Interest costs related to unproved properties and properties under development are also capitalized to oil and gas properties. If the net investment in oil and gas properties exceeds an amount equal to the sum of:

- (1) the standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows from proved reserves, and
- (2) the lower of cost or fair market value of properties in process of development and unexplored acreage,

the excess is charged to expense as additional depletion. Normal dispositions of oil and gas properties are accounted for as adjustments of capitalized costs, with no gain or loss recognized.

We apply Statement of Financial Accounting Standard (SFAS) No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets. Under SFAS No. 144, long-lived assets and certain intangibles are reported at the lower of the carrying amount or their estimated recoverable amounts. Long-lived assets subject to the requirements of SFAS No. 144 are evaluated for possible impairment through review of undiscounted expected future cash flows. If the sum of undiscounted expected future cash flows is less than the carrying amount of the asset or if changes in facts and circumstances indicate, an impairment loss is recognized.

#### **Asset Retirement Obligations:**

We recognize the future cost to plug and abandon gas wells over the estimated useful life of the wells in accordance with the provision of SFAS No. 143, Asset Retirement Obligations . SFAS No. 143 requires that we record a liability for the present value of the asset retirement obligation with a corresponding increase to the carrying value of the related long-lived asset. The increase in the asset will be amortized over time and recognize accretion expense in connection with the discounted liability over the remaining life of the respective well. Any asset retirement costs capitalized pursuant to Statement 143 are subject to the full cost ceiling limitation under Rule 4-10(c)(4) of Regulation S-X. Our liability estimate is based on our historical experience in plugging and abandoning gas wells, estimated well lives based on engineering studies, external estimates as to the cost to plug and abandon wells in the future and federal and state regulatory requirements. The liability is discounted using a risk-free rate of 8%. Revisions to the liability could occur due to changes in well lives, or if federal and state regulators enact new requirements on the plugging and abandonment of gas wells.

#### **Income Taxes**

The Company computes income taxes in accordance with SFAS No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes . SFAS No. 109 requires an assets and liability approach which results in the recognition of deferred income taxes on the difference between the tax basis of an asset or liability and its carrying amount in the Company s financial statements. This difference will result in taxable income or deductions in future years when the reported amount of the asset or liability is recovered or settled, respectively. Considerable judgment is required in determining when these events may occur and whether recovery of an asset is more likely than not. Additionally, the Company s federal and state income tax returns are generally not filed before the financial statements are prepared; therefore the Company estimates the tax basis of its asset and liabilities at the end of each calendar year as well as the effects of tax rate changes, tax credits, and tax credit carryforwards. A valuation allowance is recognized if it is determined that deferred tax assets may not be fully utilized in future periods. Adjustments related to differences between the estimates used and actual amounts reported are recorded in the period in which income tax returns are filed. These adjustments and changes in estimates of asset recovery could have an impact on results of operations. Due to uncertainties involved with tax matters, the future effective tax rate may vary significantly from the estimated current year effective tax rate.

#### **Equity-Based Compensation**

We adopted SFAS No. 123(R) beginning July 1, 2006. Prior to July 1, 2006, the Company accounted for these plans under the recognition and measurement provisions of Accounting Principles Board ("APB") Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations, as permitted by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards("SFAS") No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation. No stock-based employee compensation expense was recognized in the Company's Consolidated Statement of Operations prior to July 1, 2006, as all options granted under the Company's stock-based compensation plans had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. Effective July 1, 2006, the Company adopted the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123 (R), Share Based Payment, using the modified-prospective transition method as described in SFAS No. 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation - Transition and Disclosure. Under this method, compensation cost recognized in fiscal 2007 is the same as that which would have been recognized had the recognition provisions of Statement 123(R) been applied from its original effective date.

#### **Investments in Trading Securities**

The Company has classified all investments as Trading Securities in accordance with SFAS No. 115, Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities. These securities are marked to market each period with the realized and unrealized gain or loss recorded in the statement of operations.

#### **Outlook and Trends:**

At the outset of our 2007 fiscal year we expected our natural gas production to increase during this fiscal year due to recent drilling successes. Total production for the year will depend on the number of wells successfully completed, the date they are put on line, their initial rate of production, and their production decline rates. During the last fiscal year,

gas sales decreased approximately 14.1% from 696,105 Mcf to 597,660 Mcf;

oil sales increased to 3,986 barrels due to the acquisition of operating interests in Poplar fields in Montana; and

reserves have increased approximately 26% to 3,480,000 net equivalent Mcf (MCFEQ) from 2,762,000 MCFEQ.

During the last fiscal year, the average price received for our gas production decreased approximately 10% from \$7.76 per Mcf to \$7.00 per Mcf and the costs of production and accretion, depletion, depreciation, and amortization, increased 36%.

Over the past five years we have been able to replace the majority of our produced reserves and maintain our yearly natural gas production through the drilling of new wells and the acquisition of producing properties which have offset the oil and gas we produce. These additions resulted primarily from 8 newly drilled gas wells and the acquisition of several oil wells in Montana in which we hold interests. Such wells added a total of 874,109 Mcf of gas reserves, of which 75,063 Mcf were produced prior to June 30, 2007, and 132,072 barrels of oil, of which 3,877 were produced prior to June 30, 2007. Management uses the measurement of our produced reserves to help measure the success of our exploration and development activity. Where reserves are replaced in an amount greater than production, it is a sign that we are continuing our exploration and development activity successfully. A one-year decline or increase may not be important to investors, but seeing a decline or increase over a several year period is a trend worthy of noting, both internally by management and externally by investors.

#### Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Risk:

Our ability to replace reserves, dissipated through production or recalculation, will depend largely on how successful our drilling and acquisition efforts will be in the future. While we cannot predict the future, our historic success drilling ratio over the past 6 years has been 84%. With the use of 3-D seismic and well control data, interpreted by our geological and geophysical consultants, we feel we can manage our dry hole risk adequately.

The prices that we receive for the oil and natural gas (including natural gas liquids) produced are impacted by many factors that are outside of our control. Historically, these commodity prices have been volatile and we

expect them to remain volatile. Prices for oil and natural gas are affected by changes in market demands, overall economic activity, weather, pipeline capacity constraints, inventory storage levels, the world political situation, basis differentials and other factors. As a result, we cannot accurately predict future oil, natural gas and NGL (natural gas liquids) prices, and therefore, we cannot determine what effect increases or decreases in production volumes will have on future revenues.

On regulatory and operational matters, we actively manage our exploration and production activities. We value sound stewardship and strong relationships with all stakeholders in conducting our business. We attempt to stay abreast of emerging issues to effectively anticipate and manage potential impacts to our operations.

The average price received during fiscal 2007 for our natural gas was approximately \$7.00 per MMBTU as compared to \$7.74 per MMBTU during fiscal 2006. In order to reduce the risk of natural gas price fluctuations, we have entered into a series of gas sales contracts with Enserco as described above in Item 2 Properties Gas Delivery Commitments, set forth above.

# **Liquidity and Capital Resources:**

We have historically financed our operations with internally generated funds, limited borrowings from banks and third parties, and farmout arrangements, which permit third parties (including some related parties) to participate in our drilling prospects. During the year ended June 30, 2007, we also borrowed \$600,000 to purchase an interest in the Poplar Field and became obligated for an additional \$375,000 indebtedness as part of that purchase. During our fiscal 2007 year, we have also received approximately \$600,000 from the sale of investment securities that we owned, as compared to \$116,000 in fiscal 2006.

Our principal uses of cash are for operating expenses, the acquisition, drilling, completion and production of prospects, the acquisition of producing properties, working capital, servicing debt and the payment of income taxes.

During the 2007 fiscal year, we used more than \$2.4 million of cash in our operations, investing activities and financing activities as compared to those activities generating more than \$3.0 million during the same period of our 2006 fiscal year. This resulted from reduced cash generated from operations and an increase in cash used in investing activities offset by a small reduction in cash used in financing activities, as described below.

We generated cash of \$2.5 million from operations for the year ended June 30, 2007, as compared to \$6.9 million in cash generated from operating activities for the year ended June 30, 2006. This negative change of approximately \$4.4 million was due to a number of factors, including a reduction of our net income of approximately \$2 million (as discussed below in results of operations), and a use of cash to retire current liabilities (which were more than \$6 million at June 30, 2006 as compared to less than \$5 million at June 30, 2007). Our current liabilities decreased by about \$1.4 million during the 2007 period as compared to an increase in current liabilities of approximately \$4.5 million during the 2006 period.

Our investing activities used cash to increase capitalized oil and gas costs and office equipment of \$5.1 million during the 2007 fiscal year as compared to \$4.3 million in 2006. Investing activities during 2007 were for oil and gas property acquisition (\$1.1 million), lease acquisition, seismic work, intangible drilling and well workovers and equipment (\$4 million), and support equipment of (\$89,000). These expenditures are net of the sale of interests in wells to be drilled that will be charged to third party investors.

Cash provided by financing activities decreased approximately \$192,500 from \$411,500 in 2006 to \$219,000 during the year ended June 30, 2007. This decrease was due primarily to the payment of \$357,981 in cash dividends in 2007, where no dividends were paid in 2006. In addition, employees exercised stock options totaling \$411,500 in 2006 compared to only \$85,500 in 2007. These decrease in cash from financing activities during the 2007 fiscal year were partially offset by the net proceeds of \$492,000 in long-term debt (borrowings less repayments), which provided a portion of the cash used to acquire our oil interests in Montana.

Our working capital surplus (current assets less current liabilities) at June 30, 2007, was \$2.04 million, which reflects a \$1.8 million decrease from our working capital at June 30, 2006. As detailed above, this decrease was due primarily to our negative cash flow of more than \$5 million for investing activities and use of cash to significantly reduce our current liabilities.

#### **Future Commitments:**

We have a proposed drilling, completion and construction budget for the period July 2007 through June 2008. The budget includes drilling eight gas wells in the Sacramento gas province of northern California and one oil well test in the San Joaquin Basin near Bakersfield, California. Our share of the estimated costs to complete this program is set forth in the following table.

Area	Wells	Dr	illing Costs	ompletion & Equipping Costs	Total
Grimes Gas Field					
Solano County, CA	2	\$	416,000	\$ 163,000	\$ 579,000
West Grimes Field					
Colusa County, CA	3		702,000	399,000	1,101,000
Butte Sink Field					
Colusa County, CA	1		248,000	112,000	360,000
Crossroads Field					
Yolo County, CA	1		149,000	98,000	247,000
Ord Bend Field					
Glenn County, CA	1		156,000	135,000	291,000
Rosedale Ranch Field					
Kern County, CA	1		264,000	133,000	397,000
Total Expenditure	9	\$	1,935,000	\$ 1,040,000	\$ 2,975,000

We anticipate that our working capital and anticipated cash flow from operations and future successful drilling activities will be sufficient to finance our planned drilling and operating expenses and to pay our other obligations. As discussed herein, this is dependent, in part, on maintaining or increasing our level of production and the national and world market maintaining its current prices for our oil and gas production.

If our drilling efforts are successful, the anticipated increased cash flow from the new gas discoveries, in addition to our existing cash flow, should be sufficient to fund our share of planned future completion and pipeline costs.

We maintain office space in Denver, Colorado, our principal office, and Bakersfield, California. The Denver office consists of approximately 1,108 square feet with an additional 750 square feet of basement storage. We entered into a month-to-month lease agreement beginning January 1, 2005 for a lease rate of \$1,261 per month. The Bakersfield, California office has 546 square feet and a monthly rental fee of \$901 to \$934 over the term of the lease. The two-year lease expires July 31, 2008. Rent expense for the years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006 was \$26,264 and \$22,817, respectively.

#### Employment Contracts and Termination of Employment and Change in Control Arrangements

*Mr. Bailey:* Effective May 1, 2003 the Company entered into an employment agreement with Chairman of the Board, R. V. Bailey. Some of the pertinent provisions include an employment period ending May 1, 2009, the title of Vice President subject to the general direction of the President, Robert A. Cohan, and the Board of Directors of Aspen. Mr. Bailey s salary will be \$45,000 per year from May 1, 2003 to December 31, 2006 and \$60,000 per year from January 1, 2007, ending May 1, 2009. Mr. Bailey will also participate in Aspen s stock options and royalty interest programs. During the term of the agreement, the Company has agreed to pay Mr. Bailey a monthly \$1,700 allowance to cover such items as prescriptions, medical and dental coverage for himself and his dependents and other expenses not covered in the agreement.

Mr. Bailey will continue to use the Company vehicle and may trade the current vehicle for a similar vehicle of his choice prior to June 30, 2007. During 2007 or thereafter, Mr. Bailey may purchase the vehicle for \$500.

The Company may terminate this agreement upon Mr. Bailey s death by paying his estate all compensation that had or will accrue to the end of the year of his death plus \$75,000. Should Mr. Bailey become totally and permanently disabled, the Company will pay Mr. Bailey one half of the salary and benefits set forth in our agreement with him for the remainder of the term of the agreement.

*Mr. Cohan:* In April 2005 Mr. Cohan s employment agreement was renewed to December 31, 2008 with a salary increase to \$160,000 per year. Other benefits and duties will remain the same as the previous employment contract.

# **Results of Operations:**

#### June 30, 2007 Compared to June 30, 2006:

The following table sets forth certain items from our Consolidated Statements of Operations as expressed as a percentage of total revenues, shown by year for fiscal 2007 and 2006:

	For the Year Ended		
	June 30, 2007	June 30, 2006	
Total Revenues	100.0 %	100.0%	
Oil and Gas Production Costs	18.9 %	10.0 %	
Gross Profit	81.1 %	90.0 %	
Expenses			
Depreciation and depletion	45.7 %	28.8 %	
Selling, general and administrative	19.3 %	7.5 %	
Operating Expenses	64.9%	36.2 %	
Income from Operations	16.1%	53.7 %	
Other Income and Expenses	18.8 %	20.5 %	
Income Before Income Taxes	34.9 %	74.2 %	
Provision for Income Taxes	-13.9 %	-19.2 %	
Net Income	20.9 %	55.0 %	

To facilitate discussion of our operating results for the years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006, we have included the following selected data from our Consolidated Statements of Operations:

# Comparison of the Fiscal

	Year Ended June 30,		Increase (Decrease)			
	2007		2006		Amount	Percentage
Revenues:						
Oil and gas sales	\$ 4,418,231	\$	5,400,950	\$	(982,719)	-18%
Cost and Expenses:						
Oil and gas production	837,155		537,508		299,647	56%
Depreciation and depletion	2,018,550		1,557,076		461,474	30%
Selling, general and administrative	850,847		405,874		444,973	