

Sanchez Energy Corp
Form S-8
January 06, 2012

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 6, 2012

Registration No. 333-

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

FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

SANCHEZ ENERGY CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization)

45-3090102
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

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1111 Bagby Street, Suite 1600

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 783-8000

(Address, including zip code, telephone number, including area code, of principal executive offices)

Sanchez Energy Corporation 2011 Long Term Incentive Plan

(Full title of the plan)

Antonio R. Sanchez, III

President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman

Sanchez Energy Corporation

1111 Bagby Street, Suite 1600

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 783-8000

(Name, address and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

David P. Elder

Shar Ahmed

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

1111 Louisiana Street, 44th Floor

Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 220-5881

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

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CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share (2)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (2)	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	4,050,000	\$17.37	\$70,348,500.00	\$8,061.94

- (1) Represents the maximum number of shares of Common Stock issuable pursuant to awards under the Sanchez Energy Corporation 2011 Long Term Incentive Plan. Pursuant to Rule 416 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement shall also cover any additional shares of Common Stock that become issuable by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration that results in an increase in the number of the Registrant's outstanding shares of Common Stock.
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee and computed pursuant to Rule 457(c) and 457(h) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The above calculation is based on the average of the high and low prices of the Registrant's Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange on January 3, 2011.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Sanchez Energy Corporation, or the Company, prepared this Registration Statement in accordance with the requirements of Form S-8 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, to register an aggregate of 4,050,000 shares of the Company's common stock that may be issued pursuant to the Sanchez Energy Corporation 2011 Long Term Incentive Plan, or the 2011 Plan. The documents containing the information specified in Part I of this Registration Statement will be sent or given to participants in the 2011 Plan, as specified by Rule 428(b)(1) promulgated under the Securities Act. Such documents need not be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the Commission, either as part of this Registration Statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424 promulgated under the Securities Act. These documents and the documents incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement pursuant to Item 3 of Part II of this Registration Statement, taken together, constitute a prospectus that meets the requirement of Section 10(a) of the Securities Act.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents filed with the Commission are incorporated herein by reference:

- (a) The Company's prospectus, or the Prospectus, filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act (File No. 333-176613) relating to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed with the Commission on December 14, 2011; and
- (b) the description of the Common Stock contained in the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the Commission on December 9, 2011, pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, which in turn incorporates by reference the description in the Prospectus, including any subsequently filed amendments and reports updating such description.

In addition, all documents subsequently filed by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, excluding any information furnished pursuant to any Current Report on Form 8-K, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any subsequently filed document that also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, as the case may be, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Officers and Directors.

The Company is incorporated in Delaware. Section 145(a) of the Delaware General Corporation Law, or the DGCL, provides that a Delaware corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

Section 145(b) of the DGCL provides that a Delaware corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that such person acted in any of the capacities set forth above, against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if he or she acted under similar standards to those set forth above, except that no indemnification may be made with respect to any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine that despite the adjudication of liability, but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to be indemnified for such expenses which the court shall deem proper.

Section 145 of the DGCL further provides that, to the extent a director or officer of a corporation has been successful in the defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsection (a) and (b) or in the defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection therewith; that indemnification provided for by Section 145 of the DGCL shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which the indemnified party may be entitled; and that the corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of a director or officer of the corporation against any liability asserted against such officer or director and incurred by him or her in any such capacity or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liabilities under Section 145 of the DGCL.

The Company's certificate of incorporation limits the liability of its directors for monetary damages for breach of their fiduciary duty as directors, except for liability that cannot be eliminated under the DGCL. Delaware law provides that directors of a company will not be personally liable for monetary damages for breach of their fiduciary duty as directors, except for liabilities:

for any breach of their duty of loyalty to the Company or its stockholders;

for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;

for unlawful payment of dividend or unlawful stock repurchase or redemption, as provided under Section 174 of the DGCL; or

for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

Any amendment, repeal or modification of these provisions will be prospective only and would not affect any limitation on liability of a director for acts or omissions that occurred prior to any such amendment, repeal or modification.

The Company's certificate of incorporation and bylaws also provide that it will indemnify its directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. The Company's certificate of incorporation and bylaws also permit it to purchase insurance on behalf of any officer, director, employee or other agent for any liability arising out of that person's actions as its officer, director, employee or agent, regardless of whether Delaware law would permit indemnification. The Company entered into indemnification agreements with each of its current and future directors and officers. These agreements require the Company to indemnify these individuals to the fullest extent permitted under Delaware law against liability that may arise by reason of their service to the Company, and to advance

expenses incurred as a result of any proceeding against them as to which they could be indemnified. The Company believes that the limitation of liability provision in its certificate of incorporation and the indemnification agreements will facilitate its ability to continue to attract and retain qualified individuals to serve as directors and officers.

The above description of the Indemnification Agreements is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the form of Indemnification Agreement, previously filed as Exhibit 10.5 to the S-1 Registration Statement.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

See Index to Exhibits, attached hereto, which Index to Exhibits is hereby incorporated into this Item 8.

Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The Company hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement.

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Company pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The Company hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Company's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration

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Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

- (c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Company pursuant to the foregoing provisions or otherwise, the Company has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Company of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Company in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Company will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, Sanchez Energy Corporation certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the city of Houston, State of Texas on January 6, 2012.

SANCHEZ ENERGY CORPORATION

By: /s/ Antonio R. Sanchez, III
Antonio R. Sanchez, III
President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Antonio R. Sanchez, III and Michael G. Long, each of whom may act without joinder of the other, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, each with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for such person and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this Registration Statement on Form S-8, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the listed capacities on January 6, 2012:

Name	Title
/s/ Antonio R. Sanchez, III Antonio R. Sanchez, III	Director, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman (Principal Executive Officer)
/s/ Michael G. Long Michael G. Long	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary (Principal Financial Officer)
/s/ Gilbert A. Garcia Gilbert A. Garcia	Director

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit

Number	Description of Exhibits
4.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Sanchez Energy Corporation (previously filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the S-1 Registration Statement and incorporated herein by reference)
4.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Sanchez Energy Corporation (previously filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the S-1 Registration Statement and incorporated herein by reference)
4.3	Sanchez Energy Corporation 2011 Long Term Incentive Plan (previously filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the S-1 Registration Statement and incorporated herein by reference)
4.4	Form of Common Stock Certificate (previously filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the S-1 Registration Statement and incorporated herein by reference)
5.1*	Opinion of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
10.1*	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for employees
10.2*	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for non-employee directors
10.3*	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for Antonio R. Sanchez, III
23.1*	Consent of BDO USA, LLP
23.2*	Consent of Ryder Scott Company, L.P.
23.3*	Consent of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP (contained in Exhibit 5.1)
24.1*	Powers of Attorney (included on signature page)

* Filed herewith.