

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC.
Form 8-K
January 04, 2018

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report: (Date of earliest event reported): January 4, 2018

Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

1-13926
(Commission

file number)
15415 Katy Freeway

76-0321760
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

Houston, Texas 77094

(Address of principal executive offices, including Zip Code)

(281) 492-5300

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure

As previously reported, in August 2016, a subsidiary of Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc. (the Company) received notice of termination from Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. (Petrobras) of its drilling contract on the *Ocean Valor*. The drilling contract was originally estimated to conclude in accordance with its terms in October 2018. In August 2016, the subsidiary of the Company filed a lawsuit against Petrobras in the 17th Lower Court of Rio de Janeiro Central District. In September 2016, the presiding judge in the case issued a preliminary injunction, suspending Petrobras termination of the contract and ordering that the contract remain in effect until the end of the contract term or further court order. As a result of the injunction, which was upheld on appeal in March 2017, the contract has remained in effect and has not been terminated.

On January 4, 2018, the Company and Petrobras agreed to settle the lawsuit and amend the *Ocean Valor* drilling contract. Among other things, the amendment provides for the rig to be in an extended standby period retroactively from July 2017 to the end of September 2018 at a rate equal to approximately US\$190,000 per day and then for the rig to continue under contract with Petrobras for an extended period through the end of September 2020 at a rate equal to approximately US\$289,000 per day. The Company's financial results for the quarterly period ending December 31, 2017 will include a one-time charge of approximately US\$20 million for the estimated retroactive adjustment to reflect the discounted standby dayrate earned by the *Ocean Valor* during the previously-reported quarterly period ended September 30, 2017.

The information contained in Item 7.01 of this report shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and shall not be incorporated by reference into any previous or future registration statement filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), unless specifically identified therein as being incorporated by reference.

Statements made in this report that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Such statements may include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the future term and related earnings of the *Ocean Valor* drilling contract and the estimated financial statement impact of the retroactive discounted standby dayrate. Forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain and subject to a variety of assumptions, risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those currently anticipated or expected by management of the Company. A discussion of the risk factors and other considerations that could materially impact these matters as well as the Company's overall business and financial performance can be found in the Company's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and readers of this report are urged to review those reports carefully when considering these forward-looking statements. Given these risk factors and other considerations, investors and analysts should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Each such forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of this report, and the Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement to reflect any change in the Company's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any forward-looking statement is based.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: January 4, 2018

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC.

By: /s/ DAVID L. ROLAND

David L. Roland

Senior Vice President, General Counsel

and Secretary