

BLUE DOLPHIN ENERGY CO  
Form NT 10-K  
March 31, 2010

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20549

FORM 12b-25

NOTIFICATION OF LATE FILING

(Check One):

Form 10-K  
10-Q

Form 20-F

Form 11-K

Form

Form 10-D

Form N-SAR

Form N-CSR

For Period Ended: December 31, 2009

Transition Report on Form 10-K

Transition Report on Form 20-F

Transition Report on Form 11-K

Transition Report on Form 10-Q

Transition Report on Form N-SAR

For the Transition Period Ended: \_\_\_\_\_

Read Instruction (on back page) Before Preparing Form. Please Print or Type.

Nothing in this form shall be construed to imply that the Commission has verified any information contained herein.

If the notification relates to a portion of the filing checked above, identify the Item(s) to which the notification relates:

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PART I - REGISTRANT INFORMATION

Blue Dolphin Energy Company

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Full Name of Registrant

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Former Name if Applicable

801 Travis Street, Suite 2100

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Address of Principal Executive Office (Street and Number)

Houston, Texas 77002

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City, State and Zip Code

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PART II - RULES 12b-25 (b) AND (c)

If the subject report could not be filed without unreasonable effort or expense and the registrant seeks relief pursuant to Rule 12b-25(b), the following should be completed. (Check box if appropriate)

- (a) The reason described in reasonable detail in Part III of this form could not be eliminated without unreasonable effort or expense;
  - (b) The subject annual report, semi-annual report, transition report on Form 10-K, Form 20-F, Form 11-K or Form N-SAR or Form N-CSR, or portion thereof, will be filed on or before the fifteenth calendar day following the prescribed due date; or the subject quarterly report or transition report on Form 10-Q or subject distribution report on Form 10-D, or portion thereof, will be filed on or before the fifth calendar day following the prescribed due date; and
  - (c) The accountant's statement or other exhibit required by Rule 12b-25(c) has been attached if applicable.
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PART III - NARRATIVE

State below in reasonable detail why Forms 10-K, 20-F, 11-K, 10-Q, 10-D, N-SAR, N-CSR, or the transition report or portion thereof, could not be filed within the prescribed time period.

The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal period ended December 31, 2009, cannot be filed within the prescribed time period because the Company is assessing the collectability of a material note receivable and the appropriate disclosures to be included in the Form 10-K. The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K will be filed on or before the fifteenth calendar day following the prescribed due date.

PART IV - OTHER INFORMATION

(1) Name and telephone number of person to contact in regard to this notification:

T. Scott Howard	(713)	568-4725
(Name)	(Area Code)	(Telephone No.)

(2) Have all other periodic reports required under section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 during the preceding 12 months or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such report(s) been filed? If the answer is no, identify report(s).  Yes  No

(3) Is it anticipated that any significant change in results of operations from the corresponding period for the last fiscal year will be reflected by the earnings statements to be included in the subject report or portion thereof?  Yes  No

If so, attach an explanation of the anticipated change, both narratively and quantitatively, and, if appropriate, state the reasons why a reasonable estimate of the results cannot be made.

The Company anticipates that in its Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2009, it could report significant changes to its net loss due to an increase in bad debt expense. Depending on the outcome of assessing the collectability of a material note receivable, the Company anticipates that the bad debt expense will range from zero to \$2 million.

Blue Dolphin Energy Company

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

has caused this notification to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 31, 2010

By: /s/ T. SCOTT HOWARD  
TREASURER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING OFFICER