## 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): November 13, 2012

#### AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 1-7657 (Commission File Number)

13-4922250 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

200 Vesey Street, World Financial Center New York, New York (Address of principal executive offices)

10285 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 640-2000

Not Applicable (Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- " 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))

#### Item 8.01 Other Events

On November 13, 2012, American Express Company announced that it has commenced a private offer to exchange certain of its outstanding debt securities for new debt securities and cash. A copy of the press release containing this announcement is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference herein.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (d) Exhibits
- 99.1 Press release, dated November 13, 2012, announcing the commencement of a private exchange offer.

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#### **SIGNATURE**

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.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY (REGISTRANT)

By: /s/ Carol V. Schwartz

Name: Carol V. Schwartz

Title: Secretary

Date: November 13, 2012

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#### **EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit Description

Press release, dated November 13, 2012, announcing the commencement of a private

exchange offer.

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