

ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP

Form 10-Q

May 07, 2008

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

**Form 10-Q**

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

**For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2008**

**or**

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

**For the transition period from to**

**Commission file number 0-29370**

**ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

**Yukon Territory, Canada**  
*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**N/A**  
*(I.R.S. employer  
identification number)*

**363 North Sam Houston Parkway,  
Suite 1200, Houston, Texas**  
*(Address of principal executive offices)*

**77060**  
*(Zip code)*

**(281) 876-0120**

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES  NO

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). YES  NO

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  Smaller reporting company

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(Do not check if a smaller reporting  
company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the  
Act). YES  NO

The number of common shares, without par value, of Ultra Petroleum Corp., outstanding as of April 28, 2008 was  
152,825,867.

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**Table of Contents****PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

	<b>For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008                      2007 (Unaudited) (Amounts in thousands of U.S. Dollars, except per share data)</b>	
Revenues:		
Natural gas sales	\$ 249,121	\$ 147,284
Oil sales	22,016	9,292
Total operating revenues	271,137	156,576
Expenses:		
Production expenses and taxes	61,327	28,684
Depletion and depreciation	42,250	29,629
General and administrative	4,345	3,218
Total operating expenses	107,922	61,531
Operating income	163,215	95,045
Other income (expense):		
Interest expense	(5,272)	(2,700)
Interest income	150	327
Total other income (expense), net	(5,122)	(2,373)
Income before income tax provision	158,093	92,672
Income tax provision	56,734	32,030
Net income from continuing operations	101,359	60,642
(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of tax (benefit) provision of (\$36) and \$3,985, respectively	(67)	5,949
Net income	101,292	66,591
Retained earnings, beginning of period	887,820	624,784
Retained earnings, end of period	\$ 989,112	\$ 691,375

**Basic Earnings per Share:**

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Income per common share from continuing operations	\$	0.66	\$	0.40
Income per common share from discontinued operations	\$	0.00	\$	0.04
Net income per common share	\$	0.66	\$	0.44
<b>Fully Diluted Earnings per Share:</b>				
Income per common share from continuing operations	\$	0.64	\$	0.38
Income per common share from discontinued operations	\$	0.00	\$	0.04
Net income per common share	\$	0.64	\$	0.42
Weighted average common shares outstanding    basic		152,501		151,928
Weighted average common shares outstanding    fully diluted		158,083		159,112

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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**ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

	<b>March 31, 2008 (Unaudited)</b>	<b>December 31, 2007</b>
	<b>(Amounts in thousands of U.S. Dollars)</b>	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 46,339	\$ 10,632
Restricted cash	2,598	2,590
Accounts receivable	138,012	135,849
Derivative assets		5,625
Inventory	12,509	13,333
Prepaid drilling costs and other current assets	3,892	424
Total current assets	203,350	168,453
Oil and gas properties, net, using the full cost method of accounting		
Proved	1,676,670	1,537,751
Unproved	36,705	36,778
Property, plant and equipment	4,903	4,739
Deferred financing costs, derivative assets and other	5,921	3,861
Total assets	\$ 1,927,549	\$ 1,751,582
 <b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 164,725	\$ 140,641
Derivative liabilities	53,175	
Current taxes payable		10,839
Capital cost accrual	94,473	88,445
Total current liabilities	312,373	239,925
Long-term debt	300,000	290,000
Deferred income tax liability	352,560	341,406
Other long-term obligations	40,619	26,672
Shareholders' equity		
Share capital	12,005	20,050
Treasury stock	(46,697)	(59,245)
Retained earnings	989,112	887,820
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income	(32,423)	4,954
Total shareholders' equity	921,997	853,579

Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 1,927,549	\$ 1,751,582
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See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



**Table of Contents****ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
	<b>(Unaudited)</b>	
	<b>(Amounts in thousands of U.S. Dollars)</b>	
Cash provided by (used in):		
<b>Operating activities:</b>		
Net income for the period	\$ 101,292	\$ 66,591
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Loss (income) from discontinued operations, net of tax (benefit) provision of (\$36) and \$3,985, respectively	67	(5,949)
Depletion and depreciation	42,250	29,629
Deferred income taxes	56,933	30,505
Excess tax benefit from stock based compensation	(25,529)	(3,007)
Stock compensation	854	1,270
Other	90	
Net changes in non-cash working capital:		
Restricted cash	(8)	(558)
Accounts receivable	(2,163)	(9,088)
Prepaid drilling costs and other current and non-current assets	(3,299)	(1,119)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	23,543	25,732
Other long-term obligations	13,744	5,440
Current taxes payable	(10,839)	(625)
Net cash provided by operating activities from continuing operations	196,935	138,821
Net cash provided by operating activities from discontinued operations		4,653
Net cash provided by operating activities	196,935	143,474
<b>Investing activities:</b>		
Oil and gas property expenditures	(179,349)	(159,027)
Investing activities from discontinued operations		(7,725)
Post-closing adjustments on sale of subsidiary	(103)	
Change in capital cost accrual	6,028	15,588
Inventory	824	284
Purchase of capital assets	(347)	(142)
Net cash used in investing activities	(172,947)	(151,022)
<b>Financing activities:</b>		
Borrowings on long-term debt	332,000	20,000
Payments on long-term debt	(322,000)	
Deferred financing costs	(1,580)	

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Repurchased shares	(29,829)	(9,543)
Excess tax benefit from stock based compensation	25,529	3,007
Stock issued for compensation	597	
Proceeds from exercise of options	7,002	1,766
Net cash provided by financing activities	11,719	15,230
Increase in cash during the period	35,707	7,682
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	10,632	14,574
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 46,339	\$ 22,256

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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**ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(Unaudited)**

(All dollar amounts in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are expressed in Thousands of U.S. dollars (except per share data) unless otherwise noted)

**DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS:**

Ultra Petroleum Corp. (the Company) is an independent oil and gas company engaged in the acquisition, exploration, development, and production of oil and gas properties. The Company is incorporated under the laws of the Yukon Territory, Canada. The Company's principal business activities are in the Green River Basin of Southwest Wyoming.

**1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:**

The accompanying financial statements, other than the balance sheet data as of December 31, 2007, are unaudited and were prepared from the Company's records. Balance sheet data as of December 31, 2007 was derived from the Company's audited financial statements, but does not include all disclosures required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The Company's management believes that these financial statements include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the Company's financial position and results of operations. All adjustments are of a normal and recurring nature unless specifically noted. The Company prepared these statements on a basis consistent with the Company's annual audited statements and Regulation S-X. Regulation S-X allows the Company to omit some of the footnote and policy disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles and normally included in annual reports on Form 10-K. You should read these interim financial statements together with the financial statements, summary of significant accounting policies and notes to the Company's most recent annual report on Form 10-K.

(a) *Basis of presentation and principles of consolidation:* The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries UP Energy Corporation, Ultra Resources, Inc. and Sino-American Energy through the date of the sale of the China operations. The Company presents its financial statements in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). All inter-company transactions and balances have been eliminated upon consolidation.

(b) *Cash and cash equivalents:* We consider all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

(c) *Restricted cash:* Restricted cash represents cash received by the Company from production sold where the final division of ownership of the production is unknown or in dispute. Wyoming law requires that these funds be held in a federally insured bank in Wyoming.

(d) *Capital assets other than oil and gas properties:* Capital assets are recorded at cost and depreciated using the declining-balance method based on a seven-year useful life.

(e) *Oil and natural gas properties:* The Company uses the full cost method of accounting for exploration and development activities as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Separate cost centers are maintained for each country in which the Company incurs costs. Under this method of accounting, the costs of unsuccessful, as well as successful, exploration and development activities are capitalized as properties and equipment. This includes any internal costs that are directly related to exploration and development activities but does

not include any costs related to production, general corporate overhead or similar activities. The carrying amount of oil and natural gas properties also includes estimated asset retirement costs recorded based on the fair value of the asset retirement obligation when incurred. Gain or loss on the sale or other disposition of oil and natural gas properties is not recognized, unless the gain or loss would significantly alter the relationship between capitalized costs and proved reserves of oil and natural gas attributable to a country.

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**ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The sum of net capitalized costs and estimated future development costs of oil and natural gas properties are amortized using the units-of-production method based on the proven reserves as determined by independent petroleum engineers. Oil and natural gas reserves and production are converted into equivalent units based on relative energy content. Asset retirement obligations are included in the base costs for calculating depletion.

Oil and natural gas properties include costs that are excluded from capitalized costs being amortized. These amounts represent investments in unproved properties and major development projects. The Company excludes these costs until proved reserves are found or until it is determined that the costs are impaired. All costs excluded are reviewed, at least quarterly, to determine if impairment has occurred. The amount of any impairment is transferred to the capitalized costs being amortized (the depreciation, depletion and amortization ( DD&A ) pool).

Companies that use the full cost method of accounting for oil and natural gas exploration and development activities are required to perform a ceiling test calculation each quarter. The full cost ceiling test is an impairment test prescribed by SEC Regulation S-X Rule 4-10. The ceiling test is performed quarterly on a country-by-country basis utilizing prices in effect on the last day of the quarter. SEC regulation S-X Rule 4-10 states that if prices in effect at the end of a quarter are the result of a temporary decline and prices improve prior to the issuance of the financial statements, the increased price may be applied in the computation of the ceiling test. The ceiling limits such pooled costs to the aggregate of the present value of future net revenues attributable to proved crude oil and natural gas reserves discounted at 10% plus the lower of cost or market value of unproved properties less any associated tax effects. If such capitalized costs exceed the ceiling, the Company will record a write-down to the extent of such excess as a non-cash charge to earnings. Any such write-down will reduce earnings in the period of occurrence and result in lower DD&A expense in future periods. A write-down may not be reversed in future periods, even though higher oil and natural gas prices may subsequently increase the ceiling. The effect of implementing SFAS No. 143 had no effect on the ceiling test calculation as the future cash outflows associated with settling asset retirement obligations are excluded from this calculation.

(f) *Inventories:* Materials and supplies inventories are carried at the lower of current market value or cost. Inventory costs include expenditures and other charges directly and indirectly incurred in bringing the inventory to its existing condition and location. The Company uses the weighted average method of recording its inventory. Selling expenses and general and administrative expenses are reported as period costs and excluded from inventory cost. At March 31, 2008, drilling and completion supplies inventory of \$12.5 million primarily includes the cost of pipe and production equipment that will be utilized during the 2008 drilling program.

(g) *Forward natural gas sales transactions:* The Company primarily relies on fixed price physical delivery contracts, which are considered sales in the normal course of business, to manage its commodity price exposure. The Company, from time to time, also uses derivative instruments as a way to manage its exposure to commodity prices. (See Note 7).

(h) *Income taxes:* Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax basis and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the

enactment date. Valuation allowances are recorded related to deferred tax assets based on the more likely than not criteria of SFAS No. 109.

Table of Contents**ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

Effective January 1, 2007, we adopted FASB Interpretation No. 48 ( FIN 48 ) which requires that we recognize the financial statement benefit of a tax position only after determining that the relevant tax authority would more likely than not sustain the position following an audit.

(i) *Earnings per share:* Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net earnings attributable to common stock by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during each period. Diluted earnings per share is computed by adjusting the average number of common shares outstanding for the dilutive effect, if any, of common stock equivalents. The Company uses the treasury stock method to determine the dilutive effect.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the components of basic and diluted net income per common share:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>March 31, 2008</b>	<b>March 31, 2007</b>
Net income from continuing operations	\$ 101,359	\$ 60,642
Net (loss) income from discontinued operations	\$ (67)	\$ 5,949
Net income	\$ 101,292	\$ 66,591
Weighted average common shares outstanding during the period	152,501	151,928
Effect of dilutive instruments	5,582	7,184
Weighted average common shares outstanding during the period including the effects of dilutive instruments	158,083	159,112
<b>Basic Earnings per Share:</b>		
Income per common from continuing operations	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.40
Income per common from discontinued operations	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.04
Net income per common share	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.44
<b>Fully Diluted Earnings per Share:</b>		
Income per common from continuing operations	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.38
Income per common from discontinued operations	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.04
Net income per common share	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.42

(j) *Use of estimates:* Preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the

reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(k) *Accounting for share-based compensation:* On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment ( SFAS No. 123R ) which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors including employee stock options based on estimated fair values.

The Company adopted SFAS No. 123R using the modified prospective transition method, which requires the application of the accounting standard as of January 1, 2006, the first day of the Company's fiscal year 2006. Share-based compensation expense recognized under SFAS No. 123R for the three months ended



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March 31, 2008 and 2007 was \$0.9 million and \$0.8 million, respectively. See Note 4 for additional information.

(l) *Fair Value Accounting.* In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements ( SFAS No. 157 ). This Statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This Statement applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements. Accordingly, this statement does not require any new fair value measurements. The changes to current practice resulting from the application of this statement relate to the definition of fair value, the methods used to measure fair value, and the expanded disclosures about fair value measurements. The Company adopted SFAS No. 157 as of January 1, 2008. The implementation of SFAS No. 157 was applied prospectively for our assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis, primarily our commodity derivatives, with no material impact on consolidated results of operations, financial position or liquidity. See Note 9 for additional information.

(m) *Revenue Recognition.* Natural gas revenues are recorded based on the entitlement method. Under the entitlement method, revenue is recorded when title passes based on the Company's net interest. The Company initially records its entitled share of revenues based on estimated production volumes. Subsequently, these estimated volumes are adjusted to reflect actual volumes that are supported by third party pipeline statements or cash receipts. Since there is a ready market for natural gas, the Company sells the majority of its products immediately after production at various locations at which time title and risk of loss pass to the buyer. Gas imbalances occur when the Company sells more or less than its entitled ownership percentage of total gas production. Any amount received in excess of the Company's share is treated as a liability. If the Company receives less than its entitled share, the underproduction is recorded as a receivable.

(n) *Other Comprehensive Income:* Other comprehensive income is a term used to define revenues, expenses, gains and losses that under generally accepted accounting principles impact Shareholders' Equity, excluding transactions with shareholders.

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Net income	\$ 101,292	\$ 66,591
Unrealized loss on derivative instruments	(49,958)	
Taxes on unrealized loss on derivative instruments	17,535	
Other comprehensive income	\$ 68,869	\$ 66,591

At March 31, 2008, the Company recorded a non-current asset of \$3.8 million, a current liability of \$53.2 million and a non-current liability of \$0.6 million associated with the derivative instruments included in other comprehensive income.

(o) *Reclassifications*: Certain amounts in the financial statements of the prior periods have been reclassified to conform to the current period financial statement presentation.

(p) *Impact of recently issued accounting pronouncements*: In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities ( SFAS No. 161 ). This statement is intended to improve financial reporting about derivative instruments and hedging activities by requiring enhanced disclosures to increase transparency about the location and amounts of derivative instruments in an entity's financial statements; how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under SFAS No. 133; and how derivative instruments and related hedged items affect financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS No. 161 is effective as of the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2008. The Company does not anticipate that the

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implementation of SFAS No. 161 will have a material impact on consolidated results of operations, financial position or liquidity.

**2. OIL AND GAS PROPERTIES:**

	<b>March 31, 2008</b>	<b>December 31, 2007</b>
Developed Properties:		
Acquisition, equipment, exploration, drilling and environmental costs	\$ 2,049,384	\$ 1,868,564
Less accumulated depletion, depreciation and amortization	(372,714)	(330,813)
	1,676,670	1,537,751
Unproven Properties:		
Acquisition and exploration costs	36,705	36,778
	\$ 1,713,375	\$ 1,574,529

**3. LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:**

	<b>March 31, 2008</b>	<b>December 31, 2007</b>
Bank indebtedness	\$	\$ 290,000
Senior notes, due 2015	100,000	
Senior notes, due 2018	200,000	
Other long-term obligations	40,619	26,672
	\$ 340,619	\$ 316,672

*Bank indebtedness:* The Company (through its subsidiary) is a party to a revolving credit facility with a syndicate of banks led by JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. which matures in April 2012. This agreement provides an initial loan commitment of \$500.0 million and may be increased to a maximum aggregate amount of \$750.0 million at the request of the Company. Each bank has the right, but not the obligation, to increase the amount of its commitment as requested by the Company. In the event the existing banks increase their commitment to an amount less than the requested commitment amount, then it would be necessary to add new financial institutions to the credit facility.

Loans under the credit facility are unsecured and bear interest, at our option, based on (A) a rate per annum equal to the higher of the prime rate or the weighted average fed funds rate on overnight transactions during the preceding business day plus 50 basis points, or (B) a base Eurodollar rate, substantially equal to the LIBOR rate, plus a margin

based on a grid of our consolidated leverage ratio (87.5 basis points per annum as of March 31, 2008).

At March 31, 2008, we had no outstanding borrowings and \$500.0 million of available borrowing capacity under our credit facility.

The facility has restrictive covenants that include the maintenance of a ratio of consolidated funded debt to EBITDAX (earnings before interest, taxes, DD&A and exploration expense) not to exceed 3 1/2 times; and as long as our debt rating is below investment grade, the maintenance of an annual ratio of the net present value of our oil and gas properties to total funded debt of at least 1.75 to 1.00. At March 31, 2008, we were in compliance with all of our debt covenants under our credit facility.

*Senior Notes, due 2015 and 2018:* On March 6, 2008, Ultra Petroleum Corp.'s wholly-owned subsidiary, Ultra Resources, Inc. issued \$300 million Senior Notes (the Notes) pursuant to a Master Note Purchase

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Agreement between the Company and the purchasers of the Notes. The Notes rank pari passu with the Company's bank credit facility. Payment of the Notes is guaranteed by Ultra Petroleum Corp. and UP Energy Corporation. Of the Notes, \$200.0 million are 5.92% Senior Notes due 2018 and \$100.0 million are 5.45% Senior Notes due 2015.

Proceeds from the sale of the Notes were used to repay bank debt, but did not reduce the size of the revolving credit facility.

The Notes are pre-payable in whole or in part at any time. The Notes are subject to representations, warranties, covenants and events of default customary for a senior note financing. If payment default occurs, any Note holder may accelerate its Notes; if a non-payment default occurs, holders of 51% of the outstanding principal amount of the Notes may accelerate all the Notes. At March 31, 2008, we were in compliance with all of our debt covenants under the Notes.

*Other long-term obligations:* These costs primarily relate to the long-term portion of production taxes payable, a liability associated with imbalanced production, the long-term portion of costs associated with our compensation programs and our asset retirement obligations.

**4. SHARE BASED COMPENSATION*****Valuation and Expense Information under SFAS 123R***

The following table summarizes share-based compensation expense under SFAS No. 123R for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, which was allocated as follows:

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Total cost of share-based payment plans	\$ 1,745	\$ 1,590
Amounts capitalized in fixed assets	\$ 891	\$ 820
Amounts charged against income, before income tax benefit	\$ 854	\$ 770
Amount of related income tax benefit recognized in income	\$ 300	\$ 270
Cash flow from operations	\$ (25,529)	\$ (3,007)
Cash flow from financing activities	\$ 25,529	\$ 3,007

The fair value of each share option award is estimated on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes pricing model based on assumptions noted in the following table. The Company's employee stock options have various restrictions including vesting provisions and restrictions on transfers and hedging, among others, and are often exercised prior to their contractual maturity. Expected volatilities used in the fair value estimate are based on historical volatility of the Company's stock. The Company uses historical data to estimate share option exercises, expected term and employee departure behavior used in the Black-Scholes pricing model. Groups of employees (executives and non-executives) that have similar historical behavior are considered separately for purposes of determining the expected term used to estimate fair value. The assumptions utilized result from differing pre- and post-vesting behaviors among executive

and non-executive groups. The risk-free

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rate for periods within the contractual term of the share option is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant.

	Three Months Ended			
	March 31, 2008		March 31, 2007	
	Non-Executives	Executives	Non-Executives	Executives
Expected volatility	41.22 - 41.39%	42.5%	43.25 - 43.70%	44.40%
Expected dividends	0%	0%	0%	0%
Expected term (in years)	5.01 - 5.06	5.98	4.75 - 4.85	5.53
Risk free rate	2.48 - 3.28%	2.98%	4.52 - 4.68%	4.69%
Expected forfeiture rate	15.0%	15.0%	14.00%	14.00%

***Changes in Stock Options and Stock Options Outstanding***

The following table summarizes the changes in stock options for the three months ended March 31, 2008:

	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price (US\$)
Balance, December 31, 2007	7,589	\$ 0.25 to \$67.73
Granted	142	\$ 71.60 to \$78.55
Exercised	(1,069)	\$ 0.25 to \$67.73
Balance, March 31, 2008	6,662	\$ 0.25 to \$78.55

**PERFORMANCE SHARE PLANS:**

*Long-Term Equity-Based Incentives.* In 2005, we adopted the Long Term Incentive Plan ( LTIP ) in order to further align the interests of key employees with shareholders and give key employees the opportunity to share in the long-term performance of the Company by achieving specific corporate financial and operational goals. Participants are recommended by the CEO and approved by the Compensation Committee. Selected officers, managers and other key employees are eligible to participate in the LTIP which has two components, an LTIP Stock Option Award and an LTIP Common Stock Award.

Under the LTIP, each year the Compensation Committee establishes a percentage of base salary for each participant which is multiplied by the participant's base salary to derive an LTI Value ( Long Term Incentive Value ). With respect to LTIP Stock Option Awards, options are awarded equal to one half of the LTI Value based on the fair value on the

date of grant (using Black-Scholes methodology).

The other half of the LTI Value is the target amount that may be awarded to the participant as an LTIP Common Stock Award at the end of a three year performance period. The Compensation Committee establishes performance measures at the beginning of each three year overlapping performance period. Each participant is also assigned threshold and maximum award levels in the event that performance is below or above target levels. Awards are expressed as dollar targets and become payable in common shares at the end of each performance period based on the Company's overall performance during such period. A new three year period begins each January. Participants must be employed by the Company at the end of a performance period in order to receive an award.

For the performance periods January 2006 – December 2008 ( 2006 LTIP ), January 2007 – December 2009 ( 2007 LTIP ), and January 2008 – 2010 ( 2008 LTIP ), the Compensation Committee established the following performance measures: return on equity, reserve replacement ratio, and production growth.



**Table of Contents****ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

For the three months ended March 31, 2008, the Company recognized \$0.2 million, \$0.2 million and \$0.1 million in pre-tax compensation expense related to the 2006 LTIP, 2007 LTIP and 2008 LTIP, respectively. For the three months ended March 31, 2007, the Company recognized \$0.1 million and \$0.1 million in pre-tax compensation expense related to the 2006 LTIP and 2007 LTIP, respectively. The amounts recognized during the first three months of 2008 and 2007 assume that maximum performance objectives are attained. If the Company ultimately attains maximum performance objectives, the associated total compensation cost, estimated at March 31, 2008, for the three year performance periods would be approximately \$2.5 million, \$3.2 million and \$3.1 million (before taxes) related to the 2006 LTIP, 2007 LTIP and 2008 LTIP, respectively.

**5. SHARE REPURCHASE PROGRAM:**

On May 17, 2006, the Company announced that its Board of Directors authorized a share repurchase program for up to an aggregate \$1 billion of the Company's outstanding common stock which has been and will be funded by cash on hand and the Company's senior credit facility. Pursuant to this authorization, the Company has commenced a program to purchase up to \$500.0 million of the Company's outstanding shares through open market transactions or privately negotiated transactions. The stock repurchase will be funded with cash held in an Ultra Resources bank account or the Company's senior credit facility.

The following tables summarize the Company's share repurchases in total (open market repurchases plus net share settlements):

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Shares Purchased</b>	<b>Weighted Average Price per Share</b>	<b>\$ Value</b>
First Quarter 2008	396	\$ 75.25	\$ 29,829
Prior	5,694	\$ 51.73	\$ 294,549
May 2006 - March 31, 2008	6,090	\$ 53.26	\$ 324,378

<b>OPEN MARKET</b>	<b>Shares Purchased</b>	<b>Weighted Average Price per Share</b>	<b>\$ Value</b>
First Quarter 2008	214	\$ 75.53	\$ 16,139
Prior	5,400	\$ 51.19	\$ 276,442
May 2006 - March 31, 2008	5,614	\$ 52.11	\$ 292,581

**Shares**                      **Weighted  
Average**

<b>NET SHARE SETTLEMENTS</b>	<b>Purchased</b>	<b>Price per Share</b>	<b>\$ Value</b>
First Quarter 2008	183	\$ 74.92	\$ 13,690
Prior	293	\$ 61.73	\$ 18,107
May 2006 March 31, 2008	476	\$ 66.79	\$ 31,797

## **6. INCOME TAXES:**

In June 2006, the FASB issued FIN 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*. This interpretation addresses the determination of whether tax benefits claimed or expected to be claimed on a tax return should be recorded in the financial statements. Under FIN 48, the Company may recognize the tax benefit from an uncertain tax position only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities, based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefits recognized in the financial statements from such a position should be measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. FIN 48 also provides guidance on de-recognition, classification,

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**ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

interest and penalties on income taxes, accounting in interim periods and requires increased disclosures. The Company adopted the provisions of FIN 48 on January 1, 2007.

The Company did not have any unrecognized tax benefits and there was no effect on our financial condition or results of operations as a result of implementing FIN 48 or at December 31, 2007. The amount of unrecognized tax benefits did not materially change as of March 31, 2008.

It is expected that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits may change in the next twelve months; however, Ultra does not expect the change to have a significant impact on the results of operations or the financial position of the Company.

The Company files a consolidated federal income tax return in the United States Federal jurisdiction and various combined, consolidated, unitary, and separate filings in several state and foreign jurisdictions. For all material jurisdictions, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. Federal, state and local, or non-U.S. income tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 1998.

Any estimated interest and penalties related to potential underpayment on any unrecognized tax benefits are classified as a component of tax expense in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. As of the date of adoption of FIN 48, Ultra did not have any accrued interest or penalties associated with any unrecognized tax benefits. Any interest expense or penalties recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2008 were immaterial.

The Company does not anticipate that total unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change due to the settlement of audits and the expiration of statute of limitations prior to March 31, 2008.

**7. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS:**

The Company's major market risk exposure is in the pricing applicable to its natural gas and oil production. Realized pricing is currently driven primarily by the prevailing price for the Company's Wyoming natural gas production. Historically, prices received for natural gas production have been volatile and unpredictable. Pricing volatility is expected to continue. Realized natural gas prices are derived from the financial statements which include the effects of hedging and natural gas balancing.

The Company primarily relies on fixed price forward gas sales to manage its commodity price exposure. These fixed price forward gas sales are considered normal sales. The Company, from time to time, also uses derivative instruments as a way to manage its exposure to commodity prices. The Company has periodically entered into fixed price to index price swap agreements in order to hedge a portion of its natural gas production. The natural gas reference prices of these commodity derivative contracts are typically referenced to natural gas index prices as published by such publications as Inside FERC Gas Market Report. Under SFAS No. 133, all derivative instruments are recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. Changes in the derivative's fair value are recognized currently in earnings unless specific hedge accounting criteria are met. For qualifying cash flow hedges, the gain or loss on the derivative is deferred in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to the extent the hedge is effective. At March 31, 2008, all hedges were considered effective as the hedging instruments offset the change in the hedged transaction's cash flows for the risk being hedged. For qualifying fair value hedges, the gain or loss on the derivative is offset by related results of the hedged item in the income statement. Gains and losses on hedging instruments included in accumulated other

comprehensive (loss) income are reclassified to oil and natural gas sales revenue in the period that the related production is delivered. Derivative contracts that do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment are recorded as derivative assets and liabilities at market value in the consolidated balance sheet, and the associated unrealized gains and losses are recorded as current expense or income in the consolidated statement of operations. The Company currently does not have any derivative contracts in place that do not qualify as cash flow hedges.

**Table of Contents****ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The Company also utilizes fixed price forward physical delivery contracts at southwest Wyoming delivery points to hedge its commodity price exposure. The Company had the following fixed price physical delivery contracts in place on behalf of its interest and those of other parties at March 31, 2008. (In November 2007, the Minerals Management Service commenced a Royalty-in-Kind program which had the effect of increasing the Company's average net interest in physical gas sales from 80% to approximately 91%.)

<b>Remaining Contract Period</b>	<b>Volume- MMBTU/Day</b>	<b>Average Price/MMBTU</b>
Calendar 2008	100,000	\$ 6.83
Summer 2008 (April - October)	20,000	\$ 6.88
Calendar 2009	10,000	\$ 7.51
Summer 2009 (April - October)	70,000	\$ 6.77

At March 31, 2008, the Company had the following open commodity derivative contracts to manage price risk on a portion of its natural gas production whereby the Company receives the fixed price and pays the variable price (all prices NWPL Rockies basis).

<b>Type</b>	<b>Remaining Contract Period</b>	<b>Volume- MMBTU/ Day</b>	<b>Average Price/ MMBTU</b>	<b>Unrealized Loss (000 \$) at 3/31/2008*</b>
Swap	Apr 2008 - Oct 2008	190,000	\$ 7.19	\$ (47,436)
Swap	Jan 2009 - Dec 2009	30,000	\$ 7.35	\$ (2,522)

\* Unrealized losses are not adjusted for income tax effect.

**8. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS:**

During the third quarter of 2007, we made the decision to dispose of Sino-American Energy Corporation, which owned our Bohai Bay assets in China, in order to focus on our legacy asset in the Pinedale Field in southwest Wyoming. The reserve volumes sold represent all of Ultra's international assets and, previously, were the only results included in our foreign operating segment.

On September 26, 2007, Ultra Petroleum Corp.'s wholly-owned subsidiary, UP Energy Corporation, a Nevada corporation, entered into a definitive share purchase agreement with an effective date of June 30, 2007 and a closing date of October 22, 2007 in order to sell all of the outstanding shares of Sino-American Energy Corporation (Sino-American), a Texas corporation, for a total purchase price of US\$223.0 million, subject to adjustments. The Company recorded results of operations for the China properties through the close date of October 22, 2007.

Sino-American held all of Ultra Petroleum Corp. s interests in oil and gas production sharing contracts in Bohai Bay, China.

Table of Contents**ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The Company has accounted for its Sino-American operations as discontinued operations and has reclassified prior period financial statements to exclude these businesses from continuing operations. A summary of financial information related to the Company's discontinued operations is as follows:

	<b>For the Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Operating revenues	\$	\$ 19,617
Post-closing adjustments on sale of subsidiary	(103)	
Operating expenses		9,683
(Loss) income before income tax (benefit) provision	(103)	9,934
Income tax (benefit) provision	(36)	3,985
(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of tax	\$ (67)	\$ 5,949

**9. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS:**

On September 15, 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurement". We adopted SFAS No. 157 effective January 1, 2008. SFAS No. 157 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date and establishes a three level hierarchy for measuring fair value. The statement requires fair value measurements be classified and disclosed in one of the following categories:

- Level 1:** Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets and liabilities that we have the ability to access at the measurement date.
- Level 2:** Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are either directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability, including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, and inputs that are derived from observable market data by correlation or other means. Instruments categorized in Level 2 include non-exchange traded derivatives such as over-the-counter forwards and swaps.
- Level 3:** Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, including situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability.

The valuation assumptions utilized to measure the fair value of the Company's cash flow hedges were observable inputs based on market data obtained from independent sources and are considered Level 2 inputs (quoted prices for similar assets, liabilities (adjusted) and market-corroborated inputs).

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The following table presents for each hierarchy level our assets and liabilities, including both current and noncurrent portions, measured at fair value on a recurring basis, as of March 31, 2008:

	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Assets:</b>				
Derivatives	\$	\$ 3,825	\$	\$ 3,825
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Derivatives	\$	\$ 53,784	\$	\$ 53,784



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**ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

In consideration of counterparty credit risk, the Company assessed the possibility of whether each counterparty to the derivative would default by failing to make any contractually required payments as scheduled in the derivative instrument in determining the fair value. The derivative transactions are placed with major financial institutions or with counterparties of high credit quality that present minimal credit risks to the Company. Additionally, the Company considers that it is of substantial credit quality and has the financial resources and willingness to meet its potential repayment obligations associated with the derivative transactions.

**10. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:**

The Company is currently involved in various routine disputes and allegations incidental to its business operations. While it is not possible to determine the ultimate disposition of these matters, the Company believes that the resolution of all such pending or threatened litigation is not likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

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**ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following discussion of the financial condition and operating results of the Company should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes of the Company. Except as otherwise indicated all amounts are expressed in U.S. Dollars. We operate in one industry segment, natural gas and oil exploration and development with one geographical segment; the United States. (See Note 8 for a discussion regarding the sale of our Chinese assets).

The Company currently generates the majority of its revenue, earnings and cash from the production and sales of natural gas and oil from its property in southwest Wyoming. The price of natural gas in the southwest Wyoming region is a critical factor to the Company's business. The price of gas in southwest Wyoming historically has been volatile. The average realizations for the period 2003-2007 have ranged from \$2.33 to \$8.64 per Mcf. This volatility could be detrimental to the Company's financial performance. The Company seeks to limit the impact of this volatility on its results by entering into fixed price forward physical delivery contracts and swap agreements for gas in southwest Wyoming. The average realization for the Company's gas during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 was \$7.66 per Mcf.

In December 2005, the Company agreed to become an anchor shipper on the Rockies Express Pipeline ( REX ) securing pipeline infrastructure providing sufficient capacity to transport a portion of its natural gas production away from southwest Wyoming and to provide for reasonable basis differentials for its natural gas in the future. The Rockies Express Pipeline begins at the Opal Processing Plant in southwest Wyoming and traverses Wyoming and several other states to an ultimate terminus in eastern Ohio. This pipeline is ultimately projected to cover more than 1,800 miles and is designed as a large-diameter (42"), high-pressure natural gas pipeline. The pipeline facilities are currently under construction and are anticipated to be completed in stages between 2008 and 2009.

The REX-West portion of the project is 713 miles of pipeline commencing at Cheyenne Hub (Weld County, CO) and ending in Audrain County, Missouri. Construction on much of the REX-West segment has been completed as of March 31, 2008 and interim service commenced on portions of REX-West on January 12, 2008, (from Cheyenne and Opal, Wyoming, as far east as the REX interconnection with ANR pipeline in Brown County, KS). Interim service provides for the delivery of gas from Opal, Wyoming and other sources to points of interconnection with three significant downstream pipelines on the REX-West segment (NGPL, ANR, and Northern Natural Gas pipelines). The Company has been advised by Kinder Morgan that it expects that the remainder of the REX-West pipeline segment will be completed by the middle of May 2008 and that deliveries of REX-West gas into the Panhandle Eastern Pipeline system at Audrain County, Missouri will commence at that time.

The Company has grown its natural gas and oil production significantly over the past three years and management believes it has the ability to continue growing production by drilling already identified locations on its leases in Wyoming. The Company delivered 31% production growth from continuing operations on an Mcfe basis during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 as compared to the same quarter in 2007.

On September 27, 2007, the Company announced the execution of a stock purchase agreement for the sale of Sino-American Energy Corporation which represents all of Ultra's interest in Bohai Bay, China for \$223 million. Despite having owned Sino-American in the first quarter of 2007, under generally accepted accounting principles ( GAAP ), its operations have been reclassified as Discontinued Operations for the entire quarter. As a result, production, revenues and expenses associated with Sino-American have been removed from continuing operations and reclassified to discontinued operations. The sale closed on October 22, 2007, with an effective date of June 30, 2007.

*Fair Value Measurements.* The Company adopted SFAS No. 157 as of January 1, 2008. The implementation of SFAS No. 157 was applied prospectively for our assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis, primarily our commodity derivatives, with no material impact on consolidated results of operations, financial position or liquidity. See Note 9 for additional information.

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SFAS No. 157 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at measurement date and establishes a three level hierarchy for measuring fair value. The valuation assumptions utilized to measure the fair value of the Company's cash flow hedges were observable inputs based on market data obtained from independent sources and are considered Level 2 inputs (quoted prices for similar assets, liabilities (adjusted) and market-corroborated inputs). In consideration of counterparty credit risk, the Company assessed the possibility of whether each counterparty to the derivative would default by failing to make any contractually required payments as scheduled in the derivative instrument in determining the fair value. The derivative transactions are placed with major financial institutions or with counter-parties of high credit quality, which in the Company's opinion, present minimal credit risks to the Company. Additionally, the Company considers that it is of substantial credit quality and has the financial resources and willingness to meet its potential repayment obligations associated with the derivative transactions.

The fair values summarized below were determined in accordance with the requirements of SFAS No. 157. In addition, we aligned the categories below with the Level 1, 2, and 3 fair value measurements as defined by SFAS No. 157. The balance of net unrealized gains and losses recognized for our energy-related derivative instruments at March 31, 2008 is summarized in the following table based on the inputs used to determine fair value:

	<b>Level 1(1)</b>	<b>Level 2(2)</b>	<b>Level 3(3)</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Assets:</b>				
Derivatives	\$	\$ 3,825	\$	\$ 3,825
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Derivatives	\$	\$ 53,784	\$	\$ 53,784

- (1) Values represent observable unadjusted quoted prices for traded instruments in active markets.
- (2) Values with inputs that are observable directly or indirectly for the instrument, but do not qualify for Level 1.
- (3) Values with a significant amount of inputs that are not observable for the instrument.

*Share-Based Payment Arrangements.* On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment ( SFAS No. 123R ) which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors, including employee stock options, based on estimated fair values. The Company adopted SFAS No. 123R using the modified prospective transition method, which requires the application of the accounting standard as of January 1, 2006, the first day of the Company's fiscal year 2006. Share-based compensation expense recognized under SFAS No. 123R for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 was \$0.9 million and \$0.8 million, respectively. At March 31, 2008, there was \$11.5 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested share-based compensation arrangements granted under stock option plans. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.06 years. See Note 4 for additional information.

SFAS No. 123R requires companies to estimate the fair value of share-based payment awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model. The Company utilized a Black-Scholes option pricing model to measure the fair value of stock options granted to employees. The value of the portion of the award that is ultimately expected to vest is recognized as expense over the requisite service periods in the Company's Consolidated Statement of Operations. The Company's determination of fair value of share-based payment awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing

model is affected by the Company's stock price as well as assumptions regarding a number of highly complex and subjective variables. These variables include, but are not limited to, the Company's expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, and actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors.

*Full Cost method of Accounting.* The Company uses the full cost method of accounting for oil and gas operations whereby all costs associated with the exploration for and development of oil and gas reserves are

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capitalized on a country-by-country basis. Such costs include land acquisition costs, geological and geophysical expenses, carrying charges on non-producing properties, costs of drilling both productive and non-productive wells and overhead charges directly related to acquisition, exploration and development activities. Substantially all of the oil and gas activities are conducted jointly with others and, accordingly, the amounts reflect only the Company's proportionate interest in such activities. Inflation has not had a material impact on the Company's results of operations and is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's results of operations in the future.

Companies that use the full cost method of accounting for oil and natural gas exploration and development activities are required to perform a ceiling test calculation each quarter. The full cost ceiling test is an impairment test prescribed by SEC Regulation S-X Rule 4-10. The ceiling test is performed quarterly on a country-by-country basis utilizing prices in effect on the last day of the quarter. SEC regulation S-X Rule 4-10 states that if prices in effect at the end of a quarter are the result of a temporary decline and prices improve prior to the issuance of the financial statements, the increased price may be applied in the computation of the ceiling test. The ceiling limits such pooled costs to the aggregate of the present value of future net revenues attributable to proved crude oil and natural gas reserves discounted at 10% plus the lower of cost or market value of unproved properties less any associated tax effects. If such capitalized costs exceed the ceiling, the Company will record a write-down to the extent of such excess as a non-cash charge to earnings. Any such write-down will reduce earnings in the period of occurrence and result in lower DD&A expense in future periods. A write-down may not be reversed in future periods, even though higher oil and natural gas prices may subsequently increase the ceiling.

**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS*****QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2008 VS. QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2007***

During the first quarter of 2008, production from continuing operations increased 31% on an equivalent basis to 34.1 Bcfe from 26.0 Bcfe for the same quarter in 2007 attributable to the Company's successful drilling activities during 2007 and in the first three months of 2008. Average realized prices for natural gas increased 29% to \$7.66 per Mcf in the first quarter of 2008 as compared to \$5.93 for the first quarter of 2007. The increase in realized average natural gas prices together with the increase in production contributed to a 73% increase in revenues from continuing operations to \$271.1 million as compared to \$156.6 million in 2007.

Lease operating expense ( LOE ) increased to \$10.7 million at March 31, 2008 compared to \$4.7 million at March 31, 2007 due primarily to increased production volumes. On a unit of production basis, LOE costs increased to \$0.32 per Mcfe at March 31, 2008 compared to \$0.18 per Mcfe at March 31, 2007 mainly due to costs related to non-operated properties for water disposal expenses. During the first quarter of 2008, production taxes were \$30.9 million compared to \$17.5 million during the first quarter of 2007, or \$0.91 per Mcfe, compared to \$0.67 per Mcfe. The increase in per unit taxes is attributable to the higher realized gas prices received during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 as compared to the same period in 2007. Production taxes are calculated based on a percentage of revenue from production. Therefore, higher prices received increased production taxes on a per unit basis. Gathering fees increased to \$10.0 million at March 31, 2008 compared to \$6.5 million at March 31, 2007 largely due to increased production volumes. On a per unit basis, gathering fees increased to \$0.29 per Mcfe for the three months ended March 31, 2008 as compared to \$0.25 per Mcfe for the same period in 2007.

Depletion, depreciation and amortization ( DD&A ) expenses increased to \$42.3 million during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 from \$29.6 million for the same period in 2007, attributable to increased production volumes and a higher depletion rate, due mainly to increased development costs. On a unit basis, DD&A increased to \$1.24 per Mcfe at March 31, 2008 from \$1.14 at March 31, 2007.

General and administrative expenses increased to \$4.3 million (\$0.13 per Mcfe) at March 31, 2008 compared to \$3.2 million (\$0.12 per Mcfe) for the same period in 2007.

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Interest expense increased to \$5.3 million during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 from \$2.7 million during the same period in 2007. The increase is related to higher outstanding debt balances during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 as compared to the same period in 2007. At March 31, 2008, the Company had \$300.0 million in borrowings, while at March 31, 2007, the Company's borrowings were \$185.0 million.

Net income before income taxes increased to \$158.1 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 from \$92.7 million for the same period in 2007 primarily as a result of increased natural gas prices and increased production during the quarter ended March 31, 2008.

The income tax provision increased to \$56.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 as compared to \$32.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 due to higher pre-tax income.

(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of tax, (which is comprised entirely of results associated with the Chinese assets) decreased to (\$0.1) million for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 from \$5.9 million for the same period in 2007. The sale closed on October 22, 2007. See Note 8 for additional information.

For the quarter ended March 31, 2008, net income increased to \$101.3 million or \$0.64 per diluted share as compared with \$66.6 million or \$0.42 per diluted share for the same period in 2007 primarily attributable to increased gas prices realized in 2008.

The discussion and analysis of the Company's financial condition and results of operations is based upon consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. In addition, application of generally accepted accounting principles requires the use of estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements as well as the revenues and expenses reported during the period. Changes in these estimates, judgments and assumptions will occur as a result of future events, and, accordingly, actual results could differ from amounts estimated.

## **LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

During the three month period ended March 31, 2008, the Company relied on cash provided by operations along with borrowings under the senior credit facility and the issuance of the Notes to finance its capital expenditures. The Company participated in the drilling of 53 wells in Wyoming. For the three month period ended March 31, 2008, net capital expenditures were \$179.4 million. At March 31, 2008, the Company reported a cash position of \$46.3 million compared to \$22.3 million at March 31, 2007. Working capital at March 31, 2008 was a deficit of \$109.0 million compared to \$50.0 million at March 31, 2007. As of March 31, 2008, the Company had no bank indebtedness outstanding and \$500.0 million of available borrowing capacity under our facility. Other long-term obligations of \$40.6 million comprised of items payable in more than one year, primarily related to production taxes.

The Company's positive cash provided by operating activities, along with availability under the senior credit facility, are projected to be sufficient to fund the Company's budgeted capital expenditures for 2008, which are currently projected to be \$860.0 million. Of the \$860.0 million budget, the Company plans to allocate approximately 95% to Wyoming and 5% to Pennsylvania.

*Bank indebtedness.* The Company (through its subsidiary) is a party to a revolving credit facility with a syndicate of banks led by JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. which matures in April 2012. This agreement provides an initial loan commitment of \$500.0 million and may be increased to a maximum aggregate amount of \$750.0 million at the request of the Company. Each bank has the right, but not the obligation, to increase the amount of its commitment as requested by the Company. In the event the existing banks increase their commitment to an amount less than the requested commitment amount, then it would be necessary to add new financial institutions to the credit facility.



Loans under the credit facility are unsecured and bear interest, at our option, based on (A) a rate per annum equal to the higher of the prime rate or the weighted average fed funds rate on overnight transactions during the preceding business day plus 50 basis points, or (B) a base Eurodollar rate, substantially equal to the

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LIBOR rate, plus a margin based on a grid of our consolidated leverage ratio (87.5 basis points per annum as of March 31, 2008).

The facility has restrictive covenants that include the maintenance of a ratio of consolidated funded debt to EBITDAX (earnings before interest, taxes, DD&A and exploration expense) not to exceed 3 1/2 times; and as long as our debt rating is below investment grade, the maintenance of an annual ratio of the net present value of our oil and gas properties to total funded debt of at least 1.75 to 1.00. At March 31, 2008, we were in compliance with all of our debt covenants under our credit facility.

*Senior Notes, due 2015 and 2018:* On March 6, 2008, Ultra Petroleum Corp.'s wholly-owned subsidiary, Ultra Resources, Inc. issued \$300 million Senior Notes pursuant to a Master Note Purchase Agreement between the Company and the purchasers of the Notes. The Notes rank pari passu with the Company's bank credit facility. Payment of the Notes is guaranteed by Ultra Petroleum Corp. and UP Energy Corporation. Of the Notes, \$200.0 million are 5.92% Senior Notes due 2018 and \$100.0 million are 5.45% Senior Notes due 2015.

Proceeds from the sale of the Notes were used to repay bank debt, but did not reduce the size of the revolving credit facility.

The Notes are pre-payable in whole or in part at any time. The Notes are subject to representations, warranties, covenants and events of default customary for a senior note financing. If payment default occurs, any Note holder may accelerate its Notes; if a non-payment default occurs, holders of 51% of the outstanding principal amount of the Notes may accelerate all the Notes. At March 31, 2008, we were in compliance with all of our debt covenants under the Notes.

*Operating Activities.* During the three months ended March 31, 2008, net cash provided by operating activities was \$196.9 million, a 37% increase over the \$143.5 million for the same period in 2007. The increase in net cash provided by operating activities was largely attributable to the increase in production and realized natural gas prices during the three months ended March 31, 2008 as compared to the same period in 2007.

*Investing Activities.* During the three months ended March 31, 2008, net cash used in investing activities was \$172.9 million as compared to \$151.0 million for the same period in 2007. The increase in net cash used in investing activities is largely due to increased capital expenditures associated with the Company's drilling activities in 2008.

*Financing Activities.* During the three months ended March 31, 2008, net cash provided by financing activities was \$11.7 million as compared to \$15.2 million for the same period in 2007. The decrease in cash provided by net financing activities is primarily attributable to increased share repurchases under the Company's share repurchase program during the three months ended March 31, 2008 as compared to the same period in 2007. (See Note 5).

## **OFF BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS**

The Company did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements as of March 31, 2008.

## **CAUTIONARY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SAFE HARBOR PROVISION OF THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995**

This report contains or incorporates by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this document, including without limitation, statements in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results

of Operations regarding our financial position, estimated quantities and net present values of reserves, business strategy, plans and objectives of the Company's management for future operations, covenant compliance and those statements preceded by, followed by or that otherwise include the words "believe", "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "estimates", "projects", "target",

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goal, plans, objective, should, or similar expressions or variations on such expressions are forward-looking statements. The Company can give no assurances that the assumptions upon which such forward-looking statements are based will prove to be correct nor can the Company assure adequate funding will be available to execute the Company's planned future capital program.

Other risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, fluctuations in the price the Company receives for oil and gas production, reductions in the quantity of oil and gas sold due to increased industry-wide demand and/or curtailments in production from specific properties due to mechanical, marketing or other problems, operating and capital expenditures that are either significantly higher or lower than anticipated because the actual cost of identified projects varied from original estimates and/or from the number of exploration and development opportunities being greater or fewer than currently anticipated and increased financing costs due to a significant increase in interest rates. See the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 for additional risks related to the Company's business.

**ITEM 3 QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

The Company's major market risk exposure is in the pricing applicable to its natural gas and oil production. Realized pricing is currently driven primarily by the prevailing price for the Company's Wyoming natural gas production. Historically, prices received for natural gas production have been volatile and unpredictable. Pricing volatility is expected to continue. Realized natural gas prices are derived from the financial statements which include the effects of hedging and natural gas balancing.

The Company primarily relies on fixed price forward gas sales to manage its commodity price exposure. These fixed price forward gas sales are considered normal sales. The Company, from time to time, also uses derivative instruments as a way to manage its exposure to commodity prices. The Company has periodically entered into fixed price to index price swap agreements in order to hedge a portion of its natural gas production. The natural gas reference prices of these commodity derivative contracts are typically referenced to natural gas index prices as published by such publications as Inside FERC Gas Market Report. Under SFAS No. 133, all derivative instruments are recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. Changes in the derivative's fair value are recognized currently in earnings unless specific hedge accounting criteria are met. For qualifying cash flow hedges, the gain or loss on the derivative is deferred in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to the extent the hedge is effective. At March 31, 2008, all hedges were considered effective as the hedging instruments offset the change in the hedged transaction's cash flows for the risk being hedged. For qualifying fair value hedges, the gain or loss on the derivative is offset by related results of the hedged item in the income statement. Gains and losses on hedging instruments included in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income are reclassified to oil and natural gas sales revenue in the period that the related production is delivered. Derivative contracts that do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment are recorded as derivative assets and liabilities at market value in the consolidated balance sheet, and the associated unrealized gains and losses are recorded as current expense or income in the consolidated statement of operations. The Company currently does not have any derivative contracts in place that do not qualify as cash flow hedges.

On September 15, 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurement. SFAS No. 157 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at measurement date and establishes a three level hierarchy for measuring fair value. The valuation assumptions utilized to measure the fair value of the Company's cash flow hedges were observable inputs based on market data obtained from independent sources and are considered Level 2 inputs (quoted prices for similar assets, liabilities (adjusted) and market-corroborated inputs). In consideration of counterparty credit risk, the Company assessed the possibility of whether each counterparty to the derivative would default by failing to make any contractually required payments as scheduled in the derivative instrument in determining the fair value. The derivative transactions are placed with major financial institutions or with counterparties of high credit quality that present

minimal credit risks to the Company.

The Company also utilizes fixed price forward physical delivery contracts at southwest Wyoming delivery points to hedge its commodity price exposure. The Company had the following fixed price physical delivery

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contracts in place on behalf of its interest and those of other parties at March 31, 2008. (In November 2007, the Minerals Management Service commenced a Royalty-in-Kind program which had the effect of increasing the Company's average net interest in physical gas sales from 80% to approximately 91%.)

<b>Remaining Contract Period</b>	<b>Volume- MMBTU/Day</b>	<b>Average Price/MMBTU</b>
Calendar 2008	100,000	\$ 6.83
Summer 2008 (April - October)	20,000	\$ 6.88
Calendar 2009	10,000	\$ 7.51
Summer 2009 (April - October)	70,000	\$ 6.77

At March 31, 2008, the Company had the following open commodity derivative contracts to manage price risk on a portion of its natural gas production whereby the Company receives the fixed price and pays the variable price (all prices NWPL Rockies basis).

<b>Type</b>	<b>Remaining Contract Period</b>	<b>Volume- MMBTU/ Day</b>	<b>Average Price/ MMBTU</b>	<b>Unrealized Loss (000 \$) at 3/31/2008*</b>
Swap	Apr 2008 - Oct 2008	190,000	\$ 7.19	\$ (47,436)
Swap	Jan 2009 - Dec 2009	30,000	\$ 7.35	\$ (2,522)

\* Unrealized losses are not adjusted for income tax effect.

**ITEM 4 CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES****(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

We have performed an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"). Our disclosure controls and procedures are the controls and other procedures that we have designed to ensure that we record, process, accumulate and communicate information to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures and submissions within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. All internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have inherent limitations. Therefore, even those determined to be effective can provide only a reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation. Based on the evaluation, our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2008. There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the three months ended March 31, 2008 that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**PART II OTHER INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company is currently involved in various routine disputes and allegations incidental to its business operations. While it is not possible to determine the ultimate disposition of these matters, the Company believes that the resolution of all such pending or threatened litigation is not likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position, or results of operations.

**ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

There have been no material changes with respect to the risk factors disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007.

**Table of Contents****ITEM 2. CHANGES IN SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

On May 17, 2006, the Company announced that its Board of Directors authorized a share repurchase program for up to an aggregate \$1 billion of the Company's outstanding common stock which has been and will be funded by cash on hand and the Company's senior credit facility. Pursuant to this authorization, the Company has commenced a program to purchase up to \$500.0 million of the Company's outstanding shares through open market transactions or privately negotiated transactions. The stock repurchase will be funded with cash held in an Ultra Resources bank account or the Company's senior credit facility. (See Note 5 for further details).

<b>Period</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares Purchased</b>	<b>Average Price Paid per Share</b>	<b>Announced Plans or Programs</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly</b>	<b>Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares That May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</b>
Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2008	96,321	\$ 71.57	96,321	96,321	\$ 699 million
Feb 1 - Feb 28, 2008	71,281	\$ 79.04	71,281	71,281	\$ 693 million
Mar 1 - Mar 31, 2008	228,830	\$ 75.61	228,830	228,830	\$ 676 million
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>396,432</b>	<b>\$ 75.25</b>	<b>396,432</b>	<b>396,432</b>	<b>\$ 676 million</b>

**ITEM 3. DEFAULTS IN SENIOR SECURITIES**

None.

**ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF THE SECURITY HOLDERS**

None.

**ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K**

(a) *Exhibits*

3.1 Articles of Incorporation of Ultra Petroleum Corp. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10Q for the period ended June 30, 2001.)

3.2



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By-Laws of Ultra Petroleum Corp-(incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10Q for the period ended June 30, 2001.)

- 3.3 Articles of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Ultra Petroleum Corp. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 of the Company's Report on Form 10-K/A for the period ended December 31, 2005)
- 4.1 Specimen Common Share Certificate (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10Q for the period ended June 30, 2001.)
- 10.1 Master Note Purchase Agreement dated March 6, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Report on Form 8-K filed on March 6, 2008).
- 31.1\* Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2\* Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1\* Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2\* Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

\* filed herewith

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**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 thereunto duly authorized.

ULTRA PETROLEUM CORP.

Name: Michael D. Watford  
By: /s/ Michael D. Watford  
Title: Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: May 7, 2008

Name: Marshall D. Smith  
By: /s/ Marshall D. Smith  
Title: Chief Financial Officer

Date: May 7, 2008

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