

MAGELLAN PETROLEUM CORP /DE/

Form 8-K

October 22, 2010

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, DC 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): October 22, 2010 (October 22, 2010)**

**Magellan Petroleum Corporation**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

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**1-5507**  
(Commission File Number)

**06-0842255**  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**7 Custom House Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Portland, ME**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**04101**  
(Zip Code)

**207-619-8500**

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

(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 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers**  
*Departure of Named Executive Officer*

The employment of Daniel J. Samela, Vice President-New Ventures of Magellan Petroleum Corporation (the Company), will end, pursuant to the terms of his Employment Agreement with the Company, effective with November 1, 2010. Mr. Samela will receive the severance compensation and other benefits specified in his Employment Agreement. The New Ventures position will be filled in the near term, but not immediately. A copy of the Employment Agreement was filed as Exhibit 10(p) to the Company's Form 10-K filed on September 25, 2008 with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and is hereby incorporated by reference.

**SIGNATURES**

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

MAGELLAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION

By: /s/ WILLIAM H. HASTINGS  
Name: **William H. Hastings**  
Title: **President and Chief Executive Officer**

Dated: October 22, 2010