

NEWFIELD EXPLORATION CO /DE/  
Form 8-K  
March 22, 2006

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

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**FORM 8-K**  
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**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 16, 2006**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**NEWFIELD EXPLORATION COMPANY**  
**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**  
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**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**1-12534**  
(Commission File Number)

**72-1133047**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**363 N. Sam Houston Parkway E., Suite 2020**  
**Houston, Texas 77060**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (281) 847-6000**

**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:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 8.01 Other Events**

On March 16, 2006, Newfield issued a press release announcing that it was the apparent high bidder on six of 11 bids it submitted in the Central Gulf of Mexico lease sale held on March 15, 2006 by the Minerals Management Service. A copy of the press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press release issued by Newfield Exploration Company on March 16, 2006.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this Form 8-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**NEWFIELD EXPLORATION COMPANY**

Date: March 22, 2006

By: /s/ TERRY W. RATHERT  
Terry W. Rathert  
Senior Vice President and Chief  
Financial Officer

**Exhibit Index**

**Exhibit No. Description**

99.1 Press release issued by Newfield Exploration Company on March 16, 2006.