

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

FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020

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 001-16653

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation or Organization)

73-1238709
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

2200 S. Utica Place, Suite 150 Tulsa, OK 74114
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(539) 444-8002**

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
None	EMPR	None

Securities registered pursuant to 12(g) of the Act:

Common Stock, \$0.001 par value
(Title of class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.

Yes No

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 has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files).

Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act).

Yes No

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates, computed by reference to the average bid and asked price of such common equity as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was \$9,707,988.

The number of shares of the registrant's common stock, \$0.001 par value, outstanding as of March 31, 2021 was 57,515,919.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

None.

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

FORM 10-K

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PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS.

Background

Empire Petroleum Corporation, a Delaware corporation, was incorporated in the State of Utah in August 1983 under the name Chambers Energy Corporation and domesticated in Delaware in March 1985 under the name Americomm Corporation. The name was changed to Americomm Resources Corporation in July 1995. On May 29, 2001, Americomm Resources Corporation acquired Empire Petroleum Corporation, which became a wholly owned subsidiary of Americomm Resources Corporation. On August 15, 2001, Americomm Resources Corporation and Empire Petroleum Corporation merged and the resulting entity's name was changed to Empire Petroleum Corporation. Empire Petroleum Corporation has four wholly owned subsidiaries, Empire Texas LLC ("Empire Texas"), Empire Louisiana LLC ("Empire Louisiana"), Empire New Mexico LLC (Empire New Mexico"), and Empire North Dakota LLC ("Empire North Dakota"). The consolidated financial statements of Empire Petroleum Corporation and subsidiaries ("Empire", the "Company", "we") include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries.

Business and Properties

On April 6, 2020, the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary Empire Texas, entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement (the "Agreement") with Pardus Oil & Gas, LLC and Pardus Oil & Gas Operating GP, LLC (collectively the "Seller") to purchase certain oil and natural gas properties in Texas comprising 139 gross wells and approximately 30,000 net acres, 77.3 miles of gathering lines and pipelines and related facilities and equipment, and all general and limited partner interest in Pardus Oil & Gas Operating, LP. The purchase price, as amended, included the assumption of certain obligations and a cash payment of \$40,000. The transaction closed April 7, 2020.

On August 6, 2020, the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary Empire Texas, entered into a joint development agreement (the "Agreement") with Petroleum & Independent Exploration, LLC and related entities ("PIE"). Under the terms of the Agreement, PIE will perform recompletion or workover on specified mutually agreed upon wells ("Workover Wells") owned by the Company. To fund the work, PIE entered into a term loan agreement with the Company, dated August 1, 2020, whereby PIE will loan up to \$2,000,000, at an interest rate of 6% per annum, maturing August 7, 2024 unless terminated earlier by PIE. Proceeds of the loan will be used for recompletion or workover of the Workover Wells. As part of the Agreement, the Company assigned to PIE a combined 85% working and revenue interest in the Workover Wells. Of the assigned interest, 70% working and revenue interest will be used to repay the obligations under the term loan agreement. Once the term loan is repaid, PIE will reassign a 35% working and revenue interest to the Company in each of the Workover Wells and retain a 50% working and revenue interest.

On March 28, 2019, the Company purchased oil producing properties from EnergyQuest II, LLC ("EnergyQuest") for a purchase price of \$5,418,653. The effective date of the transaction was January 1, 2019. After certain adjustments related to the effective date, the total proceeds paid to EnergyQuest were \$5,646,126. Such proceeds were paid from borrowing on notes payable and sales of unregistered securities of the Company.

The oil and natural gas properties purchased from EnergyQuest included 184 wells in Montana and North Dakota, and Empire operates 139 of such wells.

All of the Company's producing properties are located in Louisiana, Texas, North Dakota, and Montana. For 2020, the properties produced approximately 515 net barrels of oil equivalent (Boe) per day.

Marketing Arrangements

We market our oil and natural gas in accordance with standard energy industry practices. The marketing effort endeavors to obtain the combined highest netback and most secure market available at that time.

We sell production at the lease locations to third-party purchasers via truck transport. We do not transport, refine or process the oil we produce. We sell our produced oil under contracts using market-based pricing, which is adjusted for differentials based upon oil quality.

We sell our natural gas under natural gas purchase contracts using market-based pricing, which is sold at the lease location.

Principal Customers

We sell our oil and natural gas production to marketers that transport such production by truck to storage facilities arranged by the marketers. Our marketing of oil and natural gas can be affected by factors beyond our control, the effects of which cannot be accurately predicted.

For 2020, revenues from oil and natural gas sales to four customers accounted for 95% of our total operating revenues. For 2019, three customers accounted for 96% of total operating revenue. While the loss of these purchasers may result in a temporary interruption in sales of, or a lower price for, our production, we believe that the loss of these purchasers would not have a material adverse effect on our operations, as there are alternative purchasers in our producing region.

Competition

The oil and natural gas industry in the areas in which we operate is highly competitive. We encounter strong competition from numerous parties, ranging generally from small independent producers to major integrated companies. We primarily encounter significant competition in acquiring properties. At higher commodity prices, we also face competition in contracting for drilling, pressure pumping and workover equipment and securing trained personnel. Many of these competitors have financial, technical and personnel resources substantially larger than ours. As a result, our competitors may be able to pay more for desirable properties, or to evaluate, bid for and purchase a greater number of properties or prospects than our financial or personnel resources will permit.

In addition to competition for drilling, pressure pumping and workover equipment, we are also affected by the availability of related equipment and materials. The oil and natural gas industry periodically experiences shortages of drilling and workover rigs, equipment, pipe, materials and personnel, which can delay drilling, workover and exploration activities and cause significant price increases. We are unable to predict the timing or duration of any such shortages.

Oil and Natural Gas Reserves

The estimates of our proved reserves at December 31, 2020, all of which were located in the United States, were based on evaluations prepared by an independent petroleum

engineering firm. Reserves were estimated in accordance with guidelines established by the SEC and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB").

The following table represents the Company's oil and natural gas reserves at December 31, 2020.

	<u>Oil (Mbbbl)</u>	<u>Natural Gas (MMcf)</u>
Proved developed	3,330.92	939.70
Proved behind pipe	85.19	—
Proved shut in	244.48	31.08
Total Proved	<u>3,660.59</u>	<u>970.78</u>

Markets; Price Volatility

The market price of oil and gas is volatile, subject to speculative movement and depends upon numerous factors beyond the control of the Company, including expectations regarding inflation, global and regional demand, political and economic conditions and production costs. Future profitability, if any, will depend substantially upon the prevailing prices for oil and gas. If the market price for oil and gas remains depressed in the future, it could have a material adverse effect on the Company's ability to raise additional capital necessary to finance operations. Lower oil and gas prices may also reduce the amount of oil and gas, if any, that can be produced economically from the Company's properties. The Company anticipates that the prices of oil and gas will fluctuate in the near future.

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Regulation

The oil and gas industry is subject to extensive federal, state and local laws and regulations governing the production, transportation and sale of hydrocarbons as well as the taxation of income resulting therefrom.

Legislation affecting the oil and gas industry is constantly changing. Numerous federal and state departments and agencies have issued rules and regulations applicable to the oil and gas industry. In general, these rules and regulations regulate, among other things, the extent to which acreage may be acquired or relinquished; spacing of wells; measures required for preventing waste of oil and gas resources; and, in some cases, rates of production. The heavy and increasing regulatory burdens on the oil and gas industry increase the Company's cost of doing business and, consequently, affect profitability.

The oil and gas operations are also subject to numerous federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to environmental protection. These laws govern, among other things, the amounts and types of substances and materials that may be released into the environment, the issuance of permits in connection with exploration, drilling and production activities, the reclamation and abandonment of wells and facility sites and the remediation of contaminated sites. These laws and regulations may impose substantial liabilities if the Company fails to comply or if any contamination results from the Company's operations.

Employees

The Company has eleven full-time employees. Thomas Pritchard serves as the Company's Chief Executive Officer. Michael Morrisett serves as the Company's President.

For the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company compensated Mr. Morrisett \$514,417 and \$238,450 respectively, for services rendered as President. The Company compensated Mr. Pritchard \$514,417 and \$242,450 in 2020 and 2019 respectively for services rendered as Chief Executive Officer.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS.

Not applicable, but see "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" and "Factors That May Affect Future Results" under Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS.

Not applicable.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES.

In 2020, the Company, through its subsidiaries purchased oil and natural gas properties in Texas, North Dakota and Montana which cumulatively included approximately 35,000 developed and undeveloped acres to the Company's portfolio.

In 2019, the Company, through its subsidiary, Empire North Dakota, LLC, purchased oil and natural gas properties in North Dakota and Montana. The acquisitions added approximately 20,700 developed and undeveloped acres to the Company's portfolio.

For information on oil and gas reserves, see "Oil and Natural Gas Reserves" under Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The following table sets forth a summary of our production and operating data for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019. Because of normal production declines, increased or decreased drilling activities, fluctuations in commodity prices and the effects of acquisitions or divestitures, the historical information presented below should not be interpreted as being indicative of future results.

Production and operating data:	<u>Year ended December 31, 2020</u>	<u>Year ended December 31, 2019</u>
Net production volumes:		
Oil (Bbl)	164,869	112,971
Natural gas (Mcf)	139,412	40,714
Total (Boe)	<u>188,104</u>	<u>119,756</u>

Average price per unit:

Oil (a)	\$	42.00	\$	53.37
Natural gas (a)	\$	2.53	\$	2.95
Total (Boe)	\$	38.68	\$	51.35
Operating costs and expenses per Boe:				
Oil and natural gas production	\$	25.90	\$	36.22
Production and ad valorem taxes	\$	1.84	\$	3.17
Depreciation, depletion, amortization and accretion	\$	21.52	\$	30.54
Impairment	\$	46.10	\$	—
General & administrative	\$	39.20	\$	30.35

(a) Includes the effect of net cash receipts (payments on) derivatives.

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At December 31, 2020, the Company has 190 producing wells of which it operates 156. At December 31, 2019, the Company had 150 producing wells, of which it operated 125.

The Company has no wells in process as of December 31, 2020, or 2019 and had no drilling activity during such years.

The Company has no delivery commitments for oil or natural gas.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

As of December 31, 2020, the Company was not subject to any legal proceedings.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES.

Not applicable.

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PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES.

Market Information

The Company's Common Stock is traded on the OTCQB under the symbol "EMPR".

The following table sets forth the high and low bid information for the Company's common stock during the time periods indicated.

Year ended December 31, 2019:

<u>Quarter ending:</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
03/31/19	\$0.39	\$0.10
06/30/19	\$0.75	\$0.20
09/30/19	\$0.35	\$0.13
12/31/19	\$0.20	\$0.11

Year ended December 31, 2020:

<u>Quarter ending:</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
03/31/20	\$0.24	\$0.01
06/30/20	\$0.22	\$0.05

09/30/20
12/31/20

\$0.47
\$0.39

\$0.11
\$0.31

Quotations reflect inter-dealer prices, without retail mark-up, markdown or commission and may not represent actual transactions.

At December 31, 2020, there were approximately 270 stockholders of record of the Company's Common Stock.

Dividends

The Company has never paid cash dividends on its Common Stock. The Company intends to retain future earnings for use in its business and, therefore, does not anticipate paying cash dividends on its Common Stock in the foreseeable future.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA.

Not applicable.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.

All statements, other than statements of historical fact, contained in this report are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements generally are accompanied by words such as "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "may," "might," "potential," "project" or similar statements.

Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, no assurance can be given that such expectations will prove to be correct. Factors that could cause results to differ materially from the results discussed in such forward-looking statements include:

- the need for additional capital,
- the costs expected to be incurred in exploration and development,

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- unforeseen engineering, mechanical or technological difficulties in drilling wells,
- uncertainty of exploration results,
- operating hazards,
- competition from other natural resource companies,
- the fluctuations of prices for oil and gas,
- the effects of governmental and environmental regulation, and
- general economic conditions and other risks described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

Information on these and other risk factors are discussed under "Factors That May Affect Future Results" below. Accordingly, the actual results of operations in the future may vary widely from the forward-looking statements included herein, and all forward-looking statements in this Form 10-K are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements in this paragraph.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect management's analysis, judgment, belief and expectations only as of the date hereof. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly revise these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that arise after the date hereof.

Factors That May Affect Future Results

The Company has limited financial resources.

For the past four years, the Company has financed its operations significantly from sales of its equity securities and convertible notes issued to individual investors. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to continue to finance its operations through the sale of its equity securities, or through loans or advances by third parties. For the past three years, in addition to sales of equity securities and convertible notes, the Company has utilized bank note payable financing to fund property acquisitions and operations. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to obtain debt financing in the future.

In 2020 and 2019, the Company acquired certain oil and gas properties. However, the Company reported losses of \$(16,835,433) and \$(6,654,602) for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The Company also had an accumulated deficit of \$(40,618,381) as of December 31, 2020. The Company can provide no assurance that it will be profitable in the future and, if the Company does not become profitable, it may have to suspend its operations. As a result of the foregoing, the audit report of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm relating to the Company's financial statements has been modified because of a going concern uncertainty. If the Company is able to raise the funds necessary to continue its operations, its future performance will be dependent on the success of its investments. The failure of drilling activities to achieve sufficient quantities of economically attractive reserves and production would have a material adverse effect on the Company's liquidity, operations and financial results.

Our management concluded that, as of December 31, 2020, our reporting and disclosure controls and procedures were not effective at a reasonable assurance level, and if we fail to remediate material weakness identified by our management, we may not be able to accurately report our financial results, and current and potential stockholders may lose confidence in our financial reporting.

Our management concluded that, as of December 31, 2020, our reporting and disclosure controls and procedures were not effective at a reasonable assurance level. Notwithstanding the assessment that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective and that there is a material weakness as identified by our management, we believe that our consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K fairly present our consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash

flows for the periods covered thereby in all material respects. Any failure to remediate material weakness identified by our management could adversely impact our ability to report our financial results on a timely and accurate basis. If our financial statements are not accurate, investors may not have a complete understanding of our operations. Likewise, if our financial statements are not filed on a timely basis as required by the SEC, we could face severe consequences from the SEC. In such event, there could result a material adverse effect on our business. Ineffective internal controls could also cause investors to lose confidence in our reported financial information, which could have a negative effect on the trading price of our stock.

A substantial or extended decline in oil and natural gas prices may adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations and our ability to meet our capital expenditure obligations and financial commitments.

The price we receive for our oil and natural gas production heavily influences our revenue, profitability, access to capital and future rate of growth. Oil and natural gas are commodities and, therefore, their prices are subject to wide fluctuations in response to relatively minor changes in supply and demand. Historically, the markets for oil and natural gas have been volatile. These markets will likely continue to be volatile in the future. The prices we receive for our production, and the levels of our production, depend on numerous factors beyond our control. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- changes in global supply and demand for oil and natural gas, which could be negatively affected by concerns about the ongoing impact of COVID-19;
- the price and quantity of imports of foreign oil and natural gas;
- political conditions, including embargoes, in or affecting other oil-producing activity;

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- the level of global oil and natural gas exploration and production activity;
- the level of global oil and natural gas inventories;
- weather conditions;
- technological advances affecting energy consumption; and
- the price and availability of alternative fuels.

Lower oil and natural gas prices may not only decrease our revenues on a per unit basis but also may reduce the amount of oil and natural gas that we can produce economically. Lower prices also negatively impact the value of our proved reserves. The recent volatility in the price of oil has forced the Company, as well as other operators, to re-evaluate our current capital expenditure budget and make changes accordingly that we believe are in the best interest of the Company and its stockholders. A substantial or extended decline in oil or natural gas prices may materially and adversely affect our future business, financial condition, results of operations, liquidity or ability to finance planned capital expenditures.

The Company could be adversely affected by increased costs of service providers utilized by the Company.

In accordance with customary industry practice, the Company has relied and will rely on independent third-party service providers to provide most of the services necessary to operate. The industry has experienced significant price fluctuations for these services during the last year and this trend is expected to continue into the future. These cost uncertainties could, in the future, significantly increase the Company's production costs.

Our producing properties and proved reserves are concentrated in North Dakota, Montana, Texas and Louisiana, making us vulnerable to risks associated with operating in limited major geographic areas.

Our producing properties are geographically concentrated in North Dakota, Montana, Texas and Louisiana. At December 31, 2020, all of our total estimated proved reserves were attributable to properties located in these areas. As a result of this concentration, we are exposed to the impact of regional supply and demand factors, delays or interruptions of production from wells in this area caused by governmental regulation, processing or transportation capacity constraints, market limitations, severe weather events, water shortages or other drought related conditions or interruption of the processing or transportation of oil or natural gas.

This concentration of assets exposes us to additional risks, such as changes in field-wide rules and regulations that could cause us to permanently or temporarily shut-in all of our wells within a field.

The Standardized Measure and PV-10 of our estimated reserves may not be accurate estimates of the current fair value of our estimated proved oil and natural gas reserves.

Standardized Measure is a reporting convention that provides a common basis for comparing oil and natural gas companies subject to the rules and regulations of the SEC. Our non-GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) financial measure, PV-10, is a similar reporting convention that we have disclosed in this report. Both measures require the use of operating and development costs prevailing as of the date of computation. Consequently, they will not reflect the prices ordinarily received or that will be received for oil and natural gas production because of varying market conditions, nor may it reflect the actual costs that will be required to produce or develop the oil and natural gas properties. Accordingly, estimates included herein of future net cash flows may be materially different from the future net cash flows that are ultimately received. In addition, the 10 percent discount factor, which is required by the rules and regulations of the SEC to be used in calculating discounted future net cash flows for reporting purposes, may not be the most appropriate discount factor based on interest rates in effect from time to time and risks associated with our company or the oil and natural gas industry in general.

Therefore, Standardized Measure and PV-10 included in this report should not be construed as accurate estimates of the current fair value of our proved reserves. Our reserve estimates and our computation of future net cash flows at December 31, 2020 are based on SEC pricing of (i) \$ 33.35 per Bbl oil price and (ii) \$ 1.41 per MMBtu natural gas price.

Climate change legislation, regulations restricting emissions of "greenhouse gases" (GHG's) or legal or other action taken by public or private entities related to climate change could result in increased operating costs and reduced demand for the oil and natural gas that we produce.

In response to findings that emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases present an endangerment to public health and the environment, the EPA has issued regulations to restrict emissions of GHGs under existing provisions of the CAA. These regulations include limits on tailpipe emissions from motor vehicles and preconstruction and operating permit requirements for certain large stationary sources. The EPA has also adopted rules requiring the reporting of GHG emissions from specified large GHG emission sources in the United States, as well as certain onshore oil

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and natural gas production facilities, on an annual basis, including GHG emissions resulting from the completion and workover operations of hydraulically fractured oil wells. Recent federal regulatory action with respect to climate change has focused on methane emissions. For example, in June 2016, the EPA finalized new air emission controls for emissions of methane from certain equipment and processes in the oil and natural gas source category, including production, processing, transmission and storage activities. The

final rule package includes first-time standards to address emissions of methane from equipment and processes across the source category, including hydraulically fractured oil and natural gas well completions, and also imposes leak detection and repair requirements on operators. However, in June 2017, the EPA proposed a two year stay of fugitive emissions monitoring requirements, pneumatic pump standards, and closed vent system certification requirements in the 2016 rule while it reconsiders these aspects of the rule. Additionally, on September 11, 2018, the EPA proposed targeted improvements to the 2016 rule, including amendments to the rule's fugitive emissions monitoring requirements, and expects to "significantly reduce" the regulatory burden of the rule in doing so. The BLM finalized similar rules in November 2016 that limit methane emissions from new and existing oil and natural gas operations on federal lands through limitations on the venting and flaring of gas, as well as enhanced leak detection and repair requirements but then finalized a revised rule in 2018 which scaled back the waste prevention requirements of the 2016 rule. Environmental groups have sued in federal district court to challenge the legality of aspects of the revised rule, and the outcome of this litigation is currently uncertain. These methane emission rules have the potential to increase our compliance costs.

While Congress has from time to time considered legislation to reduce emissions of GHGs, there has not been significant activity in the form of adopted legislation to reduce emissions of GHGs in recent years. In the absence of Congressional action, many states have established rules aimed at reducing GHG emissions, including GHG cap and trade programs. Most of these cap and trade programs work by requiring major sources of emissions, such as electric power plants, or major producers of fuels, such as refineries and natural gas processing plants, to acquire and surrender emission allowances. The number of allowances available for purchase is reduced each year in an effort to achieve the overall GHG emission reduction goal. In the future, the United States may also choose to adhere to international agreements targeting GHG reductions.

The adoption of legislation or regulatory programs to reduce emissions of GHGs could require us to incur increased operating costs, such as costs to purchase and operate emissions control systems, to acquire emissions allowances or to comply with new regulatory or reporting requirements. Any such legislation or regulatory programs could also increase the cost of consuming, and thereby reduce demand for, the oil and natural gas we produce. Consequently, legislation and regulatory programs to reduce emissions of GHGs could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Reduced demand for the oil and natural gas that we produce could also have the effect of lowering the value of our reserves. It should also be noted that some scientists have concluded that increasing concentrations of GHGs in the earth's atmosphere may produce climate changes that have significant physical effects, such as increased frequency and severity of storms, droughts, and floods and other climatic events. If any such effects were to occur, they could have an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, there have also been efforts in recent years to influence the investment community, including investment advisors and certain sovereign wealth, pension and endowment funds promoting divestment of fossil fuel equities and pressuring lenders to limit funding to companies engaged in the extraction of fossil fuel reserves. Such environmental activism and initiatives aimed at limiting climate change and reducing air pollution could interfere with our business activities, operations and ability to access capital. Finally, increasing attention to the risks of climate change has resulted in an increased possibility of lawsuits or investigations brought by public and private entities against oil and natural gas companies in connection with their GHG emissions. Should we be targeted by any such litigation or investigations, we may incur liability, which, to the extent that societal pressures or political or other factors are involved, could be imposed without regard to the causation of or contribution to the asserted damage, or to other mitigating factors. The ultimate impact of GHG emissions-related agreements, legislation and measures on our company's financial performance is highly uncertain because the Company is unable to predict with certainty, for a multitude of individual jurisdictions, the outcome of political decision-making processes and the variables and tradeoffs that inevitably occur in connection with such processes.

The Company's insurance policies may not adequately protect the Company against certain unforeseen risks.

In accordance with customary industry practice, the Company maintains insurance against some, but not all, of the risks described herein. There can be no assurance that any insurance will be adequate to cover the Company's losses or liabilities. The Company cannot predict the continued availability of insurance, or its availability at premium levels that justify its purchase.

The Company is subject to various environmental risks, and governmental regulation relating to environmental matters.

The Company is subject to a variety of federal, state and local governmental laws and regulations related to the storage, use, discharge and disposal of toxic, volatile or otherwise hazardous materials. These regulations subject the Company to increased operating costs and potential liability associated with the use and disposal of hazardous materials. Although these laws and regulations have not had a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations, there can be no assurance that the Company will not be required to make material expenditures in the future. Moreover, the Company anticipates that such laws and regulations will become increasingly stringent in the future, which could lead to material costs for environmental compliance and remediation by the Company. Any failure by the Company to obtain required permits for, control the use of, or adequately restrict the discharge of hazardous substances under present or future regulations could subject the Company to substantial liability or could cause its operations to be suspended. Such liability or suspension of operations could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations.

The Company's activities are subject to extensive governmental regulation. Oil and gas operations are subject to various federal, state and local governmental regulations that may be changed from time to time in response to economic or political conditions. From time to time, regulatory agencies have imposed price controls and limitations on production in order to conserve supplies of oil and gas. In addition, the production, handling, storage, transportation and disposal of oil and gas, by-products thereof and other substances and materials produced or used in connection with oil and gas operations are subject to regulation under federal, state and local laws and regulations primarily relating to protection of human health and the environment. To date, expenditures related to complying with these laws and for remediation of existing environmental contamination have not been significant in relation to the operations of the Company. There can be no assurance that the trend of more expansive and stricter environmental legislation and regulations will not continue.

Estimates of proved reserves and future net cash flows are not precise. The actual quantities of our proved reserves and our future net cash flows may prove to be lower than estimated.

Numerous uncertainties exist in estimating quantities of proved reserves and future net cash flows therefrom. Our estimates of proved reserves and related future net cash flows are based on various assumptions, which may ultimately prove to be inaccurate. Petroleum engineering is a subjective process of estimating accumulations of oil and natural gas that cannot be measured in an exact manner. Estimates of economically recoverable oil and natural gas reserves and of future net cash flows depend upon a number of variable factors and assumptions, including the following:

- historical production from the area compared with production from other producing areas;
- the assumed effects of regulations by governmental agencies;
- the quality, quantity and interpretation of available relevant data;
- assumptions concerning future commodity prices; and
- assumptions concerning future operating costs, severance and ad valorem taxes, development costs and workover and remedial costs.

Because all reserve estimates are to some degree subjective, each of the following items, or other items not identified below, may differ materially from those assumed in estimating reserves:

- the quantities of oil and natural gas that are ultimately recovered;

- the production and operating costs incurred;
- the amount and timing of future development expenditures; and
- future commodity prices.

Furthermore, different reserve engineers may make different estimates of reserves and cash flows based on the same data. Our actual production, revenues and expenditures with respect to reserves will likely be different from estimates and the differences may be material.

As required by the SEC, the estimated discounted future net cash flows from proved reserves are based on the average previous twelve months first-of-month prices preceding the date of the estimate and costs as of the date of the estimate, while actual future prices and costs may be materially higher or lower. Actual future net cash flows also will be affected by factors such as:

- the amount and timing of actual production;
- levels of future capital spending;
- increases or decreases in the supply of or demand for oil and natural gas; and
- changes in governmental regulations or taxation.

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Accordingly, estimates included herein of future net cash flows may be materially different from the future net cash flows that are ultimately received. Therefore, the estimates of discounted future net cash flows in this report should not be construed as accurate estimates of the current market value of our proved reserves.

Our business requires substantial capital expenditures. We may be unable to obtain needed capital or financing on satisfactory terms or at all, which could lead to a decline in our oil and natural gas reserves.

The oil and natural gas industry is capital intensive. We make and expect to continue to make substantial capital expenditures for the acquisition, exploration and development of oil and natural gas reserves. At December 31, 2020, we had approximately \$8.1 million of debt outstanding under our Bank Credit Facility, and we had approximately \$4 million of unused commitments under our Credit Facility. Expenditures for acquisition, exploration and development of oil and natural gas properties are the primary use of our capital resources. We intend to finance our future capital expenditures partially through borrowings under our Credit Facility. However, our cash flow from operations and access to capital are subject to a number of variables, including:

- the volume of oil and natural gas we are able to produce from existing wells;
- our ability to transport our oil and natural gas to market;
- the prices at which our commodities are sold;
- the costs of producing oil and natural gas;
- global and domestic demand for oil and natural gas
- global credit and securities markets;
- the ability and willingness of lenders and investors to provide capital and the cost of the capital;
- our ability to acquire, locate and produce new reserves;
- the impact of potential changes in our credit ratings; and
- our proved reserves.

We may not generate expected cash flows and obtain the capital necessary to sustain our operations at current or anticipated levels. A decline in cash flow from operations or our financing needs may require us to revise our capital program or alter or increase our capitalization substantially through the issuance of debt or equity securities. The issuance of additional equity securities could have a dilutive effect on the value of our common stock. Additional borrowings under our Credit Facility or the issuance of additional debt securities will require that a greater portion of our cash flow from operations be used for the payment of interest and principal on our debt, thereby reducing our ability to use cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures and acquisitions. Additional financing also may not be available on acceptable terms or at all. In the event additional capital resources are unavailable, we may curtail drilling, development and other activities or be forced to sell some of our assets on an untimely or unfavorable basis.

The failure to obtain additional financing could result in a curtailment of our operations relating to the development of our undeveloped acreage or the curtailment of acquisitions that may be favorable to us, which in turn could lead to a decline in our oil and natural gas reserves, and could adversely affect our production, revenues and results of operations.

We have substantial indebtedness and may incur substantially more debt. Higher levels of indebtedness make us more vulnerable to economic downturn and adverse developments in our business

We had approximately \$9.0 million of outstanding aggregate principal indebtedness at December 31, 2020. At December 31, 2020, commitments from our bank group (as amended) were \$8.5 million, of which approximately \$4 million was unused commitments. We continue to review our existing indebtedness, and we may seek to repay, refinance, repurchase, redeem, exchange or otherwise terminate our indebtedness. If we do seek to refinance our existing indebtedness, there can be no guarantee that we would be able to execute the refinancing on favorable terms or at all.

As a result of our indebtedness, we use a portion of our cash flow to pay interest, which reduces the amount we have available to fund our operations and other business activities and could limit our flexibility in planning for or reacting to changes in our business and the industry in which we operate. Our indebtedness under our Credit Facility is at a variable interest rate, and so a rise in interest rates will generate greater interest expense.

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We may incur substantially more debt in the future. Our Credit Facility contains restrictions on our incurrence of additional indebtedness.

Any increase in our level of indebtedness could have adverse effects on our financial condition and results of operations, including:

- imposing additional cash requirements on us in order to support interest payments, which reduces the amount we have available to fund our operations and other business activities;
- increasing the risk that we may default on our debt obligations;
- increasing our vulnerability to adverse changes in general economic and industry conditions, economic downturns and adverse developments in our business;
- limiting our ability to sell assets, engage in strategic transactions or obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, general corporate and other purposes;
- limiting our flexibility in planning for or reacting to changes in our business and the industry in which we operate; and
- increasing our exposure to a rise in interest rates, which will generate greater interest expense.

Our ability to meet our debt obligations and to reduce our level of indebtedness depends on our future performance, which is affected by general economic conditions and financial, business and other factors, many of which are out of our control.

If we are unable to comply with the covenants in our debt agreements, there could be a default under the terms of the agreements, which could result in an acceleration of payment of funds that we have borrowed.

Our ability to meet our debt obligations and other expenses will depend on our future performance, which will be affected by financial, business, economic, regulatory and other factors, many of which we are unable to control. If our cash flow is not sufficient to service our debt, we may be required to refinance debt, sell assets or sell additional equity on terms that we may not find attractive if it may be done at all. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow and are otherwise unable to obtain funds necessary to meet required payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, on our indebtedness, or if we otherwise fail to comply with the various covenants, including financial and operating covenants, in the agreements governing our indebtedness, we could be in default under the terms of the agreements governing such indebtedness. In the event of such default:

- the holders of such indebtedness could elect to declare all the funds borrowed thereunder to be due and payable, together with accrued and unpaid interest;
- the lenders could elect to terminate their commitments thereunder and cease making further loans; and
- we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation.

If our operating performance declines, we may need to obtain waivers under our Senior Revolver Loan Agreement to avoid being in default. If we breach our covenants and cannot obtain a waiver from the required lenders, we would be in default and the lenders could exercise their rights, as described above, and we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation.

Our ability to use our existing net operating loss carryforwards or other tax attributes could be limited.

At December 31, 2020, we had approximately \$16.2 million of federal NOL carryforwards available to offset against future taxable income. Utilization of any NOL depends on many factors, including our ability to generate future taxable income, which cannot be assured.

The Company is subject to intense competition.

The Company operates in a highly competitive environment and competes with major and independent oil and gas companies for the acquisition of desirable oil and gas properties, as well as for the equipment and labor required to develop and operate such properties. Many of these competitors have financial and other resources substantially greater than those of the Company.

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The Company currently depends on the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer.

The Company is dependent on the experience, abilities and continued services of its current President, Michael R. Morrisett, and its Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Pritchard, who currently serve the Company without formal compensation plans. The loss or reduction of services of Mr. Morrisett and/or Mr. Pritchard could have a material adverse effect on the Company.

There has been a limited public trading market for the Company's common stock, and there can be no assurance that an active trading market will be sustained.

There can be no assurance that the Common Stock will trade at or above any particular price in the public market, if at all. The trading price of the Common Stock could be subject to significant fluctuations in response to variations in quarterly operating results or even mild expressions of interest on a given day. Accordingly, the Common Stock could experience substantial price changes in short periods of time. Even if the Company is performing according to its plan and there is no legitimate company-specific financial basis for this volatility, it must still be expected that substantial percentage price swings will occur in the Company's Common Stock for the foreseeable future.

The Company does not expect to declare or pay any dividends in the foreseeable future.

The Company has not declared or paid any dividends on its Common Stock. The Company currently intends to retain future earnings to fund the development and growth of its business, to repay indebtedness and for general corporate purposes, and therefore, does not anticipate paying any cash dividends on its Common Stock in the foreseeable future.

The Company's operations may be subject to the COVID pandemic.

In 2020, there was a global outbreak of COVID-19 which has resulted in changes in global supply and demand of certain mineral and energy products.

Decreased transportation, manufacturing and general economic activity levels prompted by COVID-19 and related governmental and societal actions reduced the demand for oil-based products such as gasoline, jet fuel and other refined products, which prompted purchasers of oil and condensate to reduce purchase levels. These situations led to production greater than storage capacity at some points during the year. To the extent that this decreased demand for our commodities continues and our margins are not at acceptable levels or storage for our production is not available, we may have to reduce production from or completely shut in portions of our currently producing wells. The inability to sell our production or the decision to potentially reduce or shut in our production could materially and adversely affect our operating results and our ability to comply with the financial covenants under our Credit Facility.

There is uncertainty around the continuing extent and duration of the disruption. The degree to which the COVID-19 pandemic or any other public health crisis adversely impacts our results will depend on future developments, which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted, including, but not limited to, the duration and spread of the outbreak, its severity, the actions to contain the virus or treat its impact, its impact on the economy and market conditions, and how quickly and to what extent normal economic and operating conditions can resume. Therefore, while we expect this matter will likely continue to disrupt our operations, the degree of the adverse financial impact cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

The Company's common stock may be subject to secondary trading restrictions related to penny stocks.

Certain transactions involving the purchase or sale of Common Stock of the Company may be affected by a SEC rule for "penny stocks" that imposes additional sales practice burdens and requirements upon broker-dealers that purchase or sell such securities. For transactions covered by this penny stock rule, broker-dealers must make certain disclosures to purchasers prior to purchase or sale. Consequently, the penny stock rule may impede the ability of broker-dealers to purchase or sell the Company's securities for their customers and the ability of persons now owning or subsequently acquiring the Company's securities to resell such securities.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

GENERAL TO ALL PERIODS

The Company's primary business is the exploration and development of oil and gas interests. The Company has incurred significant losses from operations, and there is no assurance that it will achieve profitability or obtain funds necessary to finance its future operations.

For all periods presented, the Company's effective tax rate is 0%. The Company has generated net operating losses since inception, which would normally reflect a tax benefit in the statement of operations and a deferred asset on the balance sheet. However, because of the current uncertainty as to the Company's ability to achieve profitability, a valuation reserve has been established that offsets the amount of any tax benefit available for each period presented in the statements of operations.

TWELVE MONTH PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020, COMPARED TO TWELVE MONTH PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2020, and 2019, revenues from oil and natural gas sales were \$5,988,963 and \$5,825,446 respectively, an increase of \$163,517 (3%). The Company purchased additional properties in Texas and Montana in 2020 and had production from North Dakota properties for the full year in 2020. The additional production was offset by declines in oil and natural gas prices.

	2020	Variance		2019
		Price	Volume	
Oil				
Bbls	164,869		51,898	112,971
\$	\$ 5,402,757	\$ (3,396,301)	\$ 2,770,275	\$ 6,028,784
Unit Price	\$ 32.77	\$ (20.60)		\$ 53.37
Natural Gas				
Mcf	139,412		98,698	40,714
\$	\$ 352,488	\$ (58,553)	\$ 290,842	\$ 120,199
Unit Price	\$ 2.53	\$ (0.42)		\$ 2.95

Operating expenses, production taxes, depreciation, depletion, amortization and accretion increased \$890,536 (11%) to \$9,265,733 cumulatively for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from \$8,375,197 for the same period in 2019. The increase was due to the acquisition of additional producing oil and natural gas properties in 2020 and full year production from the North Dakota properties in 2020.

Realized and unrealized gain on derivatives increased \$1,705,288 (5,069%) to \$1,738,871 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from \$33,643 in the same period in 2019 due to decrease in oil prices since the agreements were entered into.

Impairment of oil and natural gas properties increased to \$8,671,303 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$0- for the same period in 2019. The increase was due to the decrease in oil and natural gas prices at least partially attributable to COVID-19 in 2020 and management's decision to focus on producing properties rather than drill undeveloped properties.

General and administrative expenses increased by \$3,738,922 (103%) to \$7,373,809 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020, from \$3,634,887 for the same period in 2019. The increase was primarily due to stock options issued to management in 2020, travel and professional fees related to the acquisition of oil and natural gas properties and capital raises in 2020, and higher administrative expenses due to the growth in properties managed.

Interest expense was \$521,187 and \$503,607 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively, an increase of \$17,580 (3%). The increase in interest expense resulted primarily from the full year of interest on debt issued to acquire oil and natural gas properties in 2019.

For the reasons discussed above, net loss increased \$10,180,831 (153%) to \$(16,835,433) for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from \$(6,654,602) for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

GENERAL

As of December 31, 2020, the Company had \$157,695 cash on hand and approximately \$400,000 available on its bank line of credit. The Company expects to incur costs related to future oil and natural gas acquisitions for the foreseeable future. It is expected that management will attempt to raise additional capital and seek additional debt financing for future investment opportunities and working capital requirements.

In 2020, the Company generated \$(2,090,060) of cash from oil and natural gas activities after deducting cash operating costs and production taxes. A significant amount of the general and administrative cash costs of \$4,298,553, after deducting the noncash option and warrant expenses, were for locating and closing acquisitions.

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

The Company does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Because estimates and assumptions require significant judgment, future actual results could differ from those estimates and could have a significant impact on the Company's results of operations, financial position and cash flows. The Company re-evaluates its estimates and assumptions at least on a quarterly basis. The following policies may involve a higher degree of estimation and assumption:

Successful efforts accounting - Under the successful efforts method of accounting, the Company capitalizes all costs related to property acquisitions and successful exploratory wells, all development costs and the costs of support equipment and facilities. Certain costs of exploratory wells are capitalized pending determination that proved reserves have been found. Such determination is dependent upon the results of planned additional wells and the cost of required capital expenditures to produce the reserves found.

All costs related to unsuccessful exploratory wells are expensed when such wells are determined to be non-productive and other exploration costs, including geological and geophysical costs, are expensed as incurred. The application of the successful efforts method of accounting requires management's judgment to determine the proper designation of wells as either developmental or exploratory, which will ultimately determine the proper accounting treatment of the costs incurred. The results from a drilling operation can take considerable time to analyze, and the determination that commercial reserves have been discovered requires both judgment and application of industry experience. Wells may be completed that are assumed to be productive and actually deliver oil and gas in quantities insufficient to be economic, which may result in the abandonment of the wells at a later date. The evaluation of oil and gas leasehold acquisition costs requires management's judgment to estimate the fair value of exploratory costs related to drilling activity in a given area.

Impairment of unproved oil and gas properties - Management's assessment of the results of exploration activities, commodity price outlooks, planned future sales or expiration of all or a portion of such leaseholds impact the amount and timing of impairment provisions. An impairment expense could result if oil and gas prices decline in the future as it may not be economic to develop some of these unproved properties.

Asset retirement obligations - the Company accounts for future abandonment costs of wells and related facilities in accordance with the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations. Under this method of accounting, the accrual for future dismantlement and abandonment costs is based on estimates of these costs for each of the Company's properties based upon the type of production structure, reservoir characteristics, depth of the reservoir, market demand for equipment, currently available procedures and consultations with construction and engineering consultants. Because these costs typically extend many years into the future, estimating these future costs is difficult and requires management to make estimates and judgments that are subject to future revisions based upon numerous factors, including changing technology and the political and regulatory environment and, estimates as to the proper discount rate to use and timing of abandonment.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK.

Not applicable.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA.

The financial statements of the Company are set forth on pages 30 through 55 at the end of this Form 10-K.

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

None.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company carried out an evaluation under the supervision of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and President (principal financial officer) of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a - 15(e) and 15d - 15(e). Based on this evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and President (principal financial officer) concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report are not effective due to material weakness identified below.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Limitations on Effectiveness of Controls. In designing and evaluating our disclosure controls and procedures, management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives. In addition, the design of reporting and disclosure controls and procedures must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints and that management is required to apply its judgment in evaluating the benefits of possible controls and procedures relative to their costs.

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures. Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) and for the assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and President (principal financial officer), evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2020. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013). The term "disclosure controls and procedures," as defined in Rule 13a-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), means controls and other procedures of a company that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Reporting and disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be reported and disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required reporting figures and disclosures.

Based on our evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and President (principal financial officer) concluded that, as of December 31, 2020, our reporting and disclosure controls and procedures were not effective at a reasonable assurance level as we do not have sufficient resources in our accounting function, which restricts the Company's ability to gather, analyze and properly review information related to financial reporting in a timely manner. In addition, due to our size and nature, segregation of all conflicting duties may not always

be possible and may not be economically feasible. In the first quarter of 2021, the Company engaged a financial consultant to assist with the evaluation of its disclosure controls and procedures. In connection with such engagement, our management had already concluded that the Company's accounting resources became taxed during certain acquisition activities and the Company should hire additional knowledgeable accounting personnel, which the Company believes will assist with properly segregating duties and timely analyzing and reviewing information related to financial reporting. Our management will continue to work with this financial consultant and perform additional analysis and other procedures to help address the material weakness described above.

Notwithstanding the assessment that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective and that there is a material weakness as identified herein, we believe that our consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K fairly present our consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods covered thereby in all material respects.

Changes on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There was no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the Company's evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures which occurred during the Company's last fiscal quarter (the fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected or that is reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION.

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE.

The following lists the directors and executive officers of the Company:

Name	Age	Position
Thomas Pritchard	59	Director and Chief Executive Officer
Michael R. Morrisett	57	Director and President
Anthony N. Kamin	60	Director and Chairman of the Board

Directors hold office until their successors are elected by the stockholders of the Company and qualified. Executive officers serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

Thomas Pritchard

Thomas Pritchard co-founded Pritchard Griffin Advisors ("PGA") in 2015 to serve the unique investment banking needs of the energy sector, including upstream, midstream, downstream and renewables. Prior to PGA, he formed Pritchard Energy Advisors, LLC in 2014. From 2012 to 2014, Mr. Pritchard served as Managing Director of the Energy Investment Banking division of Imperial Capital. Prior to this role, Mr. Pritchard served as CEO and Managing Director of Pritchard Capital Partners, which he founded in 2001 and later sold majority ownership in 2011. Over a period of ten years, Pritchard Capital Partners participated in raising over \$15 billion in capital for firms in the oil and gas industry and provided trading and research services annually to over 150 energy companies. In 1997, Mr. Pritchard co-founded Offshore Tool and Energy, Inc., an oilfield services company that was sold in 2001. He began his professional career in 1984 with Drexel Burnham Lambert, and later held key roles at Bear Stearns, Jefferies and Johnson Rice. Mr. Pritchard earned his undergraduate degree in Geology from Washington and Lee University.

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Michael R. Morrisett

Mr. Morrisett has served as a director of the Company and as the Company's President since January 19, 2015. Mr. Morrisett has over 25 years of experience in investment banking and considerable experience in the management of non-operated oil and gas operations. From April 2014 to May 2017, Mr. Morrisett served as the Chief Financial Officer and is currently a Director of a privately held media and technology portfolio company based in San Francisco, California. From November 2012 to January 2018 Mr. Morrisett served Total Energy Partners Funds, an investment fund engaged in the ownership of non-operated oil and gas working interests, in several capacities, including as a partner. Prior to 2013, Mr. Morrisett served in various executive capacities at other investment banking firms and oil and gas concerns.

Anthony N. Kamin

Anthony N. Kamin serves as the President of Eastwood Investment Management (EIM), which he founded in 2001. EIM is a multi-strategy, multi-asset class family office which has been an active investor in energy and resource companies. Mr. Kamin is the Founder and Executive Chairman of Clean Plate Restaurants Inc. He was a Venture Partner with Venture Strategy Partners from 1998 to 2003 helping launch its venture operations. Mr. Kamin received a Master's Degree from Yale University in international relations with a concentration in international law in 1985.

Identification of Audit Committee; Audit Committee Financial Expert

As of December 31, 2020, the Company had not established any committees (including an audit committee) because of the small size of its Board of Directors. As such, the Company does not have an audit committee or an audit committee financial expert serving on such committee. As of December 31, 2020, the entire Board of Directors essentially serve as the Company's audit committee.

Code of Ethics

The Company has adopted a Code of Ethics that applies to all of the Company's directors and employees, including the Company's principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer or persons performing similar functions. The Company undertakes to provide any person without charge, upon request, a copy of the Code of Ethics. Requests may be directed to Empire Petroleum Corporation, 2200 South Utica Place, Suite 150, Tulsa Oklahoma, 74114, or by calling (539) 444-8002.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires the Company's directors, executive officers, and persons who beneficially own more than 10 percent of a registered class of the Company's equity securities, to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of Common Stock and other equity securities of the Company.

Officers, directors and greater than ten percent stockholders are required by SEC regulation to furnish the Company with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

Based solely on review of the copies of such reports furnished to the Company and any written representations that in other reports were required during the year ended December 31, 2020, to the Company's knowledge, all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to its officers, directors and greater than 10% beneficial owners during the year ended December 31, 2020 were complied with on a timely basis.

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ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

The Board of Directors does not have a Compensation Committee.

Executive Compensation

The following table set forth certain information regarding compensation of the Company's named executive officers.

<u>Name and Principal Position</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Salary (\$)</u>	<u>Bonus (\$)</u>	<u>Stock Awards (\$)</u>	<u>Option Awards (\$)¹</u>	<u>Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)</u>	<u>All Other Compensation (\$)</u>	<u>Total Compensation (\$)</u>
Thomas Pritchard Chief Executive Officer	2020	\$ 226,667 ²	\$ 287,750 ³	\$ —	\$ 779,800	\$ —	\$ 174,900 ⁴	\$ 1,469,117
	2019	219,950	22,500	—	812,500	—	—	1,054,950
Michael Morrisett President	2020	226,667 ²	287,750 ³	—	779,800	—	174,900 ⁴	1,469,117
	2019	215,950	22,500	—	812,500	—	—	1,050,950
Garry Smith Controller	2020	100,000 ⁵	10,000	—	272,930	—	—	382,930
	2019	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

1 For information on the assumptions used in the valuation of these awards, see Note 11 included in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

2 The current salary of both Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Morrisett is \$250,000 per year.

3 \$113,759 of this amount was a bonus for 2019 performance paid in 2020, and \$174,000 of this amount was a bonus for 2020 performance, but will be paid over time in fiscal year 2021 subject to the Company having sufficient funds.

4 This amount is for the extension of warrants described immediately below this table. For information on the assumptions used in the valuation of these extensions, see Note 10 included in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

5 Mr. Smith's current salary is \$190,000 per year. This amount represents payment for a partial year.

As of December 31, 2020, none of the named executive officers had employment contracts.

On December 31, 2020, warrant certificates issued to Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Morrisett pursuant to which each such named executive officer has the right to acquire 500,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share were extended so that such warrant certificates can be exercised on or before April 2, 2029 to make such grants consistent with the 2019 Stock Plan.

On December 31, 2020, each of Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Morrisett were issued options to acquire 2,000,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$0.35 per share under the 2019 Stock Plan.

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Outstanding Equity Awards at December 31, 2020

The following table set forth certain information regarding outstanding equity awards of the Company's named executive officers.

<u>Name</u>		<u>Option and warrant awards</u>			<u>Option / warrant Exercise price (\$)</u>	<u>Option / warrant expiration date</u>
		<u>Number of securities underlying unexercised options and warrants (#) exercisable</u>	<u>Number of securities underlying unexercised options and warrants (#) unexercisable</u>	<u>Equity incentive plan awards: Number of securities underlying unexercised unearned options and warrants (#)</u>		
Thomas Pritchard	Options	1,875,000	625,000 ¹	—	\$0.33	4/2/2029
	Options	2,000,000	—	—	0.35	12/31/2030
	Warrants	500,000	—	—	0.25	4/2/2029
Michael Morrisett	Options	1,875,000	625,000 ¹	—	0.33	4/2/2029

	Options	2,000,000	—	—	0.35	12/31/2030
	Warrants	500,000	—	—	0.25	4/2/2029
Garry Smith	Options	700,000	—	—	0.35	12/31/2030

¹ The vest date is April 2, 2021.

As of December 31, 2020, the Company did not have any plan that provides for the payment of retirement benefits to named executive officers or benefits to a named executive officer in connection with the resignation, retirement or other termination of such named executive officer or a change in control of the registrant.

Director Compensation

The Board of Directors does not have a Compensation Plan. From time to time in the past, the Company has compensated Board members for service through the issuance of warrants or options. On December 31, 2020, Mr. Kamin was issued options to acquire 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$0.35 per share under the 2019 Stock Plan. For further information on the assumptions used in the valuation of this award, see Note 11 included in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS.

Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

On April 3, 2019, the Board of Directors of the Company adopted the Empire Petroleum Corporation 2019 Stock Option Plan (the "Stock Option Plan"). The total number of shares of common stock that may be issued pursuant to stock options under the Stock Option Plan is 10,000,000. Further, on April 3, 2019, the Company granted Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Morrisett each, options to purchase 2,500,000 shares of common stock of the Company at an exercise price of \$0.33 per share. On December 31, 2020 the Company granted certain members of management and a member of the Board of Directors options to purchase 5,000,000 shares of common stock of the Company at an exercise price of \$0.35 per share.

The following table provides certain information relating to the 2019 Stock Option Plan as of December 31, 2020:

Plan Category	(a) Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options and rights	(b) Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options and rights	(c) Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	10,000,000	\$0.34	—
Total	10,000,000		—

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Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The following table sets forth information regarding the beneficial ownership of our Common Stock as of March 30, 2021 for:

- * each person who is known to own beneficially more than 5% of our outstanding Common Stock;
- * each of our executive officers and directors; and
- * all executive officers and directors as a group.

The percentage of beneficial ownership for the following table is based on 57,515,919 shares of Common Stock outstanding as of March 31, 2021.

Unless otherwise indicated below, to the Company's knowledge, all persons and entities listed below have sole voting and investment power over their shares of Common Stock.

Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners

Name and address of beneficial owner	Amount and nature of beneficial ownership	Percent of class (1)
--------------------------------------	--	----------------------

Puckett Land Company
5460 S. Quebec St., Suite 250
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

5,000,000

8.69%

Phil E. Mulacek
25025 I-45 North, Suite 420
The Woodlands, Texas 77380

13,694,185 (2)

23.58%

(1) The percentage ownership for each person is calculated in accordance with the rules of the SEC, which provide that any shares a person is deemed to beneficially own by virtue of having a right to acquire shares upon the conversion of options or other rights are considered outstanding solely for purposes of calculating such person's percentage ownership.

(2) The total includes 548,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of a warrant at an exercise price of \$0.50 per share.

Security Ownership of Management

Name and address of beneficial owner	Amount and nature of beneficial ownership	Percent of class (1)
Michael R. Morrisett Director and President 2200 South Utica Place, Suite 150 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114	6,068,128 (2)	9.80%
Anthony Kamin Director 2200 South Utica Place, Suite 150 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114	5,498,114 (3)	8.91%
Thomas Pritchard Director and Chief Executive Officer 2200 South Utica Place, Suite 150 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114	4,468,333 (4)	7.22%
All current directors and executive officers as a group (3 persons)	16,034,575 (5)	22.77%

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(1) The percentage ownership for each person is calculated in accordance with the rules of the SEC, which provide that any shares a person is deemed to beneficially own by virtue of having a right to acquire shares upon the conversion of options or other rights are considered outstanding solely for purposes of calculating such person's percentage ownership.

(2) The total includes 500,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of a warrant at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share and options to purchase 3,875,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$0.33 and \$0.35 per share.

(3) The total includes 500,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of a warrant at \$0.15 per share, 2,500,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of a warrant at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share and options to purchase 300,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$0.35 per share and 428,571 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of a warrant at an exercise price of \$0.50 per share.

(4) The total includes 500,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of a warrant at \$0.25 per share and options to purchase 3,875,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$0.33 and \$0.35 per share.

(5) The total includes 4,000,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of warrants and 8,050,000 options to purchase common stock.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE.

Director Independence

Because of the small size of the Company's Board of Directors, the Company has not established any committees. Rather, the entire Board acts as, and performs the same functions as, the audit committee, compensation committee and nominating committee, as necessary. Mr. Morrisett is not considered "independent" within the meaning of Rule 5605(a)(2) of the NASDAQ listing standards.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES.

The following is a summary of the fees billed or to be billed to the Company by HoganTaylor LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, for professional services rendered for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018:

Fee Category	Fiscal 2020 Fees	Fiscal 2019 Fees
Audit Fees (1)	\$ 210,000	\$ 145,000
Audit - Related Fees (2)	2,500	25,000
Tax Fees	—	—
All Other Fees (3)	—	—

(1) Audit Fees consist of aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements and review of the interim financial statements included in quarterly reports or services that are normally provided by the independent registered public accounting firm in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements for the years ended December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

(2) Audit-Related fees consist of aggregate fees billed for assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of our financial statements and are not reported under "Audit Fees." These include work performed for 8K/A filings.

(3) All Other Fees consist of aggregate fees billed for products and services provided by HoganTaylor LLP, other than those disclosed above.

The entire Board of Directors of the Company is responsible for the appointment, compensation and oversight of the work of the independent registered public accounting firm and approves in advance any services to be performed by the independent registered public accounting firm, whether audit-related or not. The entire Board of Directors reviews each proposed engagement to determine whether the provision of services is compatible with maintaining the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm. All of the fees shown above were pre-approved by the entire Board of Directors.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES.

(a) (1) Financial Statements

The financial statements under this item are included in Item 8 of Part II.

(2) Schedules

NONE

(3) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
2.1	Purchase and Sale Agreement dated as of February 15, 2019, by and between EnergyQuest and Empire North Dakota LLC (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated February 27, 2019, which was filed on March 5, 2019).
2.2	Purchase and Sale Agreement dated as of April 6, 2020, by and between Pardus Oil & Gas, LLC and Pardus Oil & Gas Operating GP, LLC and Empire Texas LLC (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated April 6, 2020, which was filed on April 10, 2020).
3.1	Articles of Incorporation of the Company, as amended (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of the Company's Form 10-QSB for the period ended September 30, 1995, which was filed November 6, 1995).
3.2	Certificate of Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated May 31, 2012, which was filed on June 1, 2012).
3.3	Bylaws of the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Company's Form 10-QSB for the period ended March 31, 1998, which was filed May 15, 1998).
4.2	Description of the Common Stock of Empire Petroleum Corporation Registered Under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (submitted herewith).
10.1	Empire Petroleum Corporation 2019 Stock Option Plan (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated April 3, 2019, which was filed on April 9, 2019).
10.2	Form of Non-Qualified Stock Option Award Agreement (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K dated April 3, 2019, which was filed on April 9, 2019).
10.3	Senior Revolver Loan Agreement dated as of September 20, 2018 by and between Empire Louisiana, LLC and CrossFirst Bank (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 8-K dated September 20, 2018 filed on September 25, 2018).
10.4	First Amendment to Senior Revolver Loan Agreement, dated as of March 27, 2019, by and between Empire Louisiana LLC, Empire North Dakota LLC and CrossFirst Bank (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated March 27, 2019, which was filed on April 2, 2019).
10.5	Securities Purchase Agreement dated as of August 6, 2020, by and between Empire Petroleum Corporation and Petroleum Independent & Exploration LLC (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated August 6, 2020, which was filed on August 11, 2020).
10.6	Common Share Warrant Certificate No. PIE-1 dated August 6, 2020 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K dated August 6, 2020, which was filed on August 11, 2020).

10.7 Common Share Warrant Certificate No. PIE-2 dated August 6, 2020 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 8-K dated August 6, 2020, which was filed on August 11, 2020).

- 10.8 Common Share Warrant Certificate No. PIE-3 dated August 6, 2020 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Form 8-K dated August 6, 2020, which was filed on August 11, 2020).
- 10.9 Common Share Warrant Certificate No. PIE-4 dated August 6, 2020 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Form 8-K dated August 6, 2020, which was filed on August 11, 2020).
- 10.10 Loan Agreement dated as of August 6, 2020, by and between Empire Texas LLC and Petroleum Independent & Exploration LLC (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Form 8-K dated August 6, 2020, which was filed on August 11, 2020).
- 10.11 Second Amendment to Senior Revolver Loan Agreement, dated as of June 30, 2020, by and between Empire Louisiana LLC, Empire North Dakota LLC and CrossFirst Bank (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated September 30, 2020, which was filed on October 6, 2020).
- 10.12 Third Amendment to Senior Revolver Loan Agreement, dated as of December 31, 2020, by and between Empire Louisiana LLC, Empire North Dakota LLC and CrossFirst Bank (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated March 10, 2021, which was filed on March 15, 2021).
- 10.13 Letter Agreement dated as of March 11, 2021 by and between Empire Petroleum Corporation and Petroleum Independent & Exploration LLC (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K dated March 10, 2021, which was filed on March 15, 2021).
- 31.1 Rule 13a – 14(a)/15d – 14(a) Certification of Thomas Pritchard, Chief Executive Officer (submitted herewith).
- 31.2 Rule 13a – 14(a)/15d – 14(a) Certification of Michael R. Morrisett, principal financial officer (submitted herewith).
- 32.1 Section 1350 Certification of Thomas Pritchard, Chief Executive Officer (submitted herewith).
- 32.2 Section 1350 Certification of Michael R. Morrisett, principal financial officer (submitted herewith).
- 101 Financial Statements for XBRL format (submitted herewith).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

Empire Petroleum Corporation

Date: March 31, 2021

By: /s/ Michael R. Morrisett

Name: Michael R. Morrisett

Title: President

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
<u>/s/ Thomas Pritchard</u> THOMAS PRITCHARD	Director and Chief Executive Officer	March 31, 2021
<u>/s/ Michael R. Morrisett</u> MICHAEL R. MORRISETT	Director and President (principal financial officer)	March 31, 2021
<u>/s/ Anthony J. Kamin</u> ANTHONY J. KAMIN	Director and Chairman of the Board	March 31, 2021

EXHIBIT INDEX

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[herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K dated March 10, 2021, which was filed on March 15, 2021\).](#)

31.1	Rule 13a – 14(a)/15d – 14(a) Certification of Thomas Pritchard, Chief Executive Officer (submitted herewith).
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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity (Deficit) for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019	36
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019	37
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To the Stockholders and the Board of Directors
of Empire Petroleum Corporation

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Empire Petroleum Corporation (the Company) as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements (collectively, the financial statements). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Going Concern

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Company has incurred significant losses since inception. The Company's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon the existence, discovery, and development of economically recoverable oil and gas reserves and is dependent upon the Company obtaining necessary financing to carry out its exploration and development program. This raises substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Management's plans in regard to these matters also are described in Note 1. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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Critical Audit Matters

The critical audit matters communicated below are matters arising from the current period audit of the financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the board of directors and that: (1) relate to accounts or disclosures that are material to the financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matters below, providing separate opinions on the critical audit matters or on the accounts or disclosures to which they relate.

Proved Oil and Natural Gas Properties – Oil and Natural Gas Reserve Quantities and Future Cash Flows Used to Determine Depletion and to Assess Impairment

Critical Audit Matter Description

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, the Company's proved oil and natural gas properties are depleted using the units-of-production method based on the Company's oil and natural gas reserves and are evaluated for impairment by comparison to the future net cash flows of the underlying oil and natural gas reserves. The Company's oil and natural gas reserve quantities and the related future net cash flows required management to make significant estimates and assumptions. As a result of changing market conditions and commodity prices, assumptions can change from period to period, causing the estimates of proved reserves to change. The Company utilizes a petroleum engineering firm to estimate oil and natural gas reserves using generally accepted methods, calculation procedures and engineering data. Changes in these assumptions or engineering data could have a significant impact on the amount of depletion and any proved oil and natural gas property impairment. The proved oil and natural gas properties balance was \$7,563,001 as of December 31, 2020, net of accumulated depreciation, depletion, amortization, and impairment. Related depreciation, depletion, and amortization expense was \$3,118,019 and impairment expense was \$8,671,303 for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Given the significant judgments made by management, performing audit procedures to evaluate the Company's oil and natural gas reserve quantities and the related net cash flows including management's estimates and assumptions required a high degree of auditor judgment and an increased extent of effort.

How the Critical Audit Matter Was Addressed in the Audit

Our audit procedures to address management's significant judgments and assumptions related to oil and natural gas reserve quantities and estimates of the future net cash flows included the following, among others:

- Evaluated the experience, qualifications and objectivity of management's expert, including the methodologies and calculation procedures used to estimate oil and natural gas reserves.
- Evaluated forecasted production by comparing to historical production and decline rates.
- Assessed management's estimated oil and natural gas prices by:
 - Evaluated the methodology used by management for development of the oil and natural gas prices used for assessing impairment and compared the estimated prices to an independently determined range of prices, including published forward pricing indices and third-party industry sources.
 - Compared prices used in the determination of reserve quantities and the depletion calculation to average historical prices.
 - Compared the historical realized price differentials incorporated in the future oil and natural gas prices.
- Evaluated future operating and capital costs used to estimate future cash flows by comparing them to historical cost data.

Going Concern Assessment

Critical Audit Matter Description

As described further in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company has incurred net losses each year from inception through December 31, 2020, and has negative working capital as of December 31, 2020. The Company determined these, and other factors, raised substantial doubt as to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern one year from the issuance date of the consolidated financial statements. In making this determination, management prepared a short-term cash flow projection. Management used significant assumptions in preparing the short-term cash flow projection, which included expected operating costs and financing obligations.

The principal considerations for our determination that the evaluation of management's going concern assessment was a critical audit matter are the significant judgment and subjectivity inherent in the Company's future cash flow and debt compliance projections and a high degree of auditor judgment in evaluating management's forecasts for at least the next 12 months.

How the Critical Audit Matter Was Addressed in the Audit

Our audit procedures related to the evaluation of management's forecasted future cash flow projections and going concern assessment included the following, among others:

- Assessed the overall reasonableness of the Company's future cash flow projections, including significant assumptions utilized by the Company.
- Compared January and February 2021 actual operating results to forecasted amounts to determine overall accuracy of future operating cash flow projections.
- Reviewed debt covenants and management projections of debt covenant compliance during 2021.
- Evaluated the adequacy of the Company's financial statement disclosures.

/s/ HoganTaylor LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2003.

Tulsa, Oklahoma
March 31, 2021

EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 157,695	\$ —
Accounts Receivable	1,251,634	982,814
Inventory	531,309	476,305
Prepays	281,895	247,718
Total Current Assets	2,222,533	1,706,837
Property and equipment:		
Oil and Natural Gas Properties, Successful Efforts	22,711,445	12,660,457
Less: Accumulated Depreciation, Depletion and Impairment	(15,148,444)	(3,365,340)
	7,563,001	9,295,117
Other Property and Equipment, net of \$33,159 and \$1,830 Accumulated Depreciation in 2020 and 2019, respectively	662,017	12,626
Total Property and Equipment, net	8,225,018	9,307,743
Utility and Other Deposits	802,050	—
Total Assets	\$ 11,249,601	\$ 11,014,580
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,937,743	\$ 1,025,585
Accrued Expenses	2,697,831	1,103,916
Unrealized Loss on Derivative Instruments	5,749	11,861

Contingent Payment (see Note 4)	40,000	—
Current Portion of Lease Liability	89,769	—
Current Portion of Long-term Notes Payable	1,301,618	96,704
Total Current Liabilities	<u>6,072,710</u>	<u>2,238,066</u>
Long Term Portion of Unrealized Loss on Derivative Instruments	—	211,771
Long-Term Notes Payable	7,719,703	7,715,118
Long Term Lease Liability	534,009	—
Asset Retirement Obligations	15,364,217	5,788,280
Total Liabilities	<u>29,690,639</u>	<u>15,953,235</u>
Stockholders' Equity (Deficit):		
Common Stock - \$.001 Par Value 150,000,000 Shares Authorized, 24,892,277 and 20,367,277 Shares Issued and Outstanding, Respectively	24,892	20,367
Additional Paid-in Capital	22,152,451	18,823,926
Accumulated Deficit	(40,618,381)	(23,782,948)
Total Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)	<u>(18,441,038)</u>	<u>(4,938,655)</u>
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)	<u>\$ 11,249,601</u>	<u>\$ 11,014,580</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
Years Ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Revenue:		
Oil and Gas Sales	\$ 5,988,963	\$ 5,825,446
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain on Derivatives	1,738,871	33,643
Total Revenue	<u>7,727,834</u>	<u>5,859,089</u>
Costs and Expenses:		
Operating	4,871,755	4,337,649
Taxes - Production	346,101	379,604
Depletion, Depreciation & Amortization	3,118,019	3,351,643
Impairment of Oil and Natural Gas Properties	8,671,303	—
Accretion of Asset Retirement Obligation	929,858	306,301
General and Administrative	7,373,804	3,634,887
Total Cost and Expenses	<u>25,310,840</u>	<u>12,010,084</u>
Operating Loss	(17,583,006)	(6,150,995)
Other Income and (Expense):		
Gain on Sale of Assets	1,268,760	—
Interest Expense	(521,187)	(503,607)
Net Loss	<u>\$ (16,835,433)</u>	<u>\$ (6,654,602)</u>
Net Loss per Common Share,		
Basic & Diluted	<u>\$ (0.74)</u>	<u>\$ (0.33)</u>
Weighted Average Number of Common Shares Outstanding, Basic & Diluted	<u>22,708,030</u>	<u>19,867,277</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)

Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

(UNAUDITED)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Total
	Shares	Par Value			
Balances, December 31, 2018	17,345,609	\$ 17,345	\$ 16,960,818	\$ (17,128,346)	\$ (150,183)
Net Loss	—	—	—	(6,654,602)	(6,654,602)
Shares, Options, Warrants and Conversion Features Issued	<u>3,021,668</u>	<u>3,022</u>	<u>1,863,108</u>	—	<u>1,866,130</u>
Balances, December 31, 2019	20,367,277	\$ 20,367	\$ 18,823,926	\$ (23,782,948)	\$ (4,938,655)
Net Loss	—	—	—	(16,835,433)	(16,835,433)
Shares, Options, Warrants and Conversion Features Issued	<u>4,525,000</u>	<u>4,525</u>	<u>3,328,525</u>	—	<u>3,333,050</u>
Balances, December 31, 2020	<u><u>24,892,277</u></u>	<u><u>24,892</u></u>	<u><u>22,152,451</u></u>	<u><u>(40,618,381)</u></u>	<u><u>(18,441,038)</u></u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Net Loss	\$ (16,835,433)	\$ (6,654,602)
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Loss to Net Cash Provided by (used in) Operating Activities:		
Gain on Sale of Assets	(1,268,760)	—
Value of Warrants and Options Granted	2,705,550	1,491,630
Amortization of Warrant Value and Conversion Feature on Convertible Notes	—	5,796
Amortization of Loan Issue Costs	58,344	43,758
Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization	3,143,130	3,351,644
Impairment of Oil and Natural Gas Properties	8,671,303	—
Accretion of Asset Retirement Obligation	929,858	306,301
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivatives	(217,883)	336,713
Accretion of Operating Lease Liability	9,877	—
Deposit paid to Ovintiv (see Note 4)	(800,000)	—
Loss Relating to Ovintiv Purchase Deposit (see Note 4)	800,000	—
Change in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
Accounts Receivable	(168,612)	(858,236)
Inventory	92,293	(37,984)
Prepays, Current	(152,354)	(202,504)
Utility Deposits	9,400	—
Accounts Payable	891,702	704,835
Accrued Expenses	<u>408,328</u>	<u>920,319</u>
Net Cash Used In Operating Activities	<u><u>(1,723,257)</u></u>	<u><u>(592,330)</u></u>

Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Acquisition of Oil and Natural Gas Properties	(507,411)	(6,159,585)
Purchase of Other Fixed Assets	(6,099)	(14,460)
Proceeds from Sale of Oil and Natural Gas Properties	1,369,800	—
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	<u>856,290</u>	<u>(6,174,045)</u>
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Proceeds from Debt Issued	925,700	8,379,744
Principal Payments of Debt	(426,038)	(1,865,000)
Proceeds from Stock and Warrant Issuance	525,000	167,000
Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities	<u>1,024,662</u>	<u>6,681,744</u>
Net Change in Cash	157,695	(84,631)
Cash - Beginning of Period	—	84,631
Cash - End of Period	<u>\$ 157,695</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Supplemental Cash Flow Information:		
Cash Paid for Interest	<u>\$ 599,350</u>	<u>\$ 462,795</u>
Non-cash Investing and Financing Activities:		
Non-cash Additions to Asset Retirement Obligations	<u>\$ 8,646,079</u>	<u>\$ 5,251,329</u>
Common Stock Issued in Exchange for Outstanding Notes Payable	<u>\$ 102,500</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Purchases of oil and natural gas properties and deposits in accounts and notes payable, accrued expenses, royalty suspense, and contingent payable to seller	<u>\$ 1,523,834</u>	<u>\$ 42,566</u>
Equipment purchased utilizing note payable	<u>\$ 60,719</u>	<u>—</u>
Note Payable issued - PIE Agreement (see Note 5)	<u>\$ 315,273</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2020 and 2019

General:

On July 20, 2001, Americomm Resources Corporation merged with its wholly-owned subsidiary, Empire Petroleum Corporation, and simultaneously changed the name of the corporation to Empire Petroleum Corporation. Both the merger and name change were effective as of August 15, 2001. Americomm Resources Corporation was originally incorporated in the State of Utah on the 22nd day of August 1983, as Chambers Energy Corporation. On the 7th day of March 1985, the state of incorporation was changed to Delaware by means of a merger with Americomm Corporation, a Delaware corporation formed for the purpose of effecting the said change. In July 1995, its name was changed to Americomm Resources Corporation. Empire Petroleum Corporation has four wholly owned subsidiaries, Empire Louisiana, LLC, Empire North Dakota, LLC, Empire New Mexico, LLC, and Empire Texas, LLC. Empire Petroleum Corporation and subsidiaries. ("Empire" or the "Company"). consolidates the financial statements of these entities and material intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

1. Continuing operations:

The ultimate recoverability of the Company's investment in its oil and gas interests is dependent upon the existence, discovery, and development of economically recoverable oil and gas reserves, the ability of the Company to obtain necessary financing to further develop the interests, and upon the ability to attain future profitable production. The Company has been incurring significant losses in recent years and future financing is uncertain. These factors indicate that there is a substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The continuation of the Company is dependent upon the ability of the Company to raise capital and attain future profitable operations. These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of United States generally accepted accounting principles applicable to a company with continuing operations, which assume that the Company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its obligations in the normal course of operations. These financial statements do not include any adjustments that might be necessary to the carrying value of assets and liabilities, reported expenses and the balance sheet classifications used should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern.

The Company expects to incur costs related to future oil and natural gas acquisitions for the foreseeable future. It is expected that management will attempt to raise additional capital and seek additional debt financing for future investment opportunities and working capital requirements.

2. Significant accounting policies:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with United States generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(a) Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements of the Company include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. The Company consolidates the financial

statements of these entities. All material intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

(b) Use of estimates in the preparation of financial statements

Preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP 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 periods. Actual results could differ from these estimates. Depletion of oil and natural gas properties is determined using estimates of proved oil and natural gas reserves. There are numerous uncertainties inherent in the estimation of quantities of proved reserves and in the projection of future rates of production and the timing of development expenditures. Similarly, evaluations for impairment of proved and unproved oil and natural gas properties are subject to numerous uncertainties including, among others, estimates of future recoverable reserves, commodity price outlooks and prevailing market rates of other sources of income and costs. Other significant estimates include, but are not limited to, asset retirement obligations, goodwill, fair value of stock-based compensation, fair value of business combinations, fair value of nonmonetary transactions, fair value of derivative financial instruments and income taxes.

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(c) Accounts receivable

The Company sells oil and natural gas to various customers. The receivables related to these operations are generally unsecured. Receivables are considered past due if full payment is not received by the contractual due date. Past due accounts are generally written off against the allowance for doubtful accounts only after all collection attempts have been exhausted. The Company did not have an allowance for doubtful accounts for the years ended December 31, 2020 or 2019.

(d) Oil and natural gas properties

The Company uses the successful efforts method of accounting for its oil and gas activities. Costs incurred are deferred until exploration and completion results are evaluated. At such time, costs of activities with economically recoverable reserves are capitalized as proven properties, and costs of unsuccessful or uneconomical activities are expensed.

Capitalized drilling costs are reviewed periodically for impairment. Costs related to impaired prospects or unsuccessful exploratory drilling is charged to expense. Management's assessment of the results of exploration activities, commodity price outlooks, planned future sales or expiration of all or a portion of such leaseholds impact the amount and timing of impairment provisions. An impairment expense could result if oil and gas prices decline in the future as it may not be economical to develop some of these unproved properties.

Lease options are capitalized as unproved property acquisition costs and are reviewed for impairment if indicators exist that the carrying value of the lease option may not be recoverable. If the lease options become impaired, expire or are abandoned, the options will be expensed. If proved reserves are discovered after the options are exercised, these costs will be reclassified as proved property.

Depreciation, depletion and amortization of producing properties is computed on the units-of-production method on a property by property basis. The units-of-production method is based primarily on estimates of proved reserve quantities. Due to uncertainties inherent in this estimation process, it is at least reasonably possible that reserve quantities will be revised in the near term. Changes in estimated reserve quantities are applied to depreciation, depletion and amortization computations prospectively.

Other property and equipment is depreciated on the straight-line method.

(e) Derivative instruments

The Company enters into swap agreements to manage its exposure to oil and natural gas price fluctuations. The fair value of derivative contracts are recognized as an asset or liability on the Company's balance sheet. Realized gain or loss is recognized as a component of revenue when the swap contracts mature. For contracts which have not matured, an unrealized gain or loss is recorded based on the value of the outstanding contracts.

(f) Asset retirement obligations

The Company records the fair value of a liability for an asset retirement obligation in the period in which it is incurred and a corresponding increase in the carrying amount of the related oil and natural gas property asset. Subsequently, the asset retirement cost included in the carrying amount of the related asset is allocated to expense through depletion of the asset. Changes in the liability due to passage of time are recognized as an increase in the carrying amount of the liability through accretion expense. Based on certain factors, including commodity prices and costs, the Company may revise its previous estimates of the liability, which would also increase or decrease the related oil and natural gas property asset.

(g) Revenue recognition

The Company enters into contracts with customers to sell its oil and natural gas production. Revenue on these contracts is recognized in accordance with the five-step revenue recognition model prescribed in ASC 606. Specifically, revenue is recognized when the Company's performance obligations under these contracts are satisfied, which generally occurs with the transfer of control of the oil and natural gas to the purchaser. Control is generally considered transferred when the following criteria are met: (i) transfer of physical custody, (ii) transfer of title, (iii) transfer of risk of loss and (iv) relinquishment of any repurchase rights or other similar rights. Given the nature of the products sold, revenue is recognized at a point in time based on the amount of consideration the Company expects to receive in accordance with the price specified in the contract. Consideration under the oil and natural gas marketing contracts is typically received from the purchaser one to two months after production. The Company's oil and natural gas marketing contracts transfer physical custody and title at or near the wellhead, which is generally when control of the oil has been transferred to the purchaser.

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The Company follows the sales method of accounting for natural gas sales, recognizing revenue based on the Company's actual proceeds from the natural gas sold to purchasers on an accrual basis.

Revenues are reported net to working interest and after royalty amounts due.

(h) Per share amounts:

The Company calculates and discloses basic earnings per share ("Basic EPS") and diluted earnings per share ("Diluted EPS"). The computation of basic earnings per share is computed by dividing earnings available to common stockholders by the weighted average number of outstanding common shares during the period.

Diluted Earnings per Share ("EPS") gives effect to all dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period. The computation of Diluted EPS does not assume conversion, exercise or contingent exercise of securities that would have an anti-dilutive effect on losses. As a result, if there is a loss from continuing operations, Diluted EPS is computed in the same manner as Basic EPS. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company had 37,928,245 and 18,345,834 options and warrants outstanding, respectively, that were

not included in the calculation of earnings per share for the periods then ended. Such financial instruments may become dilutive and would then need to be included in future calculations of Diluted EPS. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the outstanding options were considered anti-dilutive since the strike prices were above the market price and since the Company has incurred losses year to date.

(i) Income taxes:

The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes. 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 bases and operating loss and tax credit carry forwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to the taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. A valuation allowance is established if management determines it is more likely than not that some portion of a deferred tax asset will not be realized.

(j) Financial instruments:

The carrying value of current assets and current liabilities approximate their fair value due to the relatively short period to maturity of the instruments. Management's estimates, including reserves and asset retirement obligations, are based on an assessment of qualitative factors that are considered Level 3 measurements in the fair value valuation hierarchy required by FASB ASC 820.

(k) Stock option plan:

The Company expenses options granted over the vesting period based on the grant date fair value of the award.

(l) Recently issued accounting pronouncements:

FASB periodically issues new accounting standards in a continuing effort to improve standards of financial accounting and reporting. The Company has reviewed the recently issued pronouncements and concluded that the following new accounting standards are applicable:

In July 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-09, "Codification Improvements," ("ASU 2018-09") which makes amendments to multiple codification topics to clarify, correct errors in, or make minor improvements to the accounting standards codification. The effective date of the standard is dependent on the facts and circumstances of each amendment. Some amendments do not require transition guidance and will be effective upon the issuance of this standard. Many of the amendments in ASU 2018-09 was effective in annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018. The Company adopted this standard in the first quarter of fiscal 2019. It did not have a material effect on the Company's financial statements.

3. Property:

In 2020, the Company, through its subsidiaries purchased oil and natural gas properties in Texas, North Dakota and Montana (See Note 4).

In 2019, the Company, through its subsidiary Empire North Dakota, LLC, purchased oil and gas properties in Montana and North Dakota (See Note 4).

The aggregate capitalized costs of oil and natural gas properties as of December 31, 2020 and 2019 are as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Proved producing wells	\$ 4,508,739	\$ 3,826,522
Proved undeveloped	2,715,980	2,232,358
Lease and well equipment	1,360,596	1,121,527
Asset retirement obligation	14,126,130	5,480,050
Gross capitalized costs	<u>22,711,445</u>	<u>12,660,457</u>
Accumulated Depreciation, Depletion, Amortization and Impairment	<u>(15,148,444)</u>	<u>(3,365,340)</u>
Net capitalized costs	<u>\$ 7,563,001</u>	<u>\$ 9,295,117</u>

4. Acquisitions of oil and gas properties:

2020 Acquisitions

Pardus Acquisition

On April 6, 2020 the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Empire Texas, LLC, entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement ("the Agreement") with Pardus Oil & Gas, LLC and Pardus Oil & Gas Operating GP, LLC (collectively "the Seller") to purchase certain oil and natural gas properties in Texas, and all general and limited partner interest in Pardus Oil & Gas Operating, LP. The purchase price, as amended, included the assumption of certain obligations totaling \$1,584,042 and a cash payment of \$40,000 for a total purchase price of \$1,624,042. An asset retirement obligation of \$9,508,484 was recorded in conjunction with the purchase. The transaction closed on April 7, 2020 and was treated as an asset acquisition.

Ovintiv Acquisition

On March 3, 2020 the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Empire North Dakota, LLC, entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement ("the Agreement") with Ovintiv USA, Inc. and several related companies to purchase certain oil and natural gas properties in Montana and North Dakota. The purchase price was \$8,500,000, subject to adjustments with an effective date of January 1, 2020 and a closing date of April 30, 2020.

The Company made an \$850,000 deposit relating to the purchase. Due to the COVID pandemic and governmental state of emergency orders related thereto, the Company was unable to meet with and obtain financing to complete the purchase from its lenders. The Agreement has been terminated and the parties have agreed to settle with Empire receiving a \$50,000 return of its deposit. The forfeited deposit is included in general and administrative expenses in the financial statements.

2019 Acquisitions

Warhorse Acquisition

On June 10, 2019, the Company received a sheriff's deed dated as of May 29, 2019 (the "Sheriff's Deed") pertaining to two wells in St. Landry Parish purchased from Business First Bancshares, Inc. d/b/a Business First Bank ("Business First").

Pursuant to the Sheriff's Deed, the Company acquired certain oil and natural gas properties located in St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, including operated working interest in two producing wells. The Company purchased Business First's position as the superior lienholder and seizing creditor of such oil and natural gas properties, which were owned by Warhorse Oil & Gas, LLC, for \$450,000 plus \$16,993 sheriff fees. The payment was paid from loan proceeds.

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The Company treated the acquisition as an asset purchase. An amount equal to \$73,968 was allocated to lease and well equipment and \$378,110 was allocated to producing properties. An asset retirement obligation of \$19,732 was recorded in conjunction with the purchase.

EnergyQuest Acquisition

On March 28, 2019, the Company purchased oil producing properties from EnergyQuest II, LLC ("EnergyQuest") for a purchase price of \$5,600,000. The effective date of the transaction was January 1, 2019. After certain adjustments related to the effective date, the total proceeds paid to EnergyQuest were \$5,646,126. Such proceeds were paid from borrowing on notes payable and sales of unregistered securities of the Company.

The following table sets forth the Company's purchase price allocations to the identifiable assets acquired and the liabilities assumed based on the fair values at the acquisition date, with any excess of the estimated fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired over the purchase price recorded as a reduction in value of the oil and natural gas properties.

	<u>EnergyQuest</u>	<u>Pardus</u>
Fair Value of Assets Acquired		
Accounts receivable	\$ 1,308,748	\$ 100,208
Inventory of oil in tanks	438,320	147,297
Deposits	—	378,000
Equipment & gathering lines	—	109,200
Oil and natural gas properties	10,878,430	10,397,821
Total Assets Acquired	<u>\$ 12,625,498</u>	<u>\$ 11,132,526</u>
Fair Value of liabilities Assumed		
Accounts payable – trade	1,861,433	20,455
Notes payable – current	—	378,000
Royalty suspense	—	1,185,587
Asset retirement obligations	5,117,939	9,508,484
Total Liabilities Assumed	<u>\$ 6,979,372</u>	<u>\$ 11,092,526</u>
Purchase Price	<u>\$ 5,646,126</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>

The fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed were based on the following key inputs:

Oil and natural gas properties

For the EnergyQuest acquisition, the fair value of proved oil and natural gas properties was measured using valuation techniques that convert the future cash flows to a single discounted amount. Significant inputs to the valuation of proved oil and natural gas properties include estimates of: (i) recoverable reserves; (ii) production rates; (iii) future operating and development costs; (iv) future commodity prices; and (v) a market-based weighted average costs of capital. The Company utilized a combination of the New York Mercantile Exchange ("NYMEX") strip pricing and consensus pricing to value the reserves, then applied various discount rates depending on the classification of reserves and other risk characteristics. Management utilized the assistance of a third-party valuation expert to estimate the value of the oil and natural gas properties acquired.

For the Pardus acquisition, the value of oil and gas properties was based on an allocation of the purchase price which included assignment of values to the other identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed.

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The fair value of asset retirement obligations are included in proved oil and natural gas properties with a corresponding liability in the table above. The fair value was determined based on a discounted cash flow model, which included assumptions of the estimated current abandonment costs, discount rate, inflation rate and timing associated with the incurrence of these costs.

The inputs used to value oil and natural gas properties and asset retirement obligations require significant judgment and estimates made by management and represent Level 3 inputs.

Financial instruments and other

The fair values determined for accounts receivable and accounts payable – trade were equivalent to the carrying value due to their short-term nature.

Inventory acquired as a part of the acquisition was based on oil in tanks at the date of acquisition multiplied by the day's spot price.

Deposits were valued based on the actual amount paid by the seller and held with third parties.

Accounts payable - trade includes liabilities primarily related to well activity prior to close.

For 2020, the financial statements include Pardus from the date of acquisition and EnergyQuest for the full year.

5. Joint development agreement

On August 6, 2020 the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Empire Texas, LLC (“ET”), entered into a joint development agreement (the “Agreement”) with Petroleum & Independent Exploration, LLC and related entities (“PIE”) dated August 1, 2020. Under the terms of the Agreement, PIE will perform recompletion or workover on specified mutually agreed upon wells (“Workover Wells”) owned by ET. To fund the work, PIE entered into a term loan agreement with ET dated August 1, 2020, whereby PIE will loan up to \$2,000,000, at an interest rate of 6% per annum, maturing August 6, 2024 unless terminated earlier by PIE. Proceeds of the loan will be used for recompletion or workover of the Workover Wells. As of December 31, 2020, approximately \$315,000 has been advanced from the loan. As part of the Agreement, ET will assign to PIE a combined 85% working and revenue interest in the Workover Wells; an assignment was completed in October 2020 for the initial three Workover Wells. Of the assigned interest, 70% working and revenue interest will be used to repay the obligations under the term loan agreement. Once the term loan is repaid, PIE will reassign a 35% working and revenue interest to ET in each of the Workover Wells and retain a 50% working and revenue interest (See Note 8). Activity resulting from this agreement is being treated as a conveyance.

In addition, PIE and Empire entered into a Securities Purchase Agreement (“Securities Agreement”) whereby PIE purchased for \$525,000 (a) 3,500,000 shares of Empire common stock, (b) warrants to purchase 2,625,000 shares of Empire common stock at an exercise price of \$0.20 per share, (c) warrants to purchase 1,800,000 shares of Empire common stock at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share, (d) warrants to purchase 8,136,518 shares of Empire common stock at an exercise price of \$0.10 per share, and (e) warrants to purchase up to 11,066,667 shares of Empire common stock at an exercise price of \$0.141 per share. PIE is obligated to exercise the \$0.20 warrants within 45 days of when 3 month trailing average production from the Empire Texas properties have increased by 20% over the trailing 3 month trailing average production as of July 2020. PIE can only exercise the \$0.25 warrants once all existing non-PIE outstanding warrants to purchase Empire common stock have been exercised or lapsed. For the \$0.141 warrants, PIE may initially acquire 7,533,333 shares of Empire common stock (See Note 10). On March 11, 2021 the Company amended the Securities Agreement to remove the vesting provisions for the warrants and PIE exercised all of its warrants for an aggregate exercise price of \$3,349,052 (See Note 15).

6. Asset retirement obligations

The Company’s asset retirement obligations represent the estimated present value of the estimated cash flows the Company will incur to plug, abandon and remediate its producing properties at the end of their productive lives, in accordance with applicable state laws. Market risk premiums associated with asset retirement obligations are estimated to represent a component of the Company’s credit-adjusted risk-free rate that is utilized in the calculations of asset retirement obligations.

The Company’s asset retirement obligation transactions during the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 are summarized in the table below.

	<u>For the year ended December 31, 2020</u>	<u>For the year ended December 31, 2019</u>
Asset retirement obligations, beginning of period	\$ 5,788,280	\$ 230,650
Liabilities assumed in acquisitions	9,508,484	5,251,329
Revision to estimates	(862,405)	—
Accretion expense	929,858	306,301
Asset retirement obligation, end of period	<u>\$ 15,364,217</u>	<u>\$ 5,788,280</u>

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7. Derivative financial instruments:

The Company uses derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to commodity price fluctuations. Commodity derivative instruments are used to reduce the effect of volatility of price changes on the oil and gas the Company produces and sells. The Company’s derivative financial instruments consist of oil and natural gas swaps.

The Company does not enter into derivative financial instruments for speculative or trading purposes.

The Company does not designate its derivative instruments to qualify for hedge accounting. Accordingly, the Company reflects changes in the fair value of its derivative instruments in its consolidated statements of operations as they occur. Unrealized gains and losses related to the swap contracts are recognized and recorded as an asset or liability on the Company’s balance sheet.

The following table summarized the amounts reported in earnings, as a component of revenue, related to the commodity derivative instruments for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019:

	<u>As of December 31,</u>	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Gain on derivatives:		
Oil derivatives	\$ 1,738,871	\$ 25,894
Natural gas derivatives	—	7,749
Total	<u>\$ 1,738,871</u>	<u>\$ 33,643</u>

The following represents the Company’s net cash receipts from (payments on) derivatives for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019:

	<u>As of December 31,</u>	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Net cash receipts from derivatives:		
Oil derivatives	\$ 1,520,988	\$ 358,799
Natural gas derivatives	—	11,557
Total	<u>\$ 1,520,988</u>	<u>\$ 370,356</u>

The following table sets forth the Company’s outstanding oil derivative contracts at December 31, 2020. The Company has no outstanding natural gas derivatives. All of the Company’s derivatives are expected to settle by July 30, 2021:

	<u>First quarter</u>	<u>Second quarter</u>	<u>Third quarter</u>	<u>Fourth quarter</u>
Oil Swaps:				
Volume (Bbl)	15,255	15,180	5,200	—
Price per Bbl	\$49.40	\$50.87	\$38.25	—

8. Notes payable:

The Company had the following debt outstanding as of December 31, 2020 and 2019. The expenses of issuing the Senior Revolver Loan Agreement were capitalized and included as a reduction to debt in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. These costs are amortized over the expected life of the debt. When debt is retired before maturity, or modifications significantly change the cash flows, the related unamortized costs are expensed. No interest was capitalized in the three-year period ended December 31, 2020 or 2019.

	<u>December 31, 2020</u>	<u>December 31, 2019</u>
Senior Revolver Loan Agreement, 4.75%, due 2022	\$ 8,124,000	\$ 7,782,253
Unsecured note – Pardus acquisition, 1%, due 2021	378,000	—
SBA Payroll Protection Plan note, 1%, due 2023	160,700	—
Term Loan – PIE, 6%, due 2024	315,273	—
Equipment note, 0%, due in 2025	57,935	—
Senior Unsecured Promissory Notes, 6%, due 2020	—	102,500
Total debt	9,035,908	7,884,753
Unamortized debt issue costs	<u>14,587</u>	<u>72,931</u>
Total debt, net of debt issue costs	<u>\$ 9,021,321</u>	<u>\$ 7,811,822</u>

In February 2019, the Company entered into five unsecured promissory note agreements with accredited investors totaling \$90,000. The notes were due May 1, 2019, and accrued interest at 8%. One of the notes, in the amount of \$15,000 was issued to Michael R. Morrisett, the Company's President. These notes and the related interest were paid in May 2019.

In September 20, 2018 the Company entered into a Senior Revolver Loan Agreement (“the Agreement”) with CrossFirst Bank (“CrossFirst”). The Agreement was amended March 27, 2019 and September 30, 2020 (effective as of June 30, 2020) (the “Amended Agreement”). The Amended Agreement revolver commitment amount is \$8,700,000 which is reduced by \$180,000 per calendar quarter and the maximum amount that can be advanced under the Agreement is \$20,000,000 and includes interest at Wall Street Journal Prime plus 150 basis points (4.75% as of December 31, 2020). The Agreement matured on March 27, 2021. Collateral for the loan is a lien on all of the assets of the Company’s wholly owned subsidiaries, Empire Louisiana and Empire North Dakota, and a first priority mortgage lien, pledge of and security interest in not less than 80% of Empire Louisiana’s and Empire North Dakota’s producing oil, gas and other leasehold and mineral interests. The Agreement requires the Company to maintain certain covenants including an EBITDAX to interest expense of at least 3:1 and funded debt to EBITDAX of 4:1 on a trailing twelve month basis. As of December 31, 2020, the Company has \$8,124,000 outstanding under the Agreement. In addition, the Company has a \$306,000 outstanding letter of credit to its insurance carrier as of December 31, 2020. On March 10, 2021 the Agreement was amended (the “Third Amendment”). The Third Amendment, among other things, extended the maturity to March 27, 2022, redetermined the collateral base commitment of \$8,520,000, provided for quarterly commitment reductions of \$180,000, waived and suspended the leverage ratio covenant and minimum interest coverage ratio covenant until the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2021, and amended the leverage ratio covenant to 6:1 at March 31, 2021 reducing quarterly to 4:1 as of March 31, 2022 and thereafter.

On April 1, 2020, in conjunction with the purchase of assets from Pardus Oil & Gas, LLC (see Note 5), the Company entered into an unsecured promissory note agreement with the seller in the amount of \$378,000. The note is payable in one installment on April 1, 2021 and bears interest at the one-year LIBOR rate (1% as of December 31, 2020).

On May 5, 2020, the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Pardus Oil & Gas Operating, LP, received an SBA Payroll Protection Plan (“PPP”) loan for \$160,700. The loan matures on May 5, 2022 and has an interest rate of 1%. There are no payments due until ten months after the covered period which ended October 20, 2020, at which time the payment amount will be determined based on the portion of the loan which has not been forgiven under criteria established by the SBA, using an eighteen-month amortization. The Company expects that the loan amount will be forgiven based on currently published guidelines of the United States Small Business Administration.

In August 2020, concurrent with the Joint Development Agreement with Petroleum and Independent Exploration, LLC (“PIE”), the Company entered into a term loan agreement dated August 1, 2020, whereby PIE will loan up to \$2,000,000, at an interest rate of 6% per annum, maturing August 7, 2024 unless terminated earlier by PIE. The loan proceeds will be used for recompletion or workover of certain designated wells. In addition, the Company assigned a 70% working and revenue interest to PIE in the designated wells which will be applied to repayment of the loan. As of September 30, 2020, approximately \$315,000 has been advanced from the loan (See Note 5).

In December 2020 the Company purchased certain equipment totaling \$66,819 to be used on lease sites. The equipment was financed through the manufacturer’s financing subsidiary. Terms of the note provide for monthly payments of \$1,012 for 60 months with a 0% interest rate.

9. Senior unsecured convertible promissory notes:

In December 2016, the Company entered into securities purchase agreements (each, a “Securities Purchase Agreement” and, collectively, the “Securities Purchase Agreements”) with four accredited investors, pursuant to which it issued senior unsecured convertible promissory notes due December 31, 2018 (each, a “Convertible Note” and, collectively, the “Convertible Notes”) in the aggregate amount of \$132,500 in cash. Each Convertible Note accrued interest at 6%, was due December 31, 2018 and is convertible at the option of the holder at \$0.15 per share. Each investor was also issued a warrant certificate (each, a “Warrant Certificate” and, collectively, the “Warrant Certificates”), pursuant to which such investor could acquire one share of Common Stock at \$0.25 per share for each \$0.25 invested in the applicable Convertible Note until December 31, 2018. The full amount interest under each Convertible Note was accrued and paid upon the maturity date or earlier conversion.

The value allocated to the Warrant Certificates was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 112%, risk free interest rate of 0.91% and an expected useful life of two years, the fair value of the Warrant Certificates was allocated \$38,115 to Paid in Capital and \$38,115 as Debt Issue Costs. The Notes' conversion features were valued at their intrinsic value in excess of the debt's allocated value of \$38,115 and resulted in additional Paid in Capital and Debt Issue Costs. The Debt Issue Costs represent a direct deduction of the face amount the Convertible Notes was amortized as interest expense over the life of

the Notes.

In January 2017, the Company entered into securities purchase agreements (each, a "Securities Purchase Agreement" and, collectively, the "Securities Purchase Agreements") with two accredited investors, pursuant to which it issued senior unsecured convertible promissory notes due December 31, 2018 (each, a "Convertible Note" and, collectively, the "Convertible Notes") in the aggregate amount of \$62,500 in cash. Each Convertible Note accrued interest at 6%, is due December 31, 2018 and is convertible at the option of the holder at \$0.15 per share. Each investor was also issued a warrant certificate (each, a "Warrant Certificate" and, collectively, the "Warrant Certificates"), pursuant to which such investor could acquire one share of Common Stock at \$0.25 per share for each \$0.25 invested in the applicable Convertible Note until December 31, 2018. The full amount of interest under each Convertible Note is accrued and paid upon the maturity date or earlier conversion.

The value allocated to the Warrant Certificates was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 110%, risk free interest rate of 1.23% and an expected useful life of two years. The fair value of the Warrant Certificates was allocated \$16,975 to Paid in Capital. The Notes' conversion features were valued at their intrinsic value in excess of the debt's allocated value of \$16,975 and resulted in additional Paid in Capital. The Debt Issue Costs represent a direct deduction of the face amount the Convertible Notes and was amortized as interest expense over the life of the Notes.

In September and October 2017, the Company entered into securities purchase agreements (each, a "Securities Purchase Agreement" and, collectively, the "Securities Purchase Agreements") with two accredited investors, pursuant to which it issued senior unsecured convertible promissory notes due December 31, 2019 (each, a "Convertible Note" and, collectively, the "Convertible Notes") in the aggregate amount of \$65,000 in cash. Each Convertible Note accrued interest at 6%, is due December 31, 2019 and is convertible at the option of the holder at \$0.15 per share. Each investor was also issued a warrant certificate (each, a "Warrant Certificate" and, collectively, the "Warrant Certificates"), pursuant to which such investor could acquire one share of Common Stock at \$0.25 per share for each \$0.25 invested in the applicable Convertible Note until December 31, 2019. The full amount of interest under each Convertible Note is accrued and paid upon the maturity date or earlier conversion. The value allocated to the September Warrant Certificates was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 154%, risk free interest rate of 1.35% and an expected useful life of 28 months. The value allocated to the October Warrant Certificates was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 180%, risk free interest rate of 1.51% and an expected useful life of 27 months. The fair value of the Warrant Certificates of \$13,918 was allocated to Paid in Capital. The Notes' conversion features were valued at their intrinsic value in excess of the debt's allocated value of \$13,918 and resulted in additional Paid in Capital. The Debt Issue Costs represent a direct deduction of the face amount the Convertible Notes and was amortized as interest expense over the life of the Notes.

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On December 31, 2018 the Company and investors for all of the Senior Unsecured Convertible Promissory Notes entered into amended agreements whereby the maturity dates for the notes maturing December 31, 2018 were extended to December 31, 2019, the conversion feature of the notes was modified from \$0.15 per share of common stock to \$0.10 per share. Additionally, the Warrant Certificates to purchase shares of common stock of the Company, which were issued as a part of the original agreements, were repriced from \$0.25 per share to \$0.15 per share. The value allocated to the Warrant Certificates modification was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 167%, risk free interest rate of 2.63% and an expected useful life of 12 months. The change in fair value of the Warrant Certificates as a result of the modifications of \$139,985 was allocated to Paid in Capital and included as an expense in 2018. The Notes conversion features were equivalent to their intrinsic value at the date of modification.

In 2019, five of the Senior Unsecured Promissory Note investors exercised the conversion feature and converted their \$157,500 notes for 1,575,000 shares of the Company's common stock. On December 31, 2019 the Company and investors for the remaining \$102,500 Senior Unsecured Convertible Promissory Notes entered into amended agreements whereby the maturity dates for the notes maturing December 31, 2019 were extended to January 31, 2020. In January 2020 the remaining Senior Unsecured Promissory Note investors exercised the conversion feature and converted their \$102,500 notes for 1,025,000 shares of the Company's common stock.

10. Common stock:

During December 2016, the Company issued \$132,500 of senior unsecured convertible promissory notes ("Convertible Notes") due December 31, 2018 to several accredited investors (See Note 9). The Convertible Notes, as modified, were convertible at the option of the holder into Common Stock at \$0.10 per share. Each investor was also issued a warrant certificate, pursuant to which such investor could acquire one share of Common Stock at \$0.15 per share for each \$0.15 invested in the applicable Convertible Note until December 31, 2019. In December, 2019 the Convertible Notes were extended to January 31, 2020.

During January 2017 the Company issued \$62,500 of senior unsecured convertible promissory notes ("Convertible Notes") due December 31, 2018 to several accredited investors (See Note 9). The Convertible Notes, as modified, were convertible at the option of the holder into Common Stock at \$0.10 per share. Each investor was also issued a warrant certificate, pursuant to which such investor could acquire one share of Common Stock at \$0.15 per share for each \$0.15 invested in the applicable Convertible Note until December 31, 2019. In December, 2019 the Convertible Notes were extended to January 31, 2020.

During September and October 2017, the Company issued \$65,000 of senior unsecured convertible promissory notes ("Convertible Notes") due December 31, 2019 to two accredited investors (See Note 9). The Convertible Notes, as modified, were convertible at the option of the holder into Common Stock at \$0.10 per share. Each investor was also issued a warrant certificate, pursuant to which such investor could acquire one share of Common Stock at \$0.15 per share for each \$0.15 invested in the applicable Convertible Note until December 31, 2019. In December, 2019 the Convertible Notes were extended to January 31, 2020.

In 2019 and 2020 all of the convertible promissory notes were converted into shares of the Company's stock (see Note 9).

During January 2018 the Company issued to several accredited investors 1,100,000 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 1,100,000 shares of its common stock for \$0.15 per share which expired on December 31, 2019. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 185%, risk free interest rate of 2.05% and an expected useful life of 24 months. The fair value of the warrants of \$108,900 was allocated to Paid in Capital.

During March 2018 the Company issued to an accredited investor 100,000 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 100,000 shares of its common stock for \$0.15 per share which expired on December 31, 2019. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 179%, risk free interest rate of 2.22% and an expected useful life of 22 months. The fair value of the warrants of \$9,900 was allocated to Paid in Capital.

During June 2018 the Company issued warrants to purchase 645,000 shares of its common stock for \$0.25 per share which expired on December 31, 2019 to several professionals for business assistance provided. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 174%, risk free interest rate of 2.38% and an expected useful life of 19 months. The fair value of the warrants of \$117,068 was recorded as compensation expense and allocated to Paid in Capital.

During June 2018 the Company issued to an accredited investor 100,000 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 100,000 shares of its common stock for \$0.15 per share which expired on December 31, 2019. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 197%, risk free interest rate of 2.43% and an expected useful life of 18 months. The fair value of the warrants of \$9,900 was allocated

During August and September 2018, the Company issued to a group of accredited investors 1,016,667 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 1,16,667 shares of its common stock for \$.25 per share which expired on December 31, 2019. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 210%, risk free interest rate of 2.49% and an expected useful life of 15 months. The fair value of the warrants of \$150,833 was allocated to Paid in Capital.

During August and September 2018, the Company issued to an accredited investor 5,000,000 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 5,000,000 shares of its common stock for \$.15 per share which expires on December 31, 2020. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 189%, risk free interest rate of 2.71% and an expected useful life of 27 months. The fair value of the warrants of \$495,000 was allocated to Paid in Capital. Proceeds from the issuance were utilized for a portion of acquisitions.

In March 2019, 1,446,668 outstanding \$.15 warrants were converted to shares of common stock of the Company. Proceeds received from the conversion was \$217,000 including \$50,000 of notes payable conversion by Mr. Kamin.

During May 2019, the Company issued warrants to purchase 300,000 shares of its common stock for \$.17 per share which expire on December 31, 2021 to a former employee for business assistance provided. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 217%, risk free interest rate of 1.92% and an expected useful life of 31 months. The fair value of the warrants of \$58,380 was recorded as compensation expense and allocated to Paid in Capital.

On April 3, 2019 the Board of Directors of the Company amended certain warrant certificates which had been issued to Mr. Kamin covering 3,000,000 warrants to purchase common stock of the Company. The original warrants expired on December 31, 2021 and had exercise prices of \$.15 and \$.25 for 500,000 and 2,500,000 shares, respectively. The warrants were extended to expire on April 2, 2029. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 213%, risk free interest rate of 2.32% and an expected useful life of 5 years. The fair value of the warrants of \$976,000 was recorded as compensation expense and allocated to Paid in Capital.

On August 7, 2020 concurrently with the Joint Development Agreement with Petroleum & Independent Exploration, LLC and related entities ("PIE"), the companies entered into a Securities Purchase Agreement ("Securities Agreement") whereby PIE purchased for \$525,000 (a) 3,500,000 shares of Empire common stock, (b) warrants to purchase 2,625,000 shares of Empire common stock at an exercise price of \$.20 per share, (c) warrants to purchase 1,800,000 shares of Empire common stock at an exercise price of \$.25 per share, (d) warrants to purchase 8,136,518 shares of Empire common stock at an exercise price of \$.10 per share, and (e) warrants to purchase up to 11,066,667 shares of Empire common stock at an exercise price of \$.141 per share. PIE is obligated to exercise the \$.20 warrants within 45 days of when 3 month trailing average production from the Empire Texas properties have increased by 20% over the trailing 3 month trailing average production as of July 2020. PIE can only exercise the \$.25 warrants once all existing non-PIE outstanding warrants to purchase Empire common stock have been exercised or lapsed. For the \$.141 warrants, PIE may initially acquire 7,533,333 shares of Empire common stock. The value allocated to the warrants was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 147%, risk free interest rate of .19% and an expected useful life of 4 years. The fair value of the warrants of \$450,848 was allocated to Paid in Capital (See Note 5). On March 11, 2021 the Company amended the Securities Agreement to remove the vesting provisions for the warrants and PIE exercised the warrants for an aggregate exercise price of \$3,349,052 (See Note 15).

On December 31, 2020 the Board of Directors of the Company amended certain warrant certificates which had been issued to Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Morrisett covering 1,000,000 warrants to purchase common stock of the Company. The original warrants expired on December 31, 2021 and had an exercise prices of \$.25. The warrants were extended to expire on April 2, 2029. The value allocated to the warrant extension was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 329%, risk free interest rate of .36% and an expected useful life of 5 years. The fair value of the warrant extension of \$349,800 was recorded as compensation expense and allocated to Paid in Capital.

11. Stock options:

At the Company's 2006 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, the stockholders approved the 2006 Stock Incentive Plan (the "Plan"). The Plan permitted the issuance of stock options, restricted stock awards, and performance shares to employees, officers, directors, and consultants of the Company. Initially, and until such time as the Board creates a Compensation Committee, the Board of Directors will administer the Plan. The total number of shares of common stock that may be issued pursuant to awards under the Plan is 5,000,000. Under the Plan, no participant may receive awards of stock options that cover, in the aggregate, more than 500,000 shares of common stock in any fiscal year. Under the terms of the Plan, no additional options could be granted after the tenth anniversary of the Plan, which occurred on June 5, 2016. As of December 31, 2019, there were 4,167 options outstanding which expired on September 9, 2020.

On April 3, 2019, the Board of Directors of the Company adopted the Empire Petroleum Corporation 2019 Stock Option Plan (the "Stock Option Plan"). The total number of shares of common stock that may be issued pursuant to stock options under the Stock Option Plan is 10,000,000. Further, on April 3, 2019 the Company granted Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Morrisett each, options to purchase 2,500,000 shares of common stock of the Company at an exercise price of \$.33 per share. The options vest in three installments with 1,250,000 vesting immediately and 625,000 vesting each in April 2020 and April 2021. All of the options expire in April 2029. The value allocated to the vested options was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 213%, risk free interest rate of 2.32% and an expected useful life of 5.375 years. The fair value of the options of \$812,500 was recorded as compensation expense and allocated to Paid in Capital in 2019. In 2020, the fair value of the options which vested in April 2020 of \$406,250 was recorded as compensation expense and allocated to Paid in Capital. The fair of the remaining unvested options is \$406,250 as of December 31, 2020.

On December 31, 2020 the Company granted Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Morrisett each, options to purchase 2,500,000 shares of common stock of the Company at an exercise price of \$.35 per share. The options vested immediately. All of the options expire in December 2030. The value allocated to the vested options was the fair value determined using the Black-Scholes option valuation with the following assumptions: no dividend yield, expected annual volatility of 344%, risk free interest rate of .36% and an expected useful life of 5 years. The fair value of the options of \$1,949,500 was recorded as compensation expense in 2020 and allocated to Paid in Capital.

The Company expenses the cost of options granted over the vesting period of the option based on the grant-date fair value of the award. Option fair values are estimated at the grant date using the Black-Scholes option valuation model. The Black-Scholes option valuation model was developed for use in estimating the fair value of traded options, which have no vesting restrictions and are fully transferable. For purposes of determining the expected life of the options, the Company utilizes the Simplified Method as defined in Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission. In addition, the Black-Scholes option valuation model requires the input of other highly subjective assumptions including stock price volatility.

A summary of the Company's Incentive Plan as of December 31, 2020, and changes during the year is presented below:

	<u>Options</u>	<u>Weighted Average Exercise Price</u>
Outstanding at End of Year 2018	4,167	\$ 3.12
Granted	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>.33</u>
Outstanding at End of Year 2019	<u>5,004,167</u>	<u>\$.33</u>
Granted	5,000,000	.35
Expired	<u>4,167</u>	<u>3.12</u>
Outstanding at End of Year 2020	<u>10,000,000</u>	<u>\$.34</u>

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding at December 31, 2020:

<u>Range of Exercise Prices</u>	<u>Options Outstanding</u>		<u>Options Exercisable</u>		
	<u>Number Outstanding at 12/31/20</u>	<u>Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life</u>	<u>Weighted Average Exercise Price</u>	<u>Number Exercisable at 12/31/20</u>	<u>Weighted Average Exercise Price</u>
\$.33 to \$.35	10,000,000	9.13 years	\$.34	8,750,000	\$.34

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12. Income taxes:

The provision for income taxes differs from the amount obtained by applying the applicable Federal income tax rate of 21% at year-ends 2020 and 2019 to income before income taxes. The difference relates to the following items:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Statutory tax rate	21%	21%
Expected tax benefit	\$ (1,232,000)	\$ (380,000)
Nondeductible expenses	—	—
Increase in valuation allowance	<u>1,232,000</u>	<u>380,000</u>
Tax provision (benefit) as reported	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

The components of deferred income taxes at December 31, are as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Deferred tax assets:		
Loss carry-forwards	\$ 4,071,054	\$ 2,594,008
Depreciation, depletion and impairment	2,696,706	413,835
Unrecognized losses on derivatives	<u>1,207</u>	<u>46,963</u>
Total deferred tax assets	6,768,967	3,054,806
Valuation allowance	<u>(6,768,967)</u>	<u>(3,054,806)</u>
Net deferred taxes	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

At December 31, 2020, the Company has accumulated net operating loss carryforwards totaling approximately \$19.4 million which begin to expire if not utilized starting in 2021.

Utilization of the Company's loss carryforwards is dependent on realizing taxable income. The Company recorded a valuation allowance as of December 31, 2020 and 2019 due to uncertainty related to its ability to utilize some of its deferred income tax assets, primarily consisting of net operating loss carryforwards before they expire.

The Company is no longer subject to income tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 2017. The Company is not currently the subject of any income tax examinations by any tax authorities.

Based upon a review of its income tax filing positions, the Company believes that its positions would be sustained upon an audit and does not anticipate any adjustments that

would result in a material change to its financial position. Therefore, no reserves for uncertain income tax positions have been recorded. The Company recognizes interest related to income taxes as interest expense and penalties as operating expenses.

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13. Operating lease:

The Company adopted ASU No. 2016-02, Topic 842 (ASC 842) - Leases, effective January 1, 2020. This ASU requires lessees to recognize an operating lease or right-of-use ("ROU") asset and liability on the balance sheet for all right-of-use leases with an initial lease term greater than twelve months.

Under the transition option, the Company will continue to apply the legacy guidance in ASC 840, including its disclosure requirements, in the comparative periods presented and will make only annual disclosures for the comparative periods because ASC 840 does not require interim disclosures. Prior period amounts have not been adjusted and continue to be reflected in accordance with the Company's historical accounting. The adoption of this standard on January 1, 2020, had no impact on the Company's consolidated statements of stockholders' equity or consolidated statements of operations.

As a lessee, the Company leases its corporate office headquarters in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The lease expires on December 31, 2025 and has an option to renew for an additional five-year term. The option to renew the lease is generally not considered reasonably certain to be exercised. Therefore, the period covered by such optional period is not included in the determination of the term of the lease and the lease payments during these periods are similarly excluded from the calculation of right-of-use lease asset and lease liability balances.

ROU lease expense consists of rent expense related to leases that were included in ROU assets under ASC 842. The Company recognizes right-of-use lease expense on a straight-line basis, except for certain variable expenses that are recognized when the variability is resolved, typically during the period in which they are paid. Variable right-of-use lease payments typically include charges for property taxes, insurance, and variable payments related to non-lease components, including common area maintenance.

As a result of adopting ASC 842, on the effective date, the Company recognized right-of-use assets and liabilities of \$613,901. Right-of-use leases are included in right-of-use assets (included in Other Property and Equipment) and current or long-term right-of-use obligations on the consolidated balance sheets. Right-of-use assets and liabilities are recognized at the commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. The Company uses a discount rate that approximates the rate of interest for a collateralized loan over a similar term as the discount rate for present value of lease payments when the rate implicit in the contract is not readily determinable.

Right of use lease expense was \$34,989 for the year ended December 31, 2020. Cash flows for right of use leases was \$-0- for the year as the lease payments did not commence until 2021.

Supplemental balance sheet information related to the right of use leases as of December 31, 2020:

Right of use lease assets	\$	<u>588,790</u>
Right of use lease obligations – current	\$	89,769
Right of use lease obligations – long term		<u>534,009</u>
Total right of use lease liabilities	\$	<u>623,778</u>

The weighted average remaining term for the Company's right of use leases is 5 years.

Maturities of lease liabilities as of December 31, 2020:

2021	\$	127,100
2022		147,439
2023		150,385
2024		153,392
2025		<u>156,460</u>
Total Lease payments		734,776
Less imputed interest		<u>(110,995)</u>
Total lease obligation		<u>623,781</u>

Rent expense for the Company's former Tulsa office for the year ended December 31, 2020 was \$21,117 and \$22,700 for the year ended December 31, 2019.

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14. Concentrations:

The Company's producing properties and oil and natural gas reserves are all located in Louisiana, North Dakota, and Montana. Because of the concentration, the Company is exposed to the impact of regional supply and demand factors, processing or transportation capacity constraints, severe weather events, water shortages, and government regulations specific to the geographic area.

The Company sells 96% of its oil and natural gas production to four customers. The loss of these purchasers could result in a temporary interruption in sales or a lower price for production.

15. Subsequent events:

On March 10, 2021 the Company entered into the Third Amendment (the "Third Amendment") of its Senior Revolver Loan Agreement (the "Agreement") with CrossFirst Bank (see Note 8).

On March 11, 2021 the Company amended the Securities Agreement with Petroleum & Independent Exploration, LLC ("PIE") to remove the vesting provisions for the warrants, and PIE exercised all of its warrants to purchase 23,628,185 shares of the Company's common stock for an aggregate exercise price of \$3,349,052 (See Note 5).

On March 12, 2021 the Company, through its subsidiary Empire New Mexico, LLC entered into a purchase and sale agreement with XTO Holdings, LLC (a subsidiary of ExxonMobil) (the "Seller") to acquire, among other things, certain oil and gas properties in New Mexico. The purchase price is \$17,800,000 subject to customary adjustments, is effective as of January 1, 2021, and is scheduled to close April 26, 2021. The Company has wired a deposit of \$1,780,000 to the Seller on March 12, 2021. As a part of the transaction, the Company established Empire New Mexico, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary.

On March 22, 2021 the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Empire ND Acquisitions, LLC, entered into a purchase and sale agreement with 31 Group, LLC to acquire among other things, certain oil and gas properties in North Dakota. The purchase price is \$900,000 and is reduced by certain expenses which the Company may incur relating to the properties for up to one year from the April 21, 2021 closing date. As a part of the transaction, the Company established Empire ND Acquisition, LLC.

During February and March 2021, the Company issued to a group of accredited investors 8,993,857 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 8,993,857 shares of its common stock for \$.50 per share which expires on December 31, 2022. Proceeds from the sale were \$3,147,850.

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EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

December 31, 2020 and 2019

The following reserve estimates present the Company's estimate of the proven natural gas and oil reserves and net cash flow of the Properties, in accordance with the guidelines established by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company emphasizes that reserve estimates are inherently imprecise and that estimates of new discoveries are more imprecise than those of producing natural gas and oil properties. Accordingly, the estimates are expected to change as future information becomes available. All the oil and natural gas reserves are located in Louisiana, North Dakota, Montana and Texas.

Reserve Quantity Information

Proved oil and natural gas reserves are those quantities of oil and gas, which by analysis of geoscience and engineering data, can be estimated with reasonable certainty to be economically producible from a given date forward, from known reservoirs, and under existing economic conditions, operating methods, and government regulations. Proved developed reserves are proved reserves that can be expected to be recovered through existing wells with existing equipment and operating methods or in which the cost of the required equipment is relatively minor compared to the cost of a new well. Proved undeveloped reserves are proved reserves that are expected to be recovered from new wells on undrilled acreage, or from existing wells where a relatively major expenditures is required for recompletion. Below are the net quantities of net proved developed and undeveloped reserves of the Properties:

	As of December 31, 2020		As of December, 31 2019	
	Oil (MMBbls)	Natural Gas (MMcf)	Oil (MMBbls)	Natural Gas (MMcf)
Proved developed reserves:				
Beginning of year	3,643	404	661	887
Purchase of minerals in place	580	1,092	2,886	17
Revision of previous estimates	(397)	(385)	209	(459)
Production	(165)	(140)	(113)	(41)
End of year	<u>3,661</u>	<u>971</u>	<u>3,643</u>	<u>404</u>
Proved developed	3,331	940	2,216	404
Proved undeveloped	—	—	1,311	—
Proved behind pipe	85	—	103	—
Proved shut in	245	31	13	—
Total proved	<u>3,661</u>	<u>971</u>	<u>3,643</u>	<u>404</u>

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Standardized Measure of Discounted Future Net Cash Flows Relating to Oil and Natural Gas Reserves

The standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows relating to oil and natural gas reserves and associated changes in standard measure amounts were prepared in accordance with the provision of Financial Accounting Standard Board ASC 932-235-555. Future cash inflows were computed by applying average prices of oil and natural gas for the last 12 months to estimated future production. Future production and development costs were computed by estimating the expenditures to be incurred in developing the oil and natural gas reserves at the end of the year, based on year end costs and assuming continuation of existing economic conditions. Future net cash flows are discounted at the rate of 10% annually to derive the standardized measure of discounted cash flows. Actual future cash inflows may vary considerably, and the standardized measure does not necessarily represent the fair value of the acquired properties' oil and natural gas reserves. Standard measure amounts are:

	2020	2019
Future cash inflows	\$ 121,959,450	\$ 184,779,880
Future production costs	(55,350,840)	(75,544,710)
Future development costs	(1,682,210)	(19,459,800)

Future net cash flows	64,926,400	89,775,370
10% annual discount for timing of cash flows	<u>(44,156,320)</u>	<u>(52,473,450)</u>
Standardized Measure	<u>\$ 20,770,080</u>	<u>\$ 37,301,920</u>

The 12-month average prices were adjusted to reflect applicable transportation and quality differentials on a well-by-well basis to arrive at realized sales prices used to estimate the properties' reserves. The prices for the properties' reserves were as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Natural gas (MMBtu)	\$ 1.41	\$ 2.58
Oil (Bbl)	\$ 32.94	\$ 53.27

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Changes in the Standardized Measure of Discounted Future Net Cash Flows at 10% per annum are as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Standardized measure – beginning of year	\$ 37,301,920	\$ 12,977,620
Sales of oil and gas production	(2,164,496)	(1,315,488)
Purchase of minerals in place	13,694,856	16,047,370
Changes in price and production costs	(18,386,232)	12,536,044
Revisions of quantity estimates	(4,348,703)	1,414,205
Changes in estimated development cost	16,937,402	653,957
Accretion of discount	5,099,678	2,902,499
Changes in estimated timing and other, net	<u>(27,364,345)</u>	<u>(7,914,287)</u>
Change in standardized measure	<u>(16,531,840)</u>	<u>24,324,300</u>
Standardized measure – end of year	<u>\$ 20,770,080</u>	<u>\$ 37,301,920</u>

Estimates of economically recoverable natural gas and oil reserves and of future net revenues are based upon a number of variable factors and assumptions, all of which are to some degree subjective and may vary considerably from actual results. Therefore, actual production, revenues, development and operating expenditures may not occur as estimated. The reserve data are estimates only, are subject to many uncertainties, and are based on data gained from production histories and on assumptions as to geologic formations and other matters. Actual quantities of natural gas and oil may differ materially from the amounts estimated.

Capitalization of Oil and Gas Properties

Empire has not incurred and capitalized exploratory well costs for properties pending the determination of proved status, exploratory well costs reclassified to wells or exploratory well costs that were charged to expense.

The aggregate capitalized costs of oil and gas properties are as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Proved producing wells	\$ 4,499,519	\$ 3,826,522
Proved undeveloped	547,882	2,232,358
Lease and well equipment	1,360,596	1,121,527
Unproved leasehold	2,177,317	—
Asset retirement obligation	14,126,130	5,480,050
Gross capitalized costs	<u>22,711,444</u>	<u>12,660,457</u>
Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization	<u>(8,930,528)</u>	<u>(3,365,340)</u>
Net capitalized costs	<u>\$ 13,780,916</u>	<u>\$ 9,295,117</u>
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Total gross capitalized costs	<u>\$ 22,711,444</u>	<u>\$ 12,660,457</u>

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DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMON STOCK OF EMPIRE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

**Description of the Common Stock of Empire Petroleum Corporation Registered
Under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

The following summary of the common stock of Empire Petroleum Corporation (the "Corporation") is based on and qualified by the Corporation's Certificate of Incorporation, as amended (the "Certificate of Incorporation") and Amended and Restated Bylaws ("Bylaws"). For a complete description of the terms and provisions of the Corporation's common stock, refer to the Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, both of which are filed as exhibits to this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Authorized Capital

The Corporation has authority to issue 150,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share. The Corporation's outstanding shares of common stock are fully paid and nonassessable. Holders of common stock have no preemptive rights and have no rights to convert their common stock into any other securities.

Voting Rights

The holders of shares of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted on by stockholders. Holders of common stock do not have cumulative voting rights with respect to the election of directors or as to any other matter to be voted upon by the holders of common stock. The Corporation's Bylaws may be amended by our board of directors without the vote or consent of the holders of our common stock or by vote or consent of the holders of our common stock.

Dividend and Liquidation Rights

Holders of common stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends as may be declared by the Corporation's board of directors in its discretion from funds legally available. In the event of a liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of the Corporation, holders of common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities. The Corporation's credit agreement limits the amount of cash dividends the Corporation can pay on its common stock.

Diminution of Rights of Common Stock

The Certificate of Incorporation does not currently authorize the issuance of preferred stock. The voting, dividend, and liquidation rights of the holders of our common stock could be materially adversely diminished by the terms of any series of preferred stock that may be authorized for issue in the future pursuant to an amendment of the Certificate of Information.

Anti-Takeover Provisions

Provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law ("DGCL") may delay, defer, or prevent a change of control of the Corporation. The DGCL provides certain restrictions on business combinations involving interested parties. Under the DGCL, a corporation may not engage in a business combination with any holder of 15% or more of its capital stock unless the holder has held the stock for three years or, among other things, the board of directors has approved the transaction. The board of directors could rely on this provision of the DGCL to prevent or delay an acquisition of the Corporation.

CERTIFICATION

I, Thomas Pritchard, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Empire Petroleum Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

March 31, 2021

/s/ Thomas Pritchard
Thomas Pritchard
Chief Executive Officer

CERTIFICATION

I, Michael R. Morrisett, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Empire Petroleum Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

March 31, 2021

/s/ Michael R. Morrisett
Michael R. Morrisett
President (principal financial officer)

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the annual report of Empire Petroleum Corporation (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the period ending December 31, 2020, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Thomas Pritchard, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

March 31, 2021

/s/ Thomas Pritchard
Thomas Pritchard
Chief Executive Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

The foregoing certification is being furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Report and shall not be considered filed as part of the Report.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the annual report of Empire Petroleum Corporation (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the period ending December 31, 2020, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Michael R. Morrisett, President (principal financial officer) of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

March 31, 2021

/s/ Michael R. Morrisett
Michael R. Morrisett
President (principal financial officer)

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

The foregoing certification is being furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Report and shall not be considered filed as part of the Report.