

TENGASCO INC
Form DEF 14A
April 20, 2009

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

**PROXY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(a)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Filed by the Registrant /

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant /

Check the Appropriate Box:

/ Preliminary Proxy Statement

/ Confidential for Use of Commission Only

/ Definitive Proxy Statement

/ Definitive Additional Materials

/ Soliciting Materials Pursuant to §240.14a-11(c) or §240.14a-12

TENGASCO, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

(Name of person(s) Filing Proxy Statement if other than Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box)

/ No Fee Required

/ \$125 per Exchange Act Rules-O-11(c)(1)(ii), 14a-6(i)(1), 14a-6(i)(2) or Item 22(a)(2) of Schedule 14A.

/ Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14A-6(i)(4) and O-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which each transaction applies:

2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule O-11
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4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction.

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1) Amount Previously Paid

2) Form Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3) Filing Party:

4) Date Filed:

TENGASCO, INC.

10215 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE N.W.

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37932

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO BE HELD ON

June 1, 2009

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS:

Notice is hereby given that the 2009 annual meeting of stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of Tengasco, Inc. (the "Company") has been called for and will be held at the Homewood Suites by Hilton, 10935 Turkey Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37922 at 9:00 A.M., local time, on Monday, June 1, 2009 for the following purposes:

1. To elect Jeffrey R. Bailey, Matthew K. Behrent, John A. Clendening, Carlos P. Salas and Peter E. Salas to the Board of Directors to hold office until their successors shall have been elected and qualify;

2. To ratify the appointment by the Board of Directors of Rodefer Moss & Co, PLLC to serve as the independent certified public accountants for the current fiscal year; and

3. To consider and transact such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournments thereof.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on April 1, 2009 as the record date for the determination of the stockholders entitled to receive notice and to vote at the Annual Meeting or any adjournments thereof. The list of stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be available for examination by any stockholder at the Company's offices at 10215 Technology Drive N.W., Suite 301, Knoxville, Tennessee 37932, for ten (10) days prior to June 1, 2009.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Jeffrey R. Bailey, *Chief Executive Officer*

Dated: April 3, 2009

WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE FILL IN, SIGN AND DATE THE PROXY SUBMITTED HERewith AND RETURN IT IN THE ENCLOSED STAMPED ENVELOPE. THE GRANTING OF SUCH PROXY WILL NOT AFFECT YOUR RIGHT TO REVOKE SUCH PROXY IN PERSON SHOULD YOU LATER DECIDE TO ATTEND THE MEETING. THE ENCLOSED PROXY IS BEING SOLICITED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

INTERNET AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS

This Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement along with the form of proxy card and the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 will be available on the Company's website at www.tengasco.com beginning on the first day these materials are mailed to shareholders which is anticipated to be April 20, 2009.

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TENGASCO, INC.

PROXY STATEMENT

GENERAL

This proxy statement is furnished by the Board of Directors of Tengasco, Inc., a Tennessee corporation (sometimes the "Company" or "Tengasco"), with offices located at 10215 Technology Drive, N.W., Suite 301, Knoxville, Tennessee 37932, in connection with the solicitation of proxies to be used at the annual meeting of stockholders of the Company to be held on June 1, 2009 and at any adjournments thereof (the "Annual Meeting"). This proxy statement will be mailed to stockholders beginning approximately April 20, 2009.

You may vote in person at the Annual Meeting or you may vote by proxy. We recommend that you vote by proxy even if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting. If your share ownership is recorded directly, you will receive a proxy card. Voting instructions are included on the proxy card. If your share ownership is beneficial (that is, your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other nominee referred to as in "street name"), your broker will issue you a voting instruction form that you use to instruct them how to vote your shares. Your broker must follow your voting instructions. Although most brokers and nominees offer mail, telephone and internet voting, availability and specific procedures will depend on their voting arrangements.

If a proxy is properly executed and returned, the shares represented thereby will be voted as instructed on the proxy. Any proxy may be revoked by a stockholder prior to its exercise upon written notice to the Chief Executive Officer of the Company, or by a stockholder voting in person at the Annual Meeting. Unless instructions to the contrary are indicated, proxies will be voted FOR the election of the directors named therein, and FOR the ratification of the selection by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Rodefer Moss & Co, PLLC, as the independent certified public accountants of the Company.

A copy of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 ("Fiscal 2008"), which contains financial statements audited by the Company's independent certified public accountants accompanies this proxy statement.

The cost of preparing, assembling and mailing this notice of meeting, proxy statement, the enclosed Annual Report on Form 10-K and proxy will be borne by the Company. In addition to solicitation of the proxies by use of the mails, some of the officers and regular employees of the Company, without extra remuneration, may solicit proxies personally or by telephone, fax transmission or e-mail. The Company may also request brokerage houses, nominees, custodians and fiduciaries to forward soliciting material to the beneficial owners of the common stock. The Company will reimburse such persons for their expenses in forwarding soliciting material.

VOTING SECURITIES AND

PRINCIPAL HOLDERS

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on April 1, 2009 as the record date (the "Record Date") for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at the Annual Meeting. Only stockholders on the Record Date will be able to vote at the Annual Meeting.

As of the Record Date, 59,350,661 shares of the Company's common stock, \$.001 par value per share are outstanding, and each share will be entitled to one (1) vote, with no shares having cumulative voting rights. Holders of shares of common stock are entitled to vote on all matters. Unless otherwise indicated herein, a majority of the votes represented by shares present or represented at the Annual Meeting is required for approval of each matter that will be submitted to the stockholders.

Management knows of no business other than that specified in Items 1 and 2 of the Notice of Annual Meeting that will be presented for consideration at the Annual Meeting. If any other matter is properly presented, it is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed proxy to vote in accordance with their best judgment.

The following table sets forth the share holdings of those persons who own more than 5% of the Company's common stock as of April 1, 2009 with these computations being based upon 59,350,661 shares of common stock being outstanding as of that date and as to each shareholder, as it may pertain, assumes the exercise of options or warrants granted or held by such shareholder as of April 1, 2009.

Five Percent Stockholders¹

Name and Address	<u>Title</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Beneficially Owned</u>	<u>Percent of Class</u>
Dolphin Offshore	Stockholder	21,157,492 ²		35.6%
Partners, L.P.				
c/o Dolphin Asset				
Management Corp.				
129 East 17 th Street				
New York, NY 10003				

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¹ Unless otherwise stated, all shares of Common Stock are directly held with sole voting and dispositive power.

² Consists of 20,839,492 shares held directly by Dolphin Offshore Partners, L.P. (“Dolphin”) and 218,000 shares held directly by Peter E. Salas, and a vested, fully exercisable option to purchase 100,000 shares granted to Mr. Salas who is the Chairman of the Company’s Board of Directors and is the sole shareholder and controlling person of Dolphin Management, Inc., the general partner of Dolphin.

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PROPOSAL NO. 1:

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

GENERAL

Article III, paragraph number 2 of the Company's Bylaws provides that the number of directors of the Company shall be a minimum of three and a maximum of ten. The members of the Board of Directors are each elected for a one-year term or until their successors are elected and qualify with a plurality of votes cast in favor of their election. Five nominees are put forth before the stockholders for election to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. All of the nominees are presently directors of the Company and Mr. Jeffrey R. Bailey, one of the director-nominees is also presently the Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

The directors will serve until the next annual meeting of stockholders and thereafter until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

Unless authority is withheld, the proxies in the accompanying form will be voted in favor of the election of the nominees named above as directors. If any nominee should subsequently become unavailable for election, the persons voting the accompanying proxy may in their discretion vote for a substitute.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors has the responsibility for establishing broad corporate policies and for the overall performance of the Company. Although only one member of the Board is involved in day-to-day operating details, the other members of the Board are kept informed of the Company's business by various reports and documents sent to them as well as by operating and financial reports made at Board meetings. The Board of Directors held seven meetings in Fiscal 2008. All directors who are up for re-election attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board of Directors and of the committees on which such directors served during Fiscal 2008. Although it has no formal policy requiring attendance, the Company encourages all of its directors to attend the annual meeting of stockholders. All of the Company's directors attended last year's annual meeting and it is anticipated that all of the director-nominees will attend this year's Annual Meeting.

There is no understanding or arrangement between any director and any other persons pursuant to which such individual was or is to be selected as a director or nominee of the Company.

Identification of Director-Nominees

The following table sets forth the names of all current director-nominees.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Positions Held</u>	<u>Date of Initial Election or Designation</u>
Jeffrey R. Bailey 2306 West Gallaher Ferry Knoxville, TN 37932	Director; Chief Executive Officer	2/28/03-8/11/04; 10/21/04 7/17/02
Matthew K. Behrent 19 Pierrepont St. #3 Brooklyn, NY 11201	Director	3/27/07
John A. Clendening 1031 Saint Johns Drive Maryville, TN 37801	Director	2/28/03
Carlos P. Salas c/o Dolphin Asset Management Corp. 129 East 17 th Street New York, NY 10003	Director	8/12/04
Peter E. Salas c/o Dolphin Asset Management Corp. 129 East 17 th Street New York, NY 10003	Director; Chairman of the Board	10/8/02 10/21/04

Background of Directors

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The following is a brief account of the experience, for at least the past five (5) years, of each nominee for director.

Jeffrey R. Bailey is 51 years old. He graduated in 1980 from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology with a B.S. degree in Geological Engineering. Upon graduation he joined Gearhart Industries as a field engineer working in Texas, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Gearhart Industries later merged with Halliburton Company. In 1993, after 13 years working in various field operations and management roles primarily focused on reservoir evaluation, log analysis and log data acquisition he assumed a global role with Halliburton as a petrophysics instructor in Fort Worth, Texas. His duties were to teach Halliburton personnel and customers around the world log analysis and competition technology and to review analytical reservoir problems. In this role Mr. Bailey had the opportunity to review reservoirs in Europe, Latin America, Asia Pacific and the Middle East developing a special expertise in carbonate

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reservoirs. In 1997, he became technical manager for Halliburton in Mexico focusing on finding engineering solutions to the production challenges of large carbonate reservoirs in Mexico. He joined the Company as its Chief Geological Engineer on March 1, 2002. He was elected as President of the Company on July 17, 2002 and is presently the Company's Chief Executive Officer. He was elected as a Director on February 28, 2003 and served as a Director until August 11, 2004. He was again elected to the Company's Board of Directors on October 21, 2004.

Matthew K. Behrent is 39 years old. He currently is an Executive Vice President, Corporate Development at EDCI Holdings, Inc (NasdaqCM: EDCI), a company engaged in the manufacture and distribution of CD's and DVD's. Before joining EDCI in June, 2005, Mr. Behrent was an investment banker, working as a Vice-President at Revolution Partners, a technology focused investment bank in Boston, from March 2004 until June 2005 and as an associate in Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation's technology mergers and acquisitions group from June 2000 until January 2003. From June 1998 to May 2000, Mr. Behrent practiced law with Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in New York, advising financial sponsors and corporate clients in connection with financings and mergers and acquisitions transactions. Mr. Behrent received his J.D. from Stanford Law School in 1997, and his B.A. in Political Science and Political Theory from Hampshire College in 1992. He became a Director of the Company on March 27, 2007.

Dr. John A. Clendening is 77 years old. He received B.S. (1958), M.S. (1960) and Ph. D. (1970) degrees in geology from West Virginia University. He was employed as a Palynologist-Coal Geologist at the West Virginia Geological Survey from 1960 until 1968. He joined Amoco in 1968 and remained with Amoco as a senior geological associate until 1992. Dr. Clendening has served as President and other offices of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists and the Society of Organic Petrologists. From 1992-1998 he was engaged in association with Laird Exploration Co., Inc. of Houston, Texas, directing exploration and production in south central Kentucky. In 1999, he purchased all the assets of Laird Exploration in south central Kentucky and operates independently. While with Amoco Dr. Clendening was instrumental in Amoco's acquisition in the early 1970's of large land acreage holdings in Northeast Tennessee, based upon his geological studies and recommendations. His work led directly to the discovery of what is now the Company's Paul Reed # 1 well. He further recognized the area to have significant oil and gas potential and is credited with discovery of the field that is now known as the Company's Swan Creek Field. Dr. Clendening previously served as a Director of the Company from September 1998 to August 2000. He was again elected as a Director of the Company on February 28, 2003.

Carlos P. Salas is 37 years old. He is a principal of Dolphin Advisors, L.L.C., which manages a private-equity investment fund focused on middle-market opportunities. Before joining Dolphin Advisors, Mr. Salas led corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions advisory assignments for middle-market clients as an investment banker with Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette ("DLJ") in Los Angeles and later with Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation when the latter acquired DLJ. Prior to joining DLJ in 1999, Mr. Salas practiced law with Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in New York, advising financial sponsors and corporate clients in connection with financings and cross-border mergers and acquisitions transactions. Mr. Salas received his

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J.D. from The University of Chicago and his B.A. in Philosophy from New York University. He was elected to the Company's Board of Directors on August 12, 2004. Mr. Salas also serves on the boards of William Controls, Inc. and Telenetics Corporation.

Peter E. Salas is 54 years old. He has been President of Dolphin Asset Management Corp. and its related companies since he founded it in 1988. Prior to establishing Dolphin, he was with J.P. Morgan Investment Management, Inc. for ten years, becoming Co-manager, Small Company Fund and Director-Small Cap Research. He received an A.B. degree in Economics from Harvard in 1976. Mr. Salas was elected to the Board of Directors on October 8, 2002. Mr. Salas also serves on the boards of Williams Controls, Inc. and Southwall Technologies, Inc.

Director Independence

The American Stock Exchange Rules (the "AMEX Rules") require that a majority of the members of the Company's Board of Directors be independent in that they are not officers of the Company and are free of any relationship that would interfere with the exercise of their independent judgment. The AMEX Rules also require that the Company's Board of Directors' Audit Committee be comprised of at least three members all of whom qualify as independent under the criteria set forth in Rule 10 A-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The Board of Directors has determined that three of the five director-nominees, Matthew K. Behrent, John A. Clendening and Carlos P. Salas, are independent as defined by the AMEX Rules, Section 10A(m)(3) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. In reaching its determination, the Board of Directors reviewed certain categorical independence standards it has adopted to provide assistance in the determination of director independence. The categorical standards are set forth below and provide that a director will not qualify as an independent director under the AMEX Rules if:

- The Director is, or has been during the last three years, an employee or an officer of the Company or any of its affiliates;
- The Director has received, or has an immediate family member³ who has received, during any twelve consecutive months in the last three years any compensation from the Company in excess of \$120,000, other than compensation for service on the Board of Directors, compensation to an immediate family member who is an employee other than an executive officer, benefits under a tax-qualified retirement plan, or non-discretionary compensation;
- The Director is a member of the immediate family of an individual who is, or has been in any of the past three years, employed by the Company or any of its affiliates as an executive officer;

³ Under these categorical standards "immediate family member" includes a person's spouse, parents, children, siblings, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, and anyone who resides in such person's home.

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- The Director, or an immediate family member, is a partner in, or controlling shareholder or an executive officer of, any for-profit business organization to which the Company made, or received, payments (other than those arising solely from investments in the Company's securities) that exceed 5% of the Company's or business organization's consolidated gross revenues for that year, or \$200,000, whichever is more, in any of the past three years;
- The Director, or an immediate family member, is employed as an executive officer of another entity where at any time during the most recent three fiscal years any of the Company's executives serve on that entity's compensation committee; or
- The Director, or an immediate family member, is a current partner of the Company's outside auditors, or was a partner or employee of the Company's outside auditors who worked on the Company's audit at any time during the past three years.

The following additional categorical standards were employed by the Board in determining whether a director qualified as independent to serve on the Audit Committee and provide that a director will not qualify if:

- The Director directly or indirectly accepts any consulting, advisory, or other compensatory fee from the Company or any of its subsidiaries; or
- The Director is an affiliated person⁴ of the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

Committees

The Company's Board has operating audit, nomination and governance and compensation/stock option committees.

Audit Committee

In Fiscal 2008, director-nominees John A. Clendening, Carlos P. Salas and Matthew K. Behrent were the members of the Audit Committee. Mr. Behrent was the Chairman of the Committee and the Board of Directors determined that Mr. Behrent was an "audit committee financial expert" as defined by applicable Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") regulations. Each of the members of the Audit Committee met the independence and experience requirements of the AMEX Rules, the applicable Securities Laws, and the regulations and rules promulgated by the SEC.

⁴ For purposes of this categorical standard, an "affiliated person of the Company" means a person that directly, or indirectly through intermediaries controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with the Company. A person will not be considered to be in control of the Company, and therefore not an affiliate of the Company, if he is not the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly of more than 10% of any class of voting securities of the Company and he is not an executive officer of the Company. Executive officers of an affiliate of the Company as well as a director who is also an employee of an affiliate of the Company will be deemed to be affiliates of the Company.

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The Audit Committee adopted an Audit Committee Charter during fiscal 2001. In 2004, the Board adopted an amended Audit Committee Charter, a copy of which is available on the Company's internet website, www.tengasco.com. The Audit Committee reviews and reassesses the Audit Committee Charter annually.

The Audit Committee's functions are:

- To review with management and the Company's independent auditors the scope of the annual audit and quarterly statements, significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the Company's financial statements;
- To review major changes to the Company's auditing and accounting principles and practices suggested by the independent auditors;
- To monitor the independent auditor's relationship with the Company;
- To advise and assist the Board of Directors in evaluating the independent auditor's examination;
- To supervise the Company's financial and accounting organization and financial reporting;
- To nominate, for approval of the Board of Directors, a firm of certified public accountants whose duty it is to audit the financial records of the Company for the fiscal year for which it is appointed; and
- To review and consider fee arrangements with, and fees charged by, the Company's independent auditors.

The Audit Committee met eleven (11) times in Fiscal 2008 with the Company's auditors, including discussing the audit of the Company's year end financial statements. It is intended that if elected as directors in 2009 Messrs. Clendening and Salas will continue to serve as members of the Audit Committee along with Mr. Behrent who will serve as the Chairman of the Committee and as its designated financial expert.

Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee has:

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- I. Reviewed and discussed the Company's unaudited financial statements for the first three quarters of Fiscal 2008 and the Company's audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2008 with the management of the Company and the Company's independent auditors;
- II. Discussed with the Company's independent auditors the matters required to be discussed by Statement of Auditing Standards No. 61, as the same was in effect on the date of the Company's financial statements; and
- III. Received the written disclosures and the letter from the Company's independent auditors required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 (Independence Discussions with Audit Committees), as the same was in effect on the date of the Company's financial statements, has discussed with representatives of the Company's independent auditors the auditors independence from management and the Company and satisfied itself as to the Company's auditors independence.

Based on the foregoing materials and discussions, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the unaudited financial statements for each of the first three quarters of Fiscal 2008 be included in the Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for those quarters and that the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2008 be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008.

Members of the Audit Committee

Matthew K. Behrent
John A. Clendening
Carlos P. Salas

Nomination and Governance Committee

In Fiscal 2008, the members of the Nomination and Governance Committee were director-nominees Carlos P. Salas, John Clendening and Matthew K. Behrent with Mr. Salas acting as Chairman. As stated above, the Company believes that each member of the Committee was independent as that term is defined under the AMEX Rules. The Committee met one time in Fiscal 2008. The Committee, among other duties, determines the slate of director candidates to be presented for election at the Company's annual meeting of shareholders. Although the Company does not have a nominating committee charter, the Company's Board of Directors has adopted procedures for annual director nominations by the Nomination and Governance Committee. Those procedures provide that the qualifications that should be met by any person recommended as a nominee for a position on the Company's Board of Directors should include one or more of the following: a background or experience in oil and gas exploration, production, transportation, geology, construction, finance or in another business, government service, or profession that would reasonably enable the nominee to provide seasoned and reputable service

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to the shareholders of the Company in the performance of the duties of a member of the Board of Directors. In addition to these qualifications, a nominee must be willing to serve without a right to receive compensation for such service. The Committee has not paid fees to any third party to identify, evaluate or to assist in identifying or evaluating, potential nominees, but may do so in the future if it determines it necessary.

The Company has no separate policy with regard to the consideration of any director candidates recommended by security holders. However, the Nomination Committee will consider director candidates recommended by security holders provided that such nominations are timely made as set forth hereinafter under the heading "Stockholders Proposals". Any person recommended by a security holder to serve on the Board of Directors is considered upon the same terms as candidates recommended by any other person. To date, the Company has not received any recommendations from shareholders requesting that the Nomination and Governance Committee consider a candidate for inclusion among the Committee's slate of nominees in the Company's proxy statement.

Among the nominating procedures adopted are the following:

- Any shareholder, officer, or director may recommend for nomination any person for the slate of candidates for membership on the Company's Board of Directors to be presented to the shareholders at the Company's annual meeting of shareholders. Such recommendations must be furnished in writing addressed to the Company's Board of Directors at the Company's principal offices. All such nominations will be furnished to the Nomination Committee which may conduct interviews, investigations or make other determinations as to the qualifications of such recommended persons.
- Any then-current members of the Board of Directors desiring to stand for re-election may be placed on the slate of directors for re-election without further inquiry as to their qualifications.
- The Nomination Committee will meet to determine the slate of candidates for the Board in such a manner and at such a time so as not to delay either the mailing of the proxy statement to the Company's shareholders or the annual meeting of shareholders. At such meeting, each recommended person including directors standing for re-election shall be subject to affirmative vote of half or more of the members of the Nomination Committee for inclusion on the slate of nominees.
- The adopted procedures apply only to the determination of the slate of directors to be presented for election at the annual meeting of the shareholders. Any vacancies on the Board of Directors following the annual meeting of shareholders may be filled in the manner currently applicable under the Company's Charter, Bylaws, and applicable state law.
- The procedures adopted may be amended from time to time by the Board of Directors or by the Nomination Committee, in order to comply with any applicable provision or

interpretation of any rule, statute, or stock exchange rule of the exchange on which the Company's stock may be listed

The nomination procedures adopted are posted on the Company's internet website at www.tengasco.com. In the event of any such amendment to the procedures, the Company intends to disclose the amendments on the Company's internet website within five business days following such amendment.

The Nomination Committee determined the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors presented for election at this year's Annual Meeting.

The other function of this Committee is to oversee the Company's compliance with the corporate governance requirements of the SEC and the AMEX Rules. The Chairman of the Committee, Carlos P. Salas, is an attorney with experience in the area of securities law.

Compensation/Stock Option Committee

The members of the Compensation/Stock Option Committee in Fiscal 2008 were director-nominees John A. Clendening, Matthew K. Behrent and Carlos P. Salas with Mr. Clendening acting as Chairman. Mr. Behrent joined the Nomination and Governance Committee on June 2, 2008; other members were active for the full year. Messrs. Clendening, Behrent and Salas all meet the current independence standards established by the AMEX Rules.

The Board of Directors has adopted a charter for the Compensation/Stock Option Committee which is available at the Company's internet website, www.tengasco.com.

The Compensation/Stock Option Committee's functions, in conjunction with the Board of Directors, are to provide recommendations with respect to general and specific compensation policies and practices of the Company for directors, officers and other employees of the Company. The Compensation/Stock Option Committee expects to periodically review the approach to executive compensation and to make changes as competitive conditions and other circumstances warrant and will seek to ensure the Company's compensation philosophy is consistent with the Company's best interests and is properly implemented. The Committee determines or recommends to the Board of Directors for determination the specific compensation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and all of the Company's other officers. Although the Committee may seek the input of the Company's Chief Executive Officer in determining the compensation of the Company's other executive officers, the Chief Executive Officer may not be present during the voting or deliberations with respect to his compensation. The Committee may not delegate any of its responsibilities unless it is to a subcommittee formed by the Committee, but only if such subcommittee consists entirely of directors who meet the independence requirements of the AMEX Rules.

The Compensation/Stock Option Committee is also charged with administering the Tengasco, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan (the "Stock Incentive Plan"). The Compensation/Stock Option Committee has complete discretionary authority with respect to the awarding of options

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and Stock Appreciation Rights (“SARs”), under the Stock Incentive Plan, including, but not limited to, determining the individuals who shall receive options and SARs; the times when they shall receive them; whether an option shall be an incentive or a non-qualified stock option; whether an SAR shall be granted separately, in tandem with or in addition to an option; the number of shares to be subject to each option and SAR; the term of each option and SAR; the date each option and SAR shall become exercisable; whether an option or SAR shall be exercisable in whole, in part or in installments and the terms relating to such installments; the exercise price of each option and the base price of each SAR; the form of payment of the exercise price; the form of payment by the Company upon the exercise of an SAR; whether to restrict the sale or other disposition of the shares of common stock acquired upon the exercise of an option or SAR; to subject the exercise of all or any portion of an option or SAR to the fulfillment of a contingency, and to determine whether such contingencies have been met; with the consent of the person receiving such option or SAR, to cancel or modify an option or SAR, provided such option or SAR as modified would be permitted to be granted on such date under the terms of the Stock Incentive Plan; and to make all other determinations necessary or advisable for administering the Plan.

The Compensation/Stock Option Committee met five (5) times in Fiscal 2008. The Committee has the authority to retain a compensation consultant or other advisors to assist it in the evaluation of compensation and has the sole authority to approve the fees and other terms of retention of such consultants and advisors and to terminate their services. To date, the Committee has not retained any such consultants or advisors to assist it, although it may do so in the future if it deems it necessary. A more detailed discussion of the actions taken in Fiscal 2008 by the Committee with respect to the compensation of the Company’s executive officers is set forth below under the heading Compensation Discussion and Analysis in the section entitled Executive Compensation.

Compensation/Stock Option Committee Interlocking And Insider Participation

No interlocking relationship existed or exists between any member of the Company's Compensation/Stock Option Committee and any member of the compensation committee of any other company, nor has any such interlocking relationship existed in the past. No member or nominee of the Compensation/Stock Option Committee is an officer or an employee of the Company.

Compensation Committee Report

The Compensation/Stock Option Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis set forth below under the heading “Executive Compensation – Compensation Discussion and Analysis” with management. Based on this review and discussion, the Compensation/Stock Option Committee recommended to the Company’s Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement and incorporated by reference into the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

The Members of the Compensation/Stock

Option Committee

John A. Clendening

Matthew K. Behrent

Carlos P. Salas

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires the Company's executive officers, directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of the Company's Common Stock to file initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership with the SEC no later than the second business day after the date on which the transaction occurred unless certain exceptions apply. In fiscal 2008, the Company, its officers and directors and its shareholders owning more than 10% of its common stock were not delinquent in filing of any of their Form 3, 4, and 5 reports.

Family and Other Relationships

There are no family relationships between any of the present directors or executive officers of the Company except that Carlos P. Salas, a Director of the Company, is the cousin of Peter E. Salas, also a director of the Company. Mr. Carlos P. Salas is also one of seven members of Dolphin Advisors, LLC which serves as the managing general partner of Dolphin Direct Equity Partners, L.P., a private company investment fund that is not a shareholder of the Company. The majority owner of Dolphin Advisors, LLC is Dolphin Management, Inc., the sole shareholder of which is Peter E. Salas. Dolphin Management, Inc. is also the managing partner of Dolphin Offshore Partners, L.P. which directly owns 20,839,492 shares of the Company's common stock. Peter E. Salas is the controlling person of Dolphin Offshore Partners, L.P. Carlos P. Salas has no direct or indirect ownership interest in Dolphin Offshore Partners, L.P. The Board of Directors in making its determination that Carlos P. Salas is an independent director considered all of these factors. See above, "Director Independence". There are no family relationships between any of the other Directors or executive officers of the Company.

Involvement in Certain Legal Proceedings

To the knowledge of management, no director, executive officer or affiliate of the Company or owner of record or beneficially of more than 5% of the Company's common stock is a party adverse to the Company or has a material interest adverse to the Company in any proceeding.

To the knowledge of management, during the past five years, no present director, executive officer or person nominated to become a director or an executive officer of the Company:

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- (1) Filed a petition under the federal bankruptcy laws or any state insolvency law, nor had a receiver, fiscal agent or similar officer appointed by a court for the business or property of such person, or any partnership in which he or she was a general partner at or within two years before the time of such filing, or any corporation or business association of which he or she was an executive officer at or within two years before the time of such filing;
- (2) Was convicted in a criminal proceeding or named the subject of a pending criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations and other minor offenses);
- (3) Was the subject of any order, judgment or decree, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, of any court of competent jurisdiction, permanently or temporarily enjoining him or her from or otherwise limiting his or her involvement in any type of business, commodities, securities or banking activities;
- (4) Was the subject of any order, judgment or decree, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, of any Federal or State authority barring, suspending or otherwise limiting him or her for more than 60 days from engaging in, or being associated with any person engaging in, any type of business, commodities, securities or banking activities;
- (5) Was found by a court of competent jurisdiction in a civil action or by the SEC or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") to have violated any federal or state securities law or Federal commodities law, and the judgment in such civil action or finding by the SEC or CFTC has not been subsequently reversed, suspended, or vacated.

Stockholder Communications with the Board of Directors

Stockholders may communicate with the Board of Directors of the Company by writing to: Cary V. Sorensen, Secretary, Tengasco, Inc., 10215 Technology Drive, N.W., Suite 301, Knoxville, TN 37932 or by e-mail: to: CSorensen@tengasco.com Subject: Communication to Board of Directors. All letters and e-mails will be answered, if possible, and will be distributed to board members as appropriate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company has the authority to discard or disregard any communication, which is unduly hostile, threatening, illegal or otherwise inappropriate or to take any other appropriate actions with respect to such communications.

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SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u> <u>Beneficially Owned</u> ⁵	<u>Percent of</u> <u>Class</u> ⁶
Jeffrey R. Bailey 2306 West Gallaher Ferry Knoxville, TN 37932	Director; Chief Executive Officer	1,176,287 ⁷	1.9%
Matthew K. Behrent c/o EDC LLC 825 8 th Avenue 23 rd Floor New York, NY 10019	Director	63,000 ⁸	Less than 1%
John A. Clendening 1031 Saint Johns Drive Maryville, TN 37801	Director	476,500 ⁹	Less than 1%
Carlos P. Salas 129 East 17 th Street New York, NY 10003	Director	164,000 ¹⁰	Less than 1%
Peter E. Salas 129 East 17 th Street New York, NY 10003	Director; Chairman of the Board	21,157,492 ¹¹	35.6%

⁵ Unless otherwise stated, all shares of common stock are directly held with sole voting and dispositive power. The shares set forth in the table are as of April 1, 2009.

⁶ Calculated pursuant to Rule 13d-3(d) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 based upon 59,350,661 shares of common stock being outstanding as of the record date, April 1, 2009. Shares not outstanding that are subject to options or warrants exercisable by the holder thereof within 60 days of April 1, 2009 are deemed outstanding for the purposes of calculating the number and percentage owned by such stockholder, but not deemed outstanding for the purpose of calculating the percentage of any other person. Unless otherwise noted, all shares listed as beneficially owned by a stockholder are actually outstanding.

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- ⁷ Consists of 136,287 shares held directly and vested, fully exercisable options to purchase 1,040,000 shares.
- ⁸ Consists of 13,000 shares held directly and vested, fully exercisable options to purchase 50,000 shares.
- ⁹ Consists of 406,500 shares held directly and vested, fully exercisable options to purchase 70,000 shares.
- ¹⁰ Consists of 14,000 shares held directly and vested, fully exercisable options to purchase 150,000 shares.
- ¹¹ Consists of 218,000 shares held directly, vested, fully exercisable options to purchase 100,000 shares and 20,839,492 shares held directly by Dolphin Offshore Partners, L.P. ("Dolphin"). Peter E. Salas is the sole shareholder of and controlling person of Dolphin Management, Inc. which is the general partner of Dolphin.
- ¹² Consists of 60,100 shares held directly and vested, fully exercisable options to purchase 335,000 shares.

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Mark A. Ruth 9400 Hickory Knoll Lane Knoxville, TN 37931	Chief Financial Officer	395,100 ¹²	Less than 1%
Cary V. Sorensen 5517 Crestwood Drive Knoxville, TN 37919	Vice President; General Counsel; Secretary	375,000 ³	Less than 1%
Charles Patrick McInturff 7500 San Felipe, Suite 400 Houston, TX 77063	Vice President	160,000 ¹⁴¹⁴	Less than 1%
All Officers and Director-Nominees As a group		23,967,379 ¹⁵	38.9%

Change In Control

To the knowledge of the Company's management, there are no present arrangements or pledges of the Company's securities which may result in a change in control of the Company.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

The objectives of the Company's compensation programs are to attract and retain qualified and talented professional individuals to perform the duties of the Company's executive offices.

The Company's compensation program is designed to fairly reward the Company's executive officers for their overall performance in long term management of the affairs of an oil and gas exploration, production, and marketing company. The measurement of successful performance has significant elements of subjective judgment in view of the lack of any directly comparable single element or group of elements to which the Company and its performance may be readily compared from time to time. The variable elements include market capitalization, nature and size of the Company's reserves, growth of the Company's reserve base, and the number of and duties of the executive officers of other companies that may be comparable to the Company in one or more aspect of their operations.

The elements of the Company's compensation programs include salary, health insurance, stock options, a section 401 (k) retirement savings plan, and in certain circumstances the award

¹⁴ Consists of vested, fully exercisable options to purchase 160,000 shares.

¹⁵ Consists of 887,887 shares held directly by management, 20,839,492 shares held by Dolphin and vested, fully exercisable options to purchase 2,240,000 shares

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of a cash bonus. As of the present time, the Company compensation plan does not include any retirement plan; any life or disability insurance plan; any social club memberships or dues or any payments for housing, cars, boats, or other property of any kind to any person. The Company has not entered into any contracts for compensation to any person in the event of a change in control of the Company. The Company reimburses costs of maintaining required professional certifications for its chief financial officer and general counsel, and provides use of a company vehicle for the Company's chief executive officer and Vice President Patrick McInturff. The Company pays no other elements of compensation to its executive officers. The relatively small size of the Company in comparison to many entities engaged in the capital-intensive oil and gas business coupled with the lack of many elements of compensation maintained by some of those companies presents the Company with additional risks in meeting its objectives of attracting and retaining qualified and talented professional individuals.

The Company chooses to pay each element in order to best meet the Company's goal of attracting and retaining qualified and talented professional individuals. The salary component of the compensation is important and the Company attempts to be competitive with what it believes to be the compensation of other companies of similar size and scope of operations. To date, the Company has not engaged the services of a compensation review consultant or service in view of the cost of such services compared to the size and revenues of the Company. The stock option element of compensation is paid in order to provide additional compensation in the long term commensurate with growth of the Company and increased share value that may result from the performance of the executive receiving the options. The award of a bonus upon review of Company performance provides an additional incentive. The lack of other compensation elements such as other insurance or retirement plans focuses the importance of the salary and stock option elements of the Company's compensation plan.

The Company determines the amount (and, where applicable, the formula) for each element to pay by reviewing annually the compensation levels of the Company's executive officers and determining from the performance of the Company during that time since the last review what appropriate compensation levels may be during the upcoming annual period. The Company has no existing formula for determination of the salary, stock options, or bonus elements of compensation.

Each compensation element and the Company's decisions regarding that element fit into the Company's overall compensation objectives and affect decisions regarding other elements in this manner: the salary and stock option elements (being the significant elements of overall compensation) are intended to serve primarily as current and long-term compensation respectively. Review of salary levels and consideration of bonus awards on an annual basis and vesting of options over a forward period serve to allow the Company to attempt to meet its objectives of attracting and maintaining qualified and talented professional individuals in service as the Company's executive officers.

Applying these principles, the Company compensated its executive officers for 2008 as set forth in the tables below.

Executive Officer Compensation

The following table sets forth a summary of all compensation awarded to, earned or paid to, the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and other executive officers whose compensation exceeded \$100,000 during fiscal years ended December 31, 2008, December 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006.

Summary Compensation Table

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)	Option Awards (\$) ¹⁶	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Comp-ensation (\$) ^(g)	Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$) ^(h)	All Other Compensation (\$) ⁽ⁱ⁾	Total (\$) ^(j)
Jeffrey R. Bailey ¹⁷	2008	\$189,750	\$81,830						\$271,580
Chief Executive Officer	2007	\$165,000	\$49,500						\$214,500
Mark A. Ruth	2008	\$131,670	\$45,325		\$11,000				\$176,995
Chief Financial Officer	2007	\$125,400	\$25,080						\$150,480
	2006	\$114,000			\$3,450				\$117,450
Cary V. Sorensen	2008	\$137,940	\$61,554						\$199,494
General Counsel	2007	\$125,400	\$5,096						\$130,496
	2006	\$92,500	\$25,000		\$3,450				\$142,450
Charles P. McInturff ¹⁸	2008	\$92,500	\$22,719		\$34,171				\$149,390
Vice President	2007								
	2006								

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¹⁶ The amounts represented in this column are equal to the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes in connection with options granted under the Tengasco, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan. See Note 11 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 for a discussion of the relevant assumptions used in calculating the dollar amount recognized for financial reporting purposes with respect to the applicable fiscal year in accordance with FAS 123R.

¹⁷ Mr. Bailey is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Company. In 2006, he was awarded an option pursuant to the Tengasco, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan to purchase 20,000 shares of the Company's common stock at a price of \$0.81 per share for his services as a director.

¹⁸ On December 17, 2007, Mr. McInturff signed a two year agreement to serve as Vice President of the Company. On that same date, the Company entered into a management agreement with Hoactzin Partners, L.P. ("Hoactzin") pursuant to which Mc. McInturff will manage Hoactzin's oil and gas properties in the Gulf of Mexico offshore Texas and Louisiana. As consideration for the Company entering into the Management Agreement, Hoactzin agreed that it would be responsible for the payment of one-half of Mr. McInturff's annual salary of \$180,000, as well as certain other benefits he receives during his employment by the Company. The numbers in this table represent the one-half portion of Mr. McInturff's salary and bonus for which the Company is responsible. Peter E. Salas, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company, is the controlling person of Hoactzin. He is also the sole shareholder and controlling person of Dolphin Management, Inc., the general partner of Dolphin Offshore Partners, L.P., which is the Company's largest shareholder.

Grants of Plan Based Awards in Fiscal 2008

No equity or non-equity incentive plan awards or stock awards or options were granted during Fiscal 2008 to the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or any of the Company's most highly compensated executive officers whose compensation exceeded \$100,000 for Fiscal 2008.

Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

Option Awards¹⁹

Stock Awards

Name	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options	Option Exercise Price	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested
								(#)	(#)
	(#)	(#)	(#)			(#)	(i)	(j)	
	Exercisable	Unexercisable					(h)		
			(d)	(\$)					
						(g)			
	(b)	(c)							
				(e)	(f)				
(a) Jeffrey R.	1,000,000 ²⁰	250,000		\$0.27	4/20/2010				
Bailey	20,000			\$0.58	1/20/2011				
Chief	20,000			\$0.81	12/13/2011				

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Executive Officer Mark A.	320,000 ²¹	80,000	\$0.27	4/20/2010
Ruth	15,000		\$0.58	1/20/2011
Chief				
Financial				
Officer Cary V.	320,000 ²²	880,000	\$0.27	4/20/2010
Sorensen	15,000		\$0.58	1/20/2011
General				
Counsel Charles P. McInturff	160,000	240,000	\$0.57	12/18/2013