



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

DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

April 25, 2013

Via E-mail

Mr. W. Anderson Bishop
Chief Financial Officer
Hallador Energy Company
1660 Lincoln Street, Suite 2700
Denver, Colorado 80264-2701

**Re: Hallador Energy Company
Form 10-K for Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2012
Filed March 7, 2013
File: No. 001-34743**

Dear Mr. Bishop:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter within ten business days by amending your filing, by providing the requested information, or by advising us when you will provide the requested response. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your filing and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Active Reserve (assigned) - Carlisle Mine (underground), page 2

1. Proven and probable reserves are disclosed for your Carlisle, Ace-in-the-hole, (Allerton?), Bulldog, and Russellville properties. Please forward to our engineer as supplemental information and not as part of your filing, your information that establishes the legal, technical, and economic feasibility of your materials designated as reserves, as required by Section C of Industry Guide 7 pursuant to Rule 12b-4 of the Exchange Act. The information requested includes, but is not limited to:
 - Property and geologic maps
 - Description of your sampling and assaying procedures

- Drill-hole maps showing drill intercepts
- Representative geologic cross-sections and drill logs
- Description and examples of your cut-off calculation procedures
- Cutoff grades used for each category of your reserves and resources
- Justifications for the drill hole spacing used to classify and segregate proven and probable reserves
- A detailed description of your procedures for estimating reserves
- Copies of any pertinent engineering or geological reports, and executive summaries of feasibility studies or mine plans which including the cash flow analyses
- A detailed permitting and government approval schedule for the project, particularly identifying the primary environmental or construction approval(s) and your current location on that schedule.

To minimize the transfer of paper, please provide the requested information on a CD, formatted as Adobe PDF files and provide the name and phone number for a technical person our engineer may call, if he has technical questions about your reserves.

In the event your company desires the return of this supplemental material, please make a written request with the letter of transmittal and include a pre-paid, pre-addressed shipping label to facilitate the return of the supplemental information. Please note that you may request the return of this information pursuant to the provisions of Rule 12b-4 of the Exchange Act.

If there are any questions concerning the above request, please phone Mr. George K. Schuler, Mining Engineer at (202) 551-3718.

2. Please disclose if you have had qualified title companies confirm your property right assertions for all your properties. Discuss what type of title review you have for the majority of your reserves.

Reserve Table - Controlled Tons (in Millions), page 3

3. Please make the following changes to your reported reserve table and disclose your proven and probable reserves separately as defined in Industry Guide 7 for each mine.
 - Indicate tonnages that are “assigned” to an existing facility and those that have not been “assigned.”

- Disclose if the coal is steam or metallurgical, if it is leased or owned, and what is the Btu per pound and the percentage sulfur content. Do not report Btu content as “dry,” but include natural moisture in the calculation. Do not report reserves that are not controlled by your company.
- If coal is reported as tons in the ground, disclose in another column the average mining and wash plant recoveries in percent; and indicate whether these losses have or have not been reflected in the total recoverable reserves.
- In either case, with a footnote clearly disclose if the reserves reported are “in the ground” or “recoverable.”
- Provide totals to the reserve table where appropriate.
- Disclose your percentage of compliance and non-compliance coal.

Mining Permits and Approvals, page 5

4. We note you are subject to permitting requirements administered by the local, state, and Federal governments. Please revise your filing and provide a short summary of the permits and/or operational plans required to perform exploration and/or mining activities on your properties and discuss in greater detail the government and environmental regulations to which you are subject. Please fully discuss the permitting, bonding, and reclamation requirements for each phase of your exploration work including the specific permits and associated fees. In your discussion, include the specific permits that your company has obtained or will obtain to perform each phase of your exploration program. Describe the effect of existing or probable governmental regulations on your business. See Item 101(h) (4) (viii), (ix) and (xi) of Regulation S-K.

Additional Disclosures for the Carlisle Mine, Page 8

5. Please insert a small-scale map showing the location and access to your properties into your filing. See Item 102 (3) (B) of Regulation S-K. Briefly describe the road, barge and/or railroad access to each of your properties in the text. Please note that SEC’s EDGAR program now accepts digital maps. So please include these in any future amendments that are uploaded to EDGAR. It is relatively easy to include automatic links at the appropriate locations within the document to GIF or JPEG files, which will allow the figures and/or diagrams to appear in the right location when the document is viewed on the Internet. For more information, please consult the EDGAR manual, and if you need addition assistance, please call Filer Support at 202-942-8900. Otherwise provide the map to the engineering staff for our review.

6. For each of your mines or properties, provide the disclosures required by Industry Guide 7 (b). In particular, provide a brief discussion of:
- The coal beds of interest, including minable coal thickness.
 - The description and capacities of the mine, general mining equipment used and other infrastructure facilities that is present.
 - A list of your coal processing and/or handling facilities.
 - Please discuss your access to an adequate water and power supply.
 - The road, barge and/or railroad access to each of your properties.
 - The present condition of the mine.
 - Material events of interest concerning the mine, adverse or otherwise within the last three years.
 - Any mine expansions, contractions or decommissioning within the last three years.
 - Any planned expansions or reductions in mining.
 - Any joint ownership.
 - Any use of mining contractors.
7. Detailed sampling provides the basis for the quality estimate or grade of your mineral reserves and deliveries to customers. Please provide a brief description of your sample collection, sample preparation, and the analytical procedures used to develop your analytical results. In addition, please disclose any Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) protocols you have developed. These procedures would serve to inform potential investors regarding your sample collection and preparation, analytical controls, sample custody, precision and accuracy procedures and protocols.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable Exchange Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In responding to our comments, please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

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- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

You may contact George Schuler, Mining Engineer, at (202) 551-3718 with questions about these comments. Please contact me at (202) 551-3795 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ John Reynolds

John Reynolds
Assistant Director