

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

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

November 17, 2011

Via E-mail to Kenneth H. Beer David H. Welch President and Chief Executive Officer **Stone Energy Corporation** 625 E. Kaliste Saloom Road Lafayette, Louisiana 70508

> Re: **Stone Energy Corporation**

> > Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010

Filed March 3, 2011 File No. 1-12074

Dear Mr. Welch:

We have reviewed your filing and letter dated October 18, 2011, and we 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.

## Risk Factors, page 9

## Our industry experiences numerous operating risks, page 14

1. We note your response to comment 1 in our letter dated October 13, 2011. Please explain the basis for your opinion that the operational and financial risks associated with your hydraulic fracturing activities are not material.

## **Closing Comments**

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

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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:

- 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.

Please contact Sirimal Mukerjee at (202) 551-3340 or Norman von Holtzendorff at (202) 551-3237 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ A.N. Parker for

H. Roger Schwall Assistant Director