

SPINNAKER EXPLORATION CO

Form 8-K

October 14, 2005

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

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

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

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 13, 2005**

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**SPINNAKER EXPLORATION COMPANY**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

**001-16009**  
(Commission File Number)

**76-0560101**  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**1200 Smith Street, Suite 800**

**Houston, Texas**

**77002**

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(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (713) 759-1770

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

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

Spinnaker Exploration Company (NYSE: SKE) announced today that the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission have granted early termination of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, relating to the previously announced agreement for Norsk Hydro ASA (NYSE: NHY) to acquire Spinnaker by merger. On September 19, 2005, Spinnaker and Norsk Hydro announced that they had entered into a definitive agreement for the merger. The termination of the Hart-Scott-Rodino waiting period satisfies one of the conditions for Norsk Hydro's acquisition of Spinnaker. Consummation of the merger remains subject to other customary closing conditions, including approval of the merger by Spinnaker's stockholders holding a majority of its outstanding shares.

Spinnaker Exploration Company is an independent energy company engaged in the exploration, development and production of oil and gas in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and West Africa. To learn more about Spinnaker, the Company's website may be accessed at [www.spinnakerexploration.com](http://www.spinnakerexploration.com).

Certain statements in this disclosure are forward-looking and are based upon Spinnaker's current belief as to the outcome and timing of future events that are subject to numerous uncertainties. For instance, although Spinnaker and Norsk Hydro have signed an agreement for a subsidiary of Norsk Hydro to merge with Spinnaker, there is no assurance that they will complete the proposed merger. The merger agreement will terminate if the companies do not receive necessary approval of Spinnaker's stockholders or fail to satisfy conditions to closing. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements herein include the timing and extent of changes in oil and gas prices, operating risks and other risk factors as described in Spinnaker's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004 and its other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties occur, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, Spinnaker's actual results and plans could differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements in this disclosure are made only as of the date hereof, and Spinnaker undertakes no obligation to update such forward-looking statements.

Spinnaker has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission a preliminary proxy statement and other documents regarding the proposed transaction described in this disclosure. The information contained in these preliminary filings is not complete and may be changed. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE DEFINITIVE PROXY STATEMENT WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE AND ANY OTHER MATERIALS FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, AS WELL AS ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THOSE DOCUMENTS, BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SPINNAKER AND THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION. A definitive proxy statement will be sent to stockholders of Spinnaker seeking their approval of the transaction. Investors and stockholders may obtain a free copy of the definitive proxy statement (when available) and other documents filed by Spinnaker with the Securities and Exchange Commission at the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The definitive proxy statement and other relevant documents may also be obtained free of cost by directing a request to Robert M. Snell, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary at (713) 759-1770.

Spinnaker's directors and executive officers may be deemed, under Securities and Exchange Commission rules, to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the stockholders of Spinnaker in connection with the proposed transaction. Certain directors and executive officers of Spinnaker may have interests in the merger, including acceleration of vesting of stock options and restricted stock and as a result of holding options or shares of Spinnaker common stock generally. Information about Spinnaker's directors and officers can be found in Spinnaker's Proxy Statements and Annual Reports on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Additional information regarding the interests of those persons may be obtained by reading the proxy statement and other documents regarding the proposed transaction when they become available.

**SIGNATURES**

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

**SPINNAKER EXPLORATION COMPANY**

Date: October 13, 2005

By: /s/ JEFFREY C. ZARUBA

Name: Jeffrey C. Zaruba

Title: Vice President, Treasurer and  
Assistant Secretary