



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

July 20, 2012

Via E-mail

Teresa Dick  
Chief Financial Officer  
Diamondback Energy, Inc.  
14301 Caliber Drive, Suite 300  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73134

**Re: Diamondback Energy, Inc.  
Amendment No. 3 to Registration Statement on Form S-1  
Filed July 5, 2012  
File No. 333-179502**

Dear Ms. Dick:

We have reviewed your amendment 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 by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. 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 registration statement and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Amendment No. 3 to Registration Statement on Form S-1

General

1. Please supplementally provide us with any written materials that you or anyone authorized to do so on your behalf provides in reliance on Section 5(d) of the Securities Act to potential investors that are qualified institutional buyers or institutional accredited investors. Similarly, please supplementally provide us with any research reports about you that are published or distributed in reliance upon Section 2(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933 added by Section 105(a) of the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act by any broker or dealer that is participating or will participate in your offering.

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2. Please note that we are considering your response to prior comment 1 and that we may have additional comments.

Executive Compensation, page 114

Summary of Compensation for Our Named Executive Officers, page 118

3. Please disclose in your summary compensation table at page 118 the aggregate grant date fair value of the option awards computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. Please refer to Item 402 of Regulation S-K. In that regard, we note your statement at page 118 that the disclosure in the table with respect to the option awards reflects the amount recognized for financial reporting purposes.

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 Act of 1933 and all applicable Securities 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 refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We will consider a written request for acceleration of the effective date of the registration statement as confirmation of the fact that those requesting acceleration are aware of their respective responsibilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as they relate to the proposed public offering of the securities specified in the above registration statement. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

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You may contact Mark Wojciechowski, Staff Accountant, at (202) 551-3759, or Karl Hiller, Accounting Branch Chief, at (202) 551-3686 if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters. You may contact Ronald Winfrey, Petroleum Engineer, at (202) 551-3704 with questions about engineering comments. Please contact Caroline Kim, Staff Attorney, at (202) 551-3878 or, in her absence, Laura Nicholson, Staff Attorney, at (202) 551-3584 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

/s/H. Roger Schwall

H. Roger Schwall  
Assistant Director

cc: Seth R. Molay  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP