



Embargoed: 0700hrs, 22 February 2010

**Rockhopper Exploration plc**  
(the "Company")

**Director's Shareholding**

The Company announces that, on 19 February 2010, it received notification from Mr Richard Visick, a non-executive director of the Company that, on the same date, he cleared the charge, which was announced on 21 January 2009, over 14,750,000 of his beneficially owned ordinary shares of GBP0.01 each in the Company ('Ordinary Shares'), therefore the private bank concerned has no further interest in these shares.

The Company was also notified on 19 February 2010 that Mr Visick, sold 27,000 Ordinary Shares on 19 February 2010 at a sale price of 69 pence per Ordinary Share and that his IPS pension fund, of which he is sole beneficiary, immediately purchased 27,000 shares. In addition, on 19 February 2010, Mr Visick made four separate gifts of Ordinary Shares to the following:

178,102 Ordinary Shares to a trust in the name of The Falklands 2010 Settlement, dated 8 February 2010;

178,102 Ordinary Shares to a trust in the name of The Weddell Island Settlement, dated 8 February 2010;

178,102 Ordinary Shares to a trust in the name of Sea Lion Island Settlement; and

178,102 Ordinary Shares to The Weddell Settlement.

Neither Mr Visick nor any persons connected to him are potential beneficiaries of any of the above trusts, therefore, as a result of these transactions, Mr Visick's beneficial interest in the share capital of the Company has changed.

Mr Visick also sold 3,855,296 shares on 19 February 2010, at an average sale price of 66.36 pence per Ordinary Share.

As a consequence of all the above transactions Mr Visick now has a beneficial interest in 11,262,439 Ordinary Shares representing 6.47% per cent. of the issued Ordinary Share capital of the Company.

Of the 11,262,439 Ordinary Shares beneficially owned by Mr Visick, 192,500 of these Ordinary Shares, representing 0.11 per cent. of the issued Ordinary Share capital of the Company, are held in the name of Legal and Commercial Trustee Retirement Benefit Scheme (pension fund), of which Mr Visick is a trustee and beneficiary. In addition, 539,508 of these Ordinary Shares, representing 0.31 per cent. of the issued Ordinary Share capital of the Company, are held in Mr Visick's IPS pension fund, of which he is the sole beneficiary.

**Enquiries:**

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