



ROCKHOPPER EXPLORATION PLC (The 'Company')

Issue of Equity

The Company announces that, following the exercise of options issued as payment for services related to the Company's placing in October, 2009, it has issued 690,000 new ordinary shares of 1p each in the Company ("Ordinary Shares") at an exercise price of 54p per share.

Application has been made for the admission of 690,000 new Ordinary Shares to be admitted to trading on AIM. The Ordinary Shares rank pari passu in all respects with the Company's existing issued ordinary shares, and it is expected that admission will become effective and that dealings will commence on 19 May 2010.

On admission, the Company will have 174,774,954 Ordinary Shares in issue.

Enquiries:

Rockhopper Exploration plc
Sam Moody - Managing Director
Tel. +(0)1722 414 419

M: Communications
Patrick d'Ancona or Ben Simons
Tel. +44 (0)20 7920 2340

Canaccord Adams
Jeffrey Auld/ Elijah Colby/ Henry Fitzgerald O'Connor
Tel. +44 (0) 20 7050 6500