



PRESS RELEASE

8 October 2009

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

Statement Regarding Media Speculation

Rockhopper, the North Falkland Basin oil and gas explorer, notes the recent media speculation that the Company is actively pursuing an equity financing.

Rockhopper today confirms, as previously announced on 11 September, 2009, that it hopes to drill a minimum of two wells on its operated acreage (owned 100%) as part of a larger campaign with Desire Petroleum PLC. The Company further confirms that management are considering a variety of options to finance the cost of the drilling campaign, including a placing of equity.

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Notes to editors

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The Rockhopper Group started trading in February 2004 to invest in and carry out an offshore oil exploration programme to the north of the Falkland Islands. The Group, floated on AIM in August 2005, is currently the largest licence holder in the North Falkland Basin and has a 100 per cent. interest in four offshore production licences which cover approximately 3,800 sq. km. These licences have been granted by the Falkland Islands government.