



Rockhopper Exploration plc

24 August 2006

Exercise of options over ordinary shares

Rockhopper Exploration plc (the "Company") was notified on 18 August 2006 that David Bodecott, an independent consultant to the Company in petroleum geology and seismic interpretation, exercised options to purchase 75,000 new ordinary shares in the Company at an option price of 10 pence per ordinary share.

The option to purchase ordinary shares was granted to David Bodecott at the time of the Company's listing on AIM on 15th August 2005.

Application has been made for the new ordinary shares to be admitted to trading on AIM on or around 30 August 2006. The new ordinary shares will rank pari passu with the existing ordinary share capital of the Company and have been allotted and issued credited as fully paid.

Following the exercise of the options the revised number of issued ordinary shares of 1p each is 72,074,605.

www.rockhopperexploration.co.uk

For further information, please contact:

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