

TODCO  
Form DEFA14A  
May 31, 2007

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**SCHEDULE 14A**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities**

**Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. \_\_ )**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

**Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only** (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

**TODCO**

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(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

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(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

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(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

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(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

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(3) Filing Party:

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(4) Date Filed:

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*Press Release*

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NYSE SYMBOL: **THE**

**HOUSTON, TEXAS MAY 30, 2007, TODCO ANNOUNCES EARLY TERMINATION OF HART-SCOTT-RODINO WAITING PERIOD**

Houston, Texas, May 30, 2007 TODCO (the Company) (NYSE-THE) today announced that the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission have granted early termination of the government's pre-merger antitrust review of the transaction under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvement Act of 1976, as amended, relating to the previously announced merger with Hercules Offshore.

On March 19, 2007, TODCO announced that it had entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger with Hercules. The merger remains subject to certain stockholder approvals, as well as the satisfaction of other customary closing conditions. TODCO and Hercules previously announced the meeting date for the stockholders of the companies. TODCO expects that the merger will close immediately after the stockholders meetings, which are scheduled to be held on July 11, 2007.

TODCO is a leading provider of contract oil and gas drilling services with the largest rig fleet in the shallow water of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and along the U.S. Gulf Coast. TODCO's common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol THE.

***Forward-Looking Statements***

Forward-looking statements: Certain statements made herein are forward-looking statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based on the current expectations and estimates of the management of TODCO and Hercules are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially. Although TODCO and Hercules believe that such expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, they cannot give assurances that such expectations will prove to be correct. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Except as required by law, TODCO and Hercules undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Risks of the merger: Risks with respect to the combination of TODCO and Hercules include the risk that TODCO and Hercules will not be able to close the transaction, as well as difficulties in the integration of the operations and personnel of TODCO and diversion of management's attention away from other business concerns. TODCO and Hercules expect to incur substantial

transaction and merger related costs associated with completing the merger, obtaining regulatory approvals, combining the operations of the two companies and achieving desired synergies. Additional unanticipated costs may be incurred in the integration of the businesses of TODCO and Hercules. Expected benefits of the merger may not be achieved in the near term, or at all. Hercules will have a significant amount of additional debt as a result of the merger. This debt will require Hercules to use cash flow to repay indebtedness, may have a material adverse effect on Hercules' financial health, and may limit Hercules' future operations and ability to borrow additional funds.

Business risks: Other risks and uncertainties that may affect actual results of TODCO and Hercules and the combined company after the merger include, among other things, oil and natural gas prices and industry expectations about future prices; demand for offshore and inland water rigs and liftboats; TODCO's and Hercules' ability to enter into and the terms of future contracts; the impact of governmental laws and regulations; increases in operating expenses; uncertainties relating to the level of activity in offshore oil and natural gas exploration, development and production; the availability of skilled personnel; extended delivery time for material and equipment; labor relations and work stoppages; operating hazards such as severe weather and seas, fires, cratering, blowouts, war, terrorism and inadequate insurance coverage; compliance with or breach of environmental laws; the impact of newly built rigs; the effect of litigation and contingencies; and the inability of TODCO or Hercules to achieve their plans or carry out their strategies. Other risks and uncertainties that may affect actual results are described in TODCO's and Hercules' most recent periodic reports and other documents filed with the SEC, which are available free of charge at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

***Additional Information and Where to Find It***

In connection with the proposed merger, Hercules has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") a Registration Statement on Form S-4 that includes a joint proxy statement of Hercules and TODCO and that also constitutes a prospectus of Hercules. **INVESTORS ARE URGED TO READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT, AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC, INCLUDING THE JOINT PROXY/PROSPECTUS THAT IS A PART OF THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT, BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING HERCULES, TODCO AND THE MERGER.**

Investors and security holders of Hercules and TODCO may obtain a free copy of the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other documents containing information about Hercules and TODCO (when they become available), free of charge, at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of the joint proxy statement/prospectus may also be obtained free of charge by directing a request to Hercules by contacting its investor relations department at 713-979-9832 or by accessing its website at <http://www.herculesoffshore.com> or TODCO by contacting its investor relations department at 713-278-6014 or by accessing its website at <http://www.theoffshoredrillingcompany.com>.

Hercules, TODCO and their respective directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the stockholders of Hercules and TODCO in connection with the merger. Information about the directors and executive officers of Hercules and TODCO and their ownership of Hercules' common stock is set forth in the Registration

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Statement on Form S-4 filed by Hercules with the SEC on April 24, 2007. Information about the directors and executive officers of TODCO and their ownership of TODCO common stock is set forth in Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1) which was filed with the SEC on April 24, 2007. Investors may obtain free copies of these documents from Hercules and TODCO using the contact information above. Investors may obtain additional information regarding the interests of such participants by reading the Registration Statement on Form S-4.