

PATTERSON UTI ENERGY INC  
Form 8-K  
June 26, 2006

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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported):

June 23, 2006

**Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

0-22664

75-2504748

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

4510 Lamesa Hwy., Snyder, Texas

79549

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

325-574-6300

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)  
 Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)  
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))  
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On June 23, 2006, the Company received a letter from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") indicating that it has commenced a private investigation of the Company with respect to possible securities laws violations relating to the previously disclosed embezzlement by the Company's former Chief Financial Officer, Jonathan D. Nelson. The Company and its officers and directors intend to continue to fully cooperate with and assist the SEC with respect to matters related to the embezzlement by Mr. Nelson, including this investigation.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc.

*June 23, 2006*

By: */s/ John E. Vollmer III*

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*Name: John E. Vollmer III  
Title: Senior Vice President-Corporate Development, Chief  
Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer*