

PATTERSON UTI ENERGY INC  
Form 8-K  
May 10, 2010

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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):

May 5, 2010

**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.)

450 Gears Road, Suite 500, Houston, Texas

77067

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

281-765-7100

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 May 10, 2010, Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc. announced the sale of certain oil and gas working interest rights for \$22.3 million, which resulted in an estimated net of tax gain of \$13 million, or \$0.08 per share. The interests sold included rights to explore and develop zones deeper than depths it generally targeted for such properties. Additionally, the purchaser acquired the right to participate 20% in future wells drilled at the shallower depths. The sale did not include any producing wells. The press release regarding this event is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. The foregoing description is qualified by reference in its entirety to such exhibit.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press release relating to the sale of certain rights in oil and gas working interests.

The information in this report is being furnished and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, shall not otherwise be subject to the liabilities of that section and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

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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.

*May 10, 2010*

By: *John E. Vollmer III*

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

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Exhibit Index

<b><u>Exhibit No.</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
99.1	Press release relating to the sale of certain rights in oil and gas working interests.