# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

# FORM S-8

# REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# **EVOLUTION PETROLEUM CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

41-1781991

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

820 Gessner, Suite 1340 Houston, Texas 77024

(Address of principal executive offices)

2004 STOCK PLAN
2003 STOCK OPTION PLAN
REVOCABLE WARRANT AGREEMENT
WARRANT AGREEMENT

(Full title of the plans)

Robert S. Herlin Chief Executive Officer Evolution Petroleum Corporation 820 Gessner, Suite 1340 Houston, Texas 77024

(Name and address of agent for service)

(713) 935-0122

(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copy to:

Lawrence Schnapp Troy & Gould PC 1801 Century Park East, Suite 1600 Los Angeles, California 90067 (310) 789-1255

#### **CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share		Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per					
share(1)	4,058,500 shares(2)	\$ 1	.55(2) \$	6,290,675(2)	\$ 673.12
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per					
share(2)	1,344,000 shares	\$ 2	.83 \$	3,803,520(2)	\$ 406.99
Total	5,402,500 shares		<u> </u>	10,094,495	\$ 1,080.11

<sup>(1)</sup> Pursuant to Rule 416(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement covers, in addition to the shares of common stock specified above, an indeterminate number of additional shares of common stock that may become issuable under the plans described above as a result of the anti-dilution adjustment provisions of the plans.

<sup>(2)</sup> With respect to 4,058,500 shares to be offered under the plans described above for which the offering price is known, the registration fee was determined in accordance with Rule 457(h) under the Securities Act of 1933. With respect to the remaining 1,344,000 shares of common stock that are issuable under the 2004 Stock Plan for which the offering price is not known, the proposed maximum offering price per share and maximum aggregate offering price for these shares were estimated pursuant to Rule 457(h) of the Securities Act on the basis of the high and low trading prices of the registrant's common stock as reported on the American Stock Exchange on January 17, 2007.

#### PART I

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

#### Item 1. Plan Information.\*

#### Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.\*

\* Information required by Part I to be contained in the Section 10(a) prospectus is omitted from the Registration Statement in accordance with Rule 428 of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Note to Part I of Form S-8.

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#### PART II

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

#### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference

The following documents previously filed by Evolution Petroleum Corporation (formerly named Natural Gas Systems, Inc.), a Nevada corporation (the "Company"), with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, are incorporated by reference into this registration statement:

- The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, filed on September 27, 2006;
- · The Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-QSB for the quarter ended September 30, 2006 filed on November 13, 2006;
- The Company's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on July 17, 2006, September 22, 2006, and September 28, 2006, respectively; and
  - The description of the Company's common stock contained in its registration statement on Form 8-A filed on July 13, 2006, and any amendment or report subsequently filed for the purpose of updating such description.

In addition, each document that the Company files with the Commission under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 after the date of this registration statement and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this registration statement which indicates that all shares of common stock registered hereunder have been sold or that deregisters all such shares of common stock then remaining unsold shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this registration statement and to be part thereof from the date of the filing of such document.

#### **Item 4. Description of Securities**

Not applicable.

#### Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

Not applicable.

#### Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes Section 78.750 and 78.751, we must indemnify any of our directors, officers, employees or agents who is successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action or suit. This indemnification includes expenses, including attorney's fees actually or reasonably incurred. Nevada law also provides for discretionary indemnification for each person who serves as or at our request as our officer or director. We may indemnify these individuals against all costs, expenses, and liabilities incurred in a threatened, pending, or completed action, suit or proceeding brought because the individual is our director or officer. The individual must have conducted himself in good faith and reasonably believed that his conduct was in, or not opposed to, our best interests. In a criminal action he must not have had a reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful.

Further, Article VI of our by-laws provides the following for the indemnification of directors, officers,

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and others:

#### **Section 6.1 Generally**

The corporation shall have the power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had

no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or items equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was lawful.

The corporation shall have the power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorney's fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of his duty to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which such court shall deem proper.

#### Section 6.2 Expenses

To the extent that a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in Section 6.1 of this Article, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorney's fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection therewith. Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding as authorized in the manner provided in Section 6.3 of this Article upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director, officer, employee or agent to repay such amount unless it shall ultimately be determined that he is entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in this Article.

#### Section 6.3 Determination by Board of Directors

Any indemnification under Section 6.1 of this Article (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because he has met the applicable

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standard of conduct set forth in Section 6.1 of this Article. Such determination shall be made by the Board of Directors by a majority vote of a quorum of the directors, or by the shareholders.

# **Section 6.4 Non-exclusive Right**

The indemnification provided by this Article shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those indemnified may be entitled under any by-law, agreement, vote of shareholders or interested directors or otherwise, both as to action in his official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

# **Section 6.5 Insurance**

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against him and incurred by him in any such capacity or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him against such liability under the provisions of this Article. The corporation's indemnity of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, shall be reduced by any amounts such person may collect as indemnification (i) under any policy of insurance purchased and maintained on his behalf by the corporation or (ii) from such other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise.

#### Section 6.6 Violation of Law

Nothing contained in this Article, or elsewhere in these By-laws, shall operate to indemnify any director or officer if such indemnification is for any reason contrary to law, either as a matter of public policy, or under the provisions of the Federal Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or any other applicable state or federal law.

# Section 6.7 Coverage

For the purposes of this Article, references to "the corporation" include all constituent corporations absorbed in a consolidation or merger as well as the resulting or surviving corporation so that any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such a constituent corporation or is or was serving at the request of such a constituent corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise shall stand in the same position under the provisions of this Article with respect to the resulting or surviving corporation as he would if he had served the resulting or surviving corporation in the same capacity.

Further, we have outstanding indemnification agreements with our officers and directors. In general, the indemnification agreements provide that the Company will, to the fullest extent permitted by Nevada law and subject to certain limitations, indemnify the director or officer against certain expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, penalties and settlement amounts that may be incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of any claim, criminal, civil or administrative action or proceeding to which the director or officer becomes subject in connection with his service as a director or officer of the Company. The agreements provide for indemnification rights regarding both third-party claims and proceedings brought by or in the right of the Company. In addition, each indemnification agreement

provides for the advancement of expenses incurred by the indemnitee in connection with any proceeding covered by the agreement to the fullest extent permitted by Nevada law. The indemnification agreements supersede all prior indemnification agreements entered into with the directors and officers. The indemnification agreements do not exclude any other rights to indemnification or advancement of expenses to which the indemnitees may be entitled, including any rights arising under the Articles of Incorporation or By-Laws of the Company, or Nevada law.

#### Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed

Not applicable.

#### Item 8. Exhibits

The following exhibits are filed with this registration statement by the Company (formerly named Natural Gas Systems, Inc.) or are incorporated by reference as a part of this registration statement:

- 4.1 Natural Gas Systems, a Delaware Corporation, 2003 Stock Option Plan (included with this registration statement).
- 4.2 Natural Gas Systems 2004 Stock Plan (previously filed on August 9, 2004 as an exhibit to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Form DEF14C and incorporated herein by reference).
- 4.3 Form of Stock Option Agreement for the Natural Gas Systems 2004 Stock Plan, previously filed on April 8, 2005 as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.
- Form of Warrant Agreement, previously filed on April 8, 2005 as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.
- 4.4 Revocable Warrant Agreement, previously filed on June 29, 2005 as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.
- 4.5 Form of Stock Grant Agreement, previously filed on June 29, 2005 as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.
- 5.1 Opinion of Troy & Gould PC (included with this registration statement).
- 23.1 Consent of Hein & Associates LLP (included with this registration statement).
- 23.2 Consent of Troy & Gould PC (included in the opinion filed as Exhibit 5.1).
- 24.1 Power of Attorney (included on the signature page of this registration statement).

# Item 9. Undertakings

- (a) The Company hereby undertakes:
  - (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

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- (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;
- (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement;
- (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this registration statement or any material change to such information in this registration statement; provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Company pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement;
- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof;
- (3) To file a post-effective amendment to remove from registration any of the securities being registered that remain unsold at the termination of the offering; and

- (4) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, in a primary offering of securities of the Company pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the Company will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities such purchaser:
  - (i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the Company relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
  - (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the Company or used or referred to by the Company;
  - (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the Company or its securities provided by or on behalf of the Company; and
    - (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the Company to the purchaser.
- (b) The Company hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Company's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Company pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Company has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Company of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Company in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Company will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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# **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Houston, Texas, on January 24, 2007.

#### **EVOLUTION PETROLEUM CORPORATION**

By: /s/ Robert S. Herlin
Robert S. Herlin

Chief Executive Officer

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Robert S. Herlin as his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution, for him or her in any and all capacities, to sign this registration statement on Form S-8 and any amendments hereto (including post-effective amendments), and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as he or she might do or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent, or his substitute or substitutes, may do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

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Signature	Title	Date

/s/ Robert S. Herlin Robert S. Herlin	Director, Chief Executive Officer and President (Principal Executive Officer)	January 24, 2007
/s/ Sterling McDonald Sterling McDonald	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer)	January 24, 2007
/s/ Laird Q. Cagan Laird Q. Cagan	Chairman of the Board of Directors And Secretary	January 24, 2007
/s/ William Dozier William Dozier	Director	January 24, 2007
/s/ E.J. DiPaolo E.J. DiPaolo	Director	January 24, 2007
/s/ Gene Stoever Gene Stoever	Director	January 24, 2007

#### **EXHIBIT INDEX**

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# Natural Gas Systems, Inc.

# 2003 Stock Plan

# Adopted on September 23, 2003

# Natural Gas Systems, Inc.

# 2003 Stock Plan Adopted on September 25, 2003

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#### Natural Gas Systems, Inc. 2003 Stock Plan

#### SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.

The purpose of the Plan is to offer selected persons an opportunity to acquire a proprietary interest in the success of the Company, or to increase such interest, by purchasing Shares of the Company's Stock. The Plan provides both for the direct award or sale of Shares and for the grant of Options to purchase Shares. Options granted under the Plan may include Nonstatutory Options as well as ISOs intended to qualify under Section 422 of the Code.

Capitalized terms are defined in Section 12.

#### SECTION 2. ADMINISTRATION.

- (a) **Committees of the Board of Directors.** The Plan may be administered by one or more Committees. Each Committee shall consist of one or more members of the Board of Directors who have been appointed by the Board of Directors. Each Committee shall have such authority and be responsible for such functions as the Board of Directors has assigned to it. If no Committee has been appointed, the entire Board of Directors shall administer the Plan. Any reference to the Board of Directors in the Plan shall be construed as a reference to the Committee (if any) to whom the Board of Directors has assigned a particular function.
- (b) **Authority of the Board of Directors.** Subject to the provisions of the Plan, the Board of Directors shall have full authority and discretion to take any actions it deems necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan. All decisions, interpretations and other actions of the Board of Directors shall be final and binding on all Purchasers, all Optionees and all persons deriving their rights from a Purchaser or Optionee.

#### SECTION 3. ELIGIBILITY.

- (a) **General Rule.** Only Employees, Outside Directors and Consultants shall be eligible for the grant of Nonstatutory Options or the direct award or sale of Shares. Only Employees shall be eligible for the grant of ISOs.
- (b) **Ten-Percent Stockholders.** A person who owns more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of outstanding stock of the Company, its Parent or any of its Subsidiaries shall not be eligible for the grant of an ISO unless (i) the Exercise Price is at Least 110% of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of grant and (ii) such ISO by its terms is not exercisable after the expiration of five years from the date of grant. For purposes of this Subsection (b), in determining stock ownership, the attribution rules of Section 424(d) of the Code shall be applied.

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# SECTION 4. STOCK SUBJECT TO PLAN.

- (a) **Basic Limitation.** Not more than Shares may be issued under the Plan (subject to Subsection (b) below and Section 8). The number of Shares that are subject to Options or other rights outstanding at any time under the Plan shall not exceed the number of Shares that then remain available for issuance under the Plan. The Company, during the term of the Plan, shall at all times reserve and keep available sufficient Shares to satisfy the requirements of the Plan. Shares offered under the Plan may be authorized but unissued Shares or treasury Shares.
- (b) Additional Shares. In the event that Shares previously issued under the Plan are reacquired by the Company pursuant to a forfeiture provision, right of repurchase or right of first refusal, such Shares shall be added to the number of Shares then available for issuance under the Plan. However, the aggregate number of Shares issued upon the exercise of ISOs (including Shares reacquired by the Company) shall in no event exceed 200% of the number specified in Subsection (a) above. In the event that an outstanding Option or other right for any reason expires or is canceled, the Shares allocable to the unexercised portion of such Option or other right shall not reduce the number of Shares available for issuance under the Plan.

#### SECTION 5. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AWARDS OR SALES.

- (a) **Stock Purchase Agreement.** Each award or sale of Shares under the Plan (other than upon exercise of an Option) shall be evidenced by a Stock Purchase Agreement between the Purchaser and the Company. Such award or sale shall be subject to all applicable terms and conditions of the Plan and may be subject to any other terms and conditions which are not inconsistent with the Plan and which the Board of Directors deems appropriate for inclusion in a Stock Purchase Agreement. The provisions of the various Stock Purchase Agreements entered into under the Plan need not be identical.
- (b) **Duration of Offers and Nontransferability of Rights.** Any right to acquire Shares under the Plan (other than an Option) shall automatically expire if not exercised by the Purchaser within 30 days after the grant of such right was communicated to the Purchaser by the Company. Such right shall not be transferable and shall be exercisable only by the Purchaser to whom such right was granted.
- (c) **Purchase Price.** The Purchase Price of Shares to be offered under the Plan, if newly issued, shall not be less than the par value of such Shares. Subject to the preceding sentence, the Board of Directors shall determine the Purchase Price at its sole discretion. The Purchase Price shall be payable in a form described in Section 7.

(d) <b>Withholding Taxes.</b> As a condition to the purchase of Shares, the Purchaser shall make such arrangements as the Board of Directors may require for the satisfaction of any federal, state, local or foreign withholding tax obligations that may arise in connection with such purchase.
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(e) <b>Restrictions on Transfer of Shares.</b> Any Shares awarded or sold under the Plan shall be subject to such special forfeiture
conditions, rights of repurchase, rights of first refusal and other transfer restrictions as the Board of Directors may determine. Such restrictions shall be set forth in the applicable Stock Purchase Agreement and shall apply in addition to any restrictions that may apply to holders of Shares generally. A Stock
Purchase Agreement may provide for accelerated vesting in the event of the Purchaser's death, disability or retirement or other events.

# SECTION 6. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF OPTIONS.

- (a) **Stock Option Agreement.** Each grant of an Option under the Plan shall be evidenced by a Stock Option Agreement between the Optionee and the Company. Such Option shall be subject to all applicable terms and conditions of the Plan and may be subject to any other terms and conditions which are not inconsistent with the Plan and which the Board of Directors deems appropriate for inclusion in a Stock Option Agreement. The provisions of the various Stock Option Agreements entered into under the Plan need not be identical.
- (b) **Number of Shares.** Each Stock Option Agreement shall specify the number of Shares that are subject to the Option and shall provide for the adjustment of such number in accordance with Section 8. The Stock Option Agreement shall also specify whether the Option is an ISO or a Nonstatutory Option.
- (c) **Exercise Price.** Each Stock Option Agreement shall specify the Exercise Price. The Exercise Price of an ISO shall not be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of grant, and a higher percentage may be required by Section 3(b). The Exercise Price of a Nonstatutory Option to purchase newly issued Shares shall not be less than 30% of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of grant. Subject to the preceding two sentences, the Exercise Price under an Option shall be determined by the Board of Directors at its sole discretion. The Exercise Price shall be payable in a form described in Section 7.
- (d) **Vesting and Exercisability.** Each Stock Option Agreement shall specify the date when all or any installment of the Option is to become vested and exercisable. No Option shall be exercisable unless the Optionee has delivered an executed copy of the Stock Option Agreement to the Company. The Board of Directors shall determine the exercisability provisions of any Stock Option Agreement at its sole discretion.
- (e) Accelerated Exercisability. Unless the applicable Stock Option Agreement provides otherwise, all of an Optionee's Options shall become exercisable in full if (i) the Company is subject to a Change in Control before the Optionee's Service terminates, (ii) such Options do not remain outstanding, (iii) such Options are not assumed by the surviving corporation or its parent and (iv) the surviving corporation or its parent does not substitute options with substantially the same terms for such Options. A Stock Option Agreement may also provide for accelerated exercisability in the event of

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the Optionee's death, disability or retirement or other events.

- (f) **Term.** The Stock Option Agreement shall specify the term of the Option. The term shall not exceed 10 years from the date of grant, and in the case of an ISO a shorter term may be required by Section 3(b). Subject to the preceding sentence, the Board of Directors at its sole discretion shall determine when an Option is to expire. A Stock Option Agreement may provide for expiration prior to the end of its term in the event of the termination of the Optionee's Service or death.
- (g) **Restrictions on Transfer of Shares.** Any Shares issued upon exercise of an Option shall be subject to such special forfeiture conditions, rights of repurchase, rights of first refusal and other transfer restrictions as the Board of Directors may determine. Such restrictions shall be set forth in the applicable Stock Option Agreement and shall apply in addition to any restrictions that may apply to holders of Shares generally.
- (h) **Transferability of Options.** An Option shall be transferable by the Optionee only by (i) a beneficiary designation, (ii) a will or (iii) the laws of descent and distribution, except as provided in the next sentence. If the applicable Stock Option Agreement so provides, a Nonstatutory Option shall also be transferable by the Optionee by (i) a gift to a member of the Optionee's Immediate Family or (ii) a gift to an *inter vivos* or testamentary trust in which members of the Optionee's Immediate Family have a beneficial interest of more than 50% and which provides that such Nonstatutory Option is to be transferred to the beneficiaries upon the Optionee's death. An ISO may be exercised during the lifetime of the Optionee only by the Optionee or by the Optionee's guardian or legal representative.
- (i) **Withholding Taxes.** As a condition to the exercise of an Option, the Optionee shall make such arrangements as the Board of Directors may require for the satisfaction of any federal, state, local or foreign withholding tax obligations that may arise in connection with such exercise. The Optionee shall also make such arrangements as the Board of Directors may require for the satisfaction of any federal, state, local or foreign withholding tax obligations that may arise in connection with the disposition of Shares acquired by exercising an Option.
- (j) **No Rights as a Stockholder.** An Optionee, or a transferee of an Optionee, shall have no rights as a stockholder with respect to any Shares covered by the Optionee's Option until such person becomes entitled to receive such Shares by filing a notice of exercise and paying the Exercise Price pursuant to the terms of such Option.
- (k) **Modification, Extension and Assumption of Options.** Within the limitations of the Plan, the Board of Directors may modify, extend or assume outstanding Options or may accept the cancellation of outstanding Options (whether granted by the Company or another issuer) in return for the grant of new Options for the same or a different number of Shares and at the same or a different Exercise Price. The foregoing notwithstanding, no modification of an Option shall, without the consent of the Optionee, impair the Optionee's rights or increase the Optionee's obligations under such Option.

#### SECTION 7. PAYMENT FOR SHARES.

- (a) **General Rule.** The entire Purchase Price or Exercise Price of Shares issued under the Plan shall be payable in cash or cash equivalents at the time when such Shares are purchased, except as otherwise provided in this Section 7.
- (b) **Surrender of Stock.** To the extent that a Stock Option Agreement so provides, all or any part of the Exercise Price may be paid by surrendering, or attesting to the ownership of, Shares that are already owned by the Optionee. Such Shares shall be surrendered to the Company in good form for transfer and shall be valued at their Fair Market Value on the date when the Option is exercised.
- (c) **Services Rendered.** At the discretion of the Board of Directors Shares may be awarded under the Plan in consideration of services rendered to the Company, a Parent or a Subsidiary prior to the award.
- (d) **Promissory Note.** To the extent that a Stock Option Agreement or Stock Purchase Agreement. so provides, all or a portion of the Exercise Price or Purchase Price (as the case may be) of Shares issued under the Plan may be paid with a full-recourse promissory note. However, the par value of the Shares, if newly issued, shall be paid in cash or cash equivalents. The Shares shall be pledged as security for payment of the principal amount of the promissory note and interest thereon. The interest rate payable under the terms of the promissory note shall not be less than the minimum rate (if any) required to avoid the imputation of additional interest under the Code. Subject to the foregoing, the Board of Directors (at its sole discretion) shall specify the term, interest rate, amortization requirements (if any) and other provisions of such note.
- (e) **Exercise/Sale.** To the extent that a Stock Option Agreement so provides, and if Stock is publicly traded, payment may be made all or in part by the delivery (on a form prescribed by the Company) of an irrevocable direction to a securities broker approved by the Company to sell Shares and to deliver all or part of the sales proceeds to the Company in payment of all or part of the Exercise Price and any withholding taxes.
- (f) **Exercise/Pledge.** To the extent that a Stock Option Agreement so provides, and if Stock is publicly traded, payment may be made all or in part by the delivery (on a form prescribed by the Company) of an irrevocable direction to pledge Shares to a securities broker or lender approved by the Company, as security for a loan, and to deliver all or part of the loan proceeds to the Company in payment of all or part of the Exercise Price and any withholding taxes.
- (g) **Surrender of Options.** To the extent that a Stock Option Agreement so provides, payment may be made all or in part by the surrender of a portion of the Options, wherein the aggregate amount of the excess of market value over exercise price of the surrendered options shall be applied against the total exercise price. Market value shall be the most recent publicly traded price of the stock or, if no public market exists, the fair market value as mutually agreed to by Company and Optionee.

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#### SECTION 8. ADJUSTMENT OF SHARES.

- (a) **General.** In the event of a subdivision of the outstanding Stock, a declaration of a dividend payable in Shares, a declaration of an extraordinary dividend payable in a form other than Shares in an amount that has a material effect on the Fair Market Value of the Stock, a combination or consolidation of the outstanding Stock into a lesser number of Shares, a recapitalization, a spin-off, a reclassification or a similar occurrence, the Board of Directors shall make appropriate adjustments in one or more of (i) the number of Shares available for future grants under Section 4, (ii) the number of Shares covered by each outstanding Option, or (iii) the Exercise Price under each outstanding Option.
- (b) **Mergers and Consolidations.** In the event that the Company is a party to a merger or consolidation, outstanding Options shall be subject to the agreement of merger or consolidation. At the sole discretion of the board of directors, such agreement shall provide for:
  - (i) The continuation of such outstanding Options by the Company (if the Company is the surviving corporation);
  - (ii) The assumption or the Plan and such outstanding Options by the surviving corporation or its parent;
  - (iii) The substitution by the surviving corporation or its parent of options with the same terms for such outstanding Options;
  - (iv) The full exercisability of such outstanding Options and full vesting of the Shares subject to such Options, followed by the cancellation of such Options; OR
  - (v) The settlement of the full value of such, outstanding Options (whether or not then exercisable) in cash or cash equivalents, including (without limitation) deferred cash payments, followed by the cancellation of such Options.
- Reservation of Rights. Except as provided in this Section 8, an Optionee or Purchaser shall have no rights by reason of (i) any subdivision or consolidation of shares of stock of any class, (ii) the payment of any dividend or (iii) any other increase or decrease in the number of shares of stock of any class. Any issuance by the Company of shares of stock of any class, or securities convertible into shares of stock of any class, shall not affect, and no adjustment by reason thereof shall be made with respect to, the number or Exercise Price of Shares subject to an Option. The grant, of an Option pursuant to the Plan shall not affect in any way the right or power of the Company to make adjustments, reclassifications, reorganizations or changes of its capital or business structure, to merge or consolidate or to dissolve, liquidate, sell or transfer all or any part of its business or assets.

#### SECTION 9. SECURITIES LAW REQUIREMENTS.

Shares shall not be issued under the Plan unless the issuance and delivery of such Shares comply with (or are exempt from) all applicable requirements of law, including (without limitation) the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, state securities laws and regulations, and the regulations of any stock exchange or other securities market on which the Company's securities may then be traded.

#### SECTION 10. NO RETENTION RIGHTS.

Nothing in the Plan or in any right or Option granted under the Plan shall confer upon the Purchaser or Optionee any right to continue in Service for any period of specific duration or interfere with or otherwise restrict in any way the rights of the Company (or any Parent or Subsidiary employing or retaining the Purchaser or Optionee) or of the Purchase or Optionee, which rights are hereby expressly reserved by each, to terminate his or her Service at any time and for any reason, with or without cause.

#### SECTION 11. DURATION AND AMENDMENTS.

- (a) **Term of the Plan.** The Plan, as set forth herein, shall become effective on the date of its adoption by the Board of Directors, subject to the approval of the Company's stockholders. If the stockholders fail to approve the Plan within 12 months after its adoption by the Board of Directors, then any grants, exercises or sales that have already occurred under the Plan shall be rescinded and no additional grants, exercises or sales shall thereafter be made under the Plan. The Plan shall terminate automatically 10 years after the later of (i) its adoption by the Board of Directors or (ii) the most recent increase in the number of Shares reserved under Section 4 that was approved by the Company's stockholders. The Plan may be terminated on any earlier date pursuant to Subsection (b) below.
- (b) **Right to Amend or Terminate the Plan.** The Board of Directors may amend, suspend or terminate the Plan at any time and for any reason; provided, however, that any amendment of the Plan shall be subject to the approval of the Company's stockholders if it (i) increases the number of Shares available for issuance under the Plan (except, as provided in Section 8) or (ii) materially changes the class of persons who are eligible for the grant of ISOs. Stockholder approval shall not be required for any other amendment of the Plan. If the stockholders fail to approve an increase in the number of Shares reserved under Section 4 within 12 months after its adoption by the Board of Directors, then any grants, exercises or sales that have already occurred in reliance on such increase shall be rescinded and no additional grants, exercises or sales shall thereafter be made in reliance on such increase.
- (c) **Effect of Amendment or Termination.** No Shares shall be issued or sold under the Plan after the termination thereof, except upon exercise of an Option granted prior to such termination. The termination of the Plan, or any amendment thereof, shall not affect any Share previously issued or any Option previously granted under the Plan.

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# SECTION 12. DEFINITIONS.

- (a) "Board of Directors" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company, as constituted from time to time.
- (b) "Change in Control" shall mean:
- (i) The consummation of a merger or consolidation of the Company with or into another entity or any other corporate reorganization, if persons who were not controlling stockholders of the Company immediately prior to such merger, consolidation or other reorganization own immediately after such merger, consolidation or other reorganization 50% or more of the voting power of the outstanding securities of each of (A) the continuing or surviving entity and (B) any direct or indirect parent corporation of such continuing or surviving entity; or
  - (ii) The sale, transfer or other disposition of all or substantially all of the Company's assets.

A transaction shall not constitute a Change in Control if its sole purpose is to change the state of the Company's incorporation or to create a holding company that will be owned in substantially the same proportions by the persons who held the Company's securities immediately before such transaction.

- "Code" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- "Committee" shall mean a committee of the Board of Directors, as described in Section 2(a).
- "Company" shall mean Natural Gas Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation.
- **"Consultant"** shall mean a person who performs bona fide services for the Company, a Parent or a Subsidiary as a consultant or advisor, excluding Employees and Outside Directors.
  - "Employee" shall mean any individual who is a common-law employee of the Company, a Parent or a Subsidiary.
- "Exercise Price" shall mean the amount for which one Share may be purchased upon exercise of an Option, as specified by the Board of Directors in the applicable Stock Option Agreement.
- **"Fair Market Value"** shall mean the fair market value of a Share, as determined by the Board of Directors in good faith. Such determination shall be conclusive and binding on all persons.

- "Immediate Family" shall mean any child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, spouse, sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law or sister-in-law and shall include adoptive relationships.
  - "ISO" shall mean an employee incentive stock option described in Section 422(b) of the Code.
  - "Nonstatutory Option" shall mean a stock option not described in Sections 422(b) or 423(b) of the Code.
  - "Option" shall mean an ISO or Nonstatutory Option granted under the Plan and entitling the holder to purchase Shares.
  - "Optionee" shall mean a person who holds an Option.
  - "Outside Director" shall mean a member of the Board of Directors who is not an Employee.
- **"Parent"** shall mean any corporation (other than the Company) in an unbroken chain of corporations ending with the Company, if each of the corporations other than the Company owns stock possessing 50% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock in one of the other corporations in such chain. A corporation that attains the status of a Parent on a date after the adoption of the Plan shall be considered a Parent commencing as of such date.
  - "Plan" shall mean Natural Gas Systems, Inc. 2003 Stock Plan.
- **"Purchase Price"** shall mean the consideration for which one Share may be acquired under the Plan (other than upon exercise of an Option), as specified by the Board of Directors.
- "Purchaser" shall mean a person to whom the Board of Directors has offered the right to acquire Shares under the Plan (other than upon exercise of an Option).
  - "Service" shall mean service as an Employee. Outside Director or Consultant
  - "Share" shall mean one share of Stock, as adjusted in accordance with Section 8 (if applicable).
  - "Stock" shall mean the Common Stock of the Company, with a par value of \$0.001 per Share.
- "Stock Option Agreement" shall mean the agreement between the Company and an Optionee that contains the terms, conditions and restrictions pertaining to the Optionee's Option.

**"Stock Purchase Agreement"** shall mean the agreement between the Company and a Purchaser who acquires Shares under the Plan that contains the terms, conditions and restrictions pertaining to the acquisition of such Shares.

**"Subsidiary"** shall mean any corporation (other than the Company) in an unbroken chain of corporations beginning with the Company, if each of the corporations other than the last corporation in the unbroken chain owns stock possessing 50% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock in one of the other corporations in such chain. A corporation that attains the status of a Subsidiary on a date after the adoption of the Plan shall be considered a Subsidiary commencing as of such date.

# TROY & GOULD PC 1801 Century Park East, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, California 90067-2367

January 18, 2007

Evolution Petroleum Corporation 820 Gessner, Suite 1340 Houston, Texas 77024

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-8

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to Evolution Petroleum Corporation (formerly Natural Gas Systems, Inc.), a Nevada corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), in connection with a Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "<u>Registration Statement</u>") that the Company intends to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "<u>Commission</u>") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "<u>Securities Act</u>"), on or about January 18, 2007 for the purpose of registering the offer and sale of up to 5,402,500 shares (the "<u>Shares</u>") of its common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, issuable under the Evolution Petroleum 2003 Stock Option Plan, the Evolution Petroleum 2004 Stock Plan, and various warrant agreements (collectively, the "<u>Plans</u>"). This opinion letter is being given to you pursuant to your request.

As a basis for rendering our opinion expressed below, we have reviewed originals or copies of originals, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of (i) the Registration Statement, (ii) the Plans, (iii) the Company's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, each as amended to date, (iv) resolutions of the Company's Board of Directors pertaining to the issuance of the Shares, the Registration Statement and related matters, and (v) such other certificates of public officials, certificates of officers of the Company and other documents as we have considered necessary or appropriate as a basis for rendering our opinion.

With your permission, in order to render our opinion, we have made and relied upon such customary assumptions as we have deemed necessary or appropriate without any independent investigation or inquiry by us. Among other things, we have assumed that: all signatures on documents reviewed by us are genuine; all documents submitted to us as originals are authentic; and all documents submitted to us as copies conform to the originals of such documents, and such originals are authentic.

The law covered by our opinion is limited to the laws of the State of Nevada. We neither express nor imply any opinion with respect to any other laws or the laws of any other jurisdiction, and we assume no responsibility with respect to the application or effect of any such laws.

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This opinion letter is limited to the opinion expressly stated below, does not include any implied opinions and is rendered as of the date hereof. We do not undertake to advise you of matters that may come to our attention subsequent to the date hereof and that may affect our opinion, including, without limitation, future changes in applicable law.

Based upon and subject to all of the foregoing, we are of the opinion that all Shares which are issued, delivered and paid for in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Registration Statement and the Plans will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

We consent to the filing of this opinion letter as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. However, by giving you this opinion letter and consent, we do not thereby admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission promulgated thereunder.

Very truly yours,	
/s/ Troy & Gould	
TROY & GOULD PC	

#### CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 and related Prospectus of Evolution Petroleum Corporation pertaining to the Company's 2003 Stock Option Plan, the Company's 2004 Stock Plan, and various warrant agreements of our report dated August 29, 2006 with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Evolution Petroleum Corporation that is included in its Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the year ended June 30, 2006 and filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Hein & Associates LLP

Houston, Texas January 24, 2007