
**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-A

FOR REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN CLASSES OF SECURITIES
PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR 12(g) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Bonanza Creek Energy, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

61-1630631

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

410 17th Street, Suite 1400

Denver, Colorado

(Address of principal executive offices)

80202

(Zip Code)

**Title of each class
to be so registered**

**Name of each exchange on which
each class is to be registered**

Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

New York Stock Exchange

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A.(c), check the following box.

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A.(d), check the following box.

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities concurrently with a Regulation A offering, check the following box.

Securities Act registration statement or Regulation A offering statement file number to which this form relates: Not Applicable.

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Item 1. Description of the Registrant's Securities to Be Registered.

The Board of Directors (the "**Board**") of Bonanza Creek Energy, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "**Company**"), has declared a dividend of one right (a "**Right**") for each of the Company's issued and outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("**Common Stock**"). The dividend will be paid to the stockholders of record at the close of business on November 19, 2020 (the "**Record Date**"). Each Right entitles the registered holder, subject to the terms of the Rights Agreement (as defined below), to purchase from the Company one one-thousandth of a share of the Company's Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "**Series A Preferred Stock**"), at a price of \$100.00 (the "**Exercise Price**"), subject to certain adjustments. The description and terms of the Rights are set forth in the Tax Benefits Preservation Plan dated as of November 9, 2020 (the "**Rights Agreement**") by and between the Company and Broadridge Corporate Issuer Solutions, Inc., as Rights Agent (the "**Rights Agent**").

The purpose of the Rights Agreement is to reduce the risk that the Company's ability to use its net operating losses and certain other tax attributes (collectively, "**Tax Benefits**") to reduce potential future income tax obligations would become subject to limitation by reason of the Company experiencing an "ownership change," as defined in Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "**Tax Code**"). A corporation generally will experience an ownership change if the percentage of the corporation's stock owned by its "5-percent shareholders," as defined in Section 382 of the Tax Code, increases by more than 50 percentage points over their lowest ownership percentage within a rolling three-year period. The Rights Agreement is designed to reduce the likelihood that the Company will experience an ownership change under Section 382 of the Tax Code by (i) discouraging any person or group of persons from acquiring beneficial ownership of more than a 4.95% of the Company's shares of Common Stock and (ii) discouraging any existing shareholder currently beneficially holding 4.95% or more of the Company's shares of Common Stock from acquiring additional shares of the Company's Common Stock.

The Rights will not be exercisable until the earlier to occur of (i) the close of business on the tenth business day after a public announcement or filing that a person or group of affiliated or associated persons has become an "**Acquiring Person**," which is defined as a person or group of affiliated or associated persons that, at any time after the date of the Rights Agreement, has acquired, or obtained the right to acquire, beneficial ownership of 4.95% or more of the Company's outstanding shares of Common Stock, subject to certain exceptions or (ii) the close of business on the tenth business day after the commencement of, or announcement of an intention to commence, a tender offer or exchange offer the consummation of which would result in any person becoming an Acquiring Person (the earlier of such dates being called the "**Distribution Date**").

With respect to the announcement today of the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of November 9, 2020, by and among the Company, Boron Merger Sub, Inc. and HighPoint Resources Corporation (the "**HighPoint Merger Agreement**"), no person or group of affiliated or associated persons will become an "Acquiring Person" solely as a result of the Merger (as defined in the HighPoint Merger Agreement) and the other transactions contemplated thereby, including, without limitation, the Exchange Offer (as defined in the HighPoint Merger Agreement) and, to the extent applicable, the issuance of shares of Common Stock pursuant to the Prepackaged Plan (as defined in the HighPoint Merger Agreement) (collectively, the "**HighPoint Transactions**"). However, if a person or group of affiliated or associated persons beneficially owns, as a result of the HighPoint Transactions, 4.95% or more of the shares of Common Stock then-outstanding, such person will be deemed to be an "Acquiring Person" if such person subsequently becomes the beneficial owner of any additional shares of Common Stock without the prior written consent of the Company.

With respect to certificates representing shares of Common Stock outstanding as of the Record Date, until the Distribution Date, the Rights will be evidenced by such certificates for shares of Common Stock registered in the names of the holders thereof, and not by separate Rights Certificates (as defined below). With respect to book entry shares of Common Stock outstanding as of the Record Date, until the Distribution Date, the Rights will be evidenced by the balances indicated in the book entry account system of the transfer agent for the Common Stock. Until the earlier of the Distribution Date and the Expiration Date (as defined below), the transfer of any shares of Common Stock outstanding on the Record Date will also constitute the transfer of the Rights associated with such shares of Common Stock. As soon as practicable after the Distribution Date, separate certificates evidencing the Rights ("**Rights Certificates**") will be mailed to holders of record of the Common Stock as of the close of business on the Distribution Date, and such Rights Certificates alone will evidence the Rights. The Rights, which are not exercisable until the Distribution Date, will expire at or prior to the earliest of (i) the close of business on November 9, 2023; (ii) the time at which the Rights are redeemed pursuant to the Rights Agreement; (iii) the time at which the Rights are exchanged pursuant to the Rights Agreement; (iv) the time at which the Rights are terminated upon the occurrence of certain mergers or other transactions approved in advance by the Board; and (v) the close of business on the date set by the Board following a determination by the Board that (x) the Rights Agreement is no longer necessary or desirable for the preservation of the Tax Benefits or (y) no Tax Benefits are available to be carried forward or are otherwise available (the earliest of (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) is referred to as the "**Expiration Date**").

Each share of Series A Preferred Stock will be entitled, when, as and if declared, to a preferential per share quarterly dividend payment equal to the greater of (i) \$1.00 per share or (ii) an amount equal to 1,000 times the dividend declared per share of Common Stock. Each share of Series A Preferred Stock will entitle the holder thereof to 1,000 votes on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders of the Company. In the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which shares of Common Stock are converted or exchanged, each share of Series A Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive 1,000 times the amount received per one share of Common Stock.

The Exercise Price payable, and the number of shares of Series A Preferred Stock or other securities or property issuable, upon exercise of the Rights are each subject to adjustment from time to time to prevent dilution (i) in the event of a stock dividend on, or a subdivision, combination or reclassification of, the Series A Preferred Stock, (ii) upon the grant to holders of the Series A Preferred Stock of certain rights or warrants to subscribe for or purchase Series A Preferred Stock or convertible securities at less than the then-current market price of the Series A Preferred Stock or (iii) upon the distribution to holders of the Series A Preferred Stock of evidences of indebtedness or assets (excluding regular periodic cash dividends or dividends payable in Series A Preferred Stock) or of subscription rights or warrants (other than those referred to above). The number of outstanding Rights and the number of one one-thousandths of a share of Series A Preferred Stock issuable upon exercise of each Right are also subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split, reverse stock split, stock dividends and other similar transactions involving the Common Stock.

In the event that any person or group of affiliated or associated persons becomes an Acquiring Person, each holder of a Right, other than the Rights beneficially owned by the Acquiring Person, affiliates and associates of the Acquiring Person and certain transferees thereof (which will thereupon become null and void), will thereafter have the right to receive upon exercise of a Right that number of shares of Common Stock having a market value of two times the Exercise Price.

In the event that, after a person or a group of affiliated or associated persons has become an Acquiring Person, the Company is acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction, or 50% or more of the Company's assets or earning power are sold, proper provision will be made so that each holder of a Right will thereafter have the right to receive, upon the exercise thereof at the then-current exercise price of the Right, that number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company having a market value at the time of that transaction equal to two times the Exercise Price.

With certain exceptions, no adjustment in the Exercise Price will be required unless such adjustment would require an increase or decrease of at least one percent (1%) in the Exercise Price. No fractional shares of Series A Preferred Stock will be issued (other than fractions which are integral multiples of one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Preferred Stock, which may, at the election of the Company, be evidenced by depositary receipts) and, in lieu thereof, an adjustment in cash will be made based on the market price of the Series A Preferred Stock on the trading day immediately prior to the date of exercise.

At any time after any person or group of affiliated or associated persons becomes an Acquiring Person and prior to the acquisition of beneficial ownership by such Acquiring Person of 50% or more of the outstanding shares of Common Stock, the Board, at its option, may exchange each Right (other than Rights owned by such person or group of affiliated or associated persons which will have become void), in whole or in part, at an exchange ratio of one share of Common Stock per outstanding Right (subject to adjustment).

In connection with any exercise or exchange of the Rights, no holder of a Right will be entitled to receive shares of Common Stock if receipt of such shares would result in such holder, together with such holder's affiliates and associates, beneficially owning more than 4.95% of the then-outstanding Common Stock (such shares, the "Excess Shares") and the Board determines that such holder's receipt of Excess Shares would jeopardize or endanger the value or availability of the Tax Benefits or the Board otherwise determines that such holder's receipt of Excess Shares is not in the best interests of the Company. In lieu of such Excess Shares, such holder will only be entitled to receive cash or a note or other evidence of indebtedness with a principal amount equal to the then-current market price of the Common Stock multiplied by the number of Excess Shares that would otherwise have been issuable.

At any time before the Distribution Date, the Board may redeem the Rights in whole, but not in part, at a price of \$0.001 per Right (subject to certain adjustments) (the “**Redemption Price**”). The redemption of the Rights may be made effective at such time, on such basis and with such conditions as the Board in its sole discretion may establish.

Immediately upon the action of the Board electing to redeem or exchange the Rights, the Company shall make announcement thereof, and upon such election, the right to exercise the Rights will terminate and the only right of the holders of Rights will be to receive the Redemption Price. Until a Right is exercised or exchanged, the holder thereof, as such, will have no rights as a stockholder of the Company, including, without limitation, the right to vote or to receive dividends.

The Board may amend or supplement the Rights Agreement without the approval of any holders of Rights, including, without limitation, in order to (a) cure any ambiguity, (b) correct inconsistent provisions, (c) alter time period provisions, including the Expiration Date, or (d) make additional changes to the Rights Agreement that the Board deems necessary or desirable. However, from and after the date any person or group of affiliated or associated persons becomes an Acquiring Person, the Rights Agreement may not be supplemented or amended in any manner that would adversely affect the interests of the holders of Rights.

The Rights Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 4.1 and is incorporated herein by reference. The description of the Rights Agreement herein does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to Exhibit 4.1.

Item 2. Exhibits.

- [3.1 Certificate of Designations of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of Bonanza Creek Energy, Inc. \(incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 9, 2020\).](#)
- [4.1 Tax Benefits Preservation Plan, dated as of November 9, 2020, by and between Bonanza Creek Energy, Inc. and Broadridge Corporate Issuer Solutions, Inc., as Rights Agent \(incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 9, 2020\).](#)

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereto duly authorized.

BONANZA CREEK ENERGY, INC.

Date: November 9, 2020

By: /s/ Cyrus D. Marter IV

Name: Cyrus D. Marter IV

Title: Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary