

NOBLE CORP  
Form 8-K  
February 22, 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): February 17, 2006**  
**NOBLE CORPORATION**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<b>CAYMAN ISLANDS</b> (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)	<b>001-31306</b> (Commission File Number)	<b>98-0366361</b> (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
<b>13135 South Dairy Ashford, Suite 800</b> <b>Sugar Land, Texas</b> (Address of Principal Executive Offices)	Registrant's telephone number, including area code: <b>(281) 276-6100</b>	<b>77478</b> (Zip Code)

(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 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

On February 17, 2006, Noble Corporation (the Company), Noble Holding (U.S.) Corporation ( NHC ), Noble Drilling Corporation (the Borrower) and Goldman Sachs Credit Partners L.P., as the initial lender and administrative agent ( GSCP ), entered into a First Amendment to Credit Agreement (the First Amendment ). The First Amendment amends the Credit Agreement, dated as of December 22, 2005 (the Credit Agreement ), between the Company, NHC, the Borrower and GSCP, to extend the Maturity Date (as defined in the Credit Agreement) from 60 days after the Closing Date (as defined in the Credit Agreement) to 150 days after the Closing Date. As a result, the Maturity Date of the US\$600 million borrowed under the Credit Agreement on December 22, 2005 has been extended to May 22, 2006. All other terms of the Credit Agreement continue to be in full force and effect. A copy of the First Amendment is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference. Each of NHC, the Borrower and Noble Drilling Holding LLC is a direct or indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the Company.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) *Exhibits.*

EXHIBIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
10.1	First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of February 17, 2006, among Noble Corporation, Noble Holding (U.S.) Corporation, Noble Drilling Corporation and Goldman Sachs Credit Partners L.P.

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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.

NOBLE CORPORATION

Date: February 22, 2006

By: /s/ Bruce W. Busmire

Bruce W. Busmire  
Senior Vice President and Chief  
Financial  
Officer

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