

---

---

**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): October 30, 2017

---

**GULFPORT ENERGY CORPORATION**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

---

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation)

**000-19514**  
(Commission File Number)

**73-1521290**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

**3001 Quail Springs Parkway**  
**Oklahoma City, OK**  
(Address of principal  
executive offices)

**73134**  
(Zip code)

**(405) 252-4600**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K 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
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act
- 
-

---

**Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.*****Appointment of Director***

On October 30, 2017, in accordance with the bylaws of Gulfport Energy Corporation (the “Company”), the Board of Directors of the Company (the “Board”) appointed Paul D. Westerman as a member of the Board. As provided in the Company’s bylaws, Mr. Westerman will serve until the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company or until his earlier death, resignation or removal. The Board also appointed Mr. Westerman to serve on its compensation committee and its nominating and corporate governance committee.

Mr. Westerman has served as a Trustee and Director of the Westerman Family Trusts and Westerman Interest Inc., respectively, since 1999. From September 2011 to December 2012, Mr. Westerman served as Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Business Development Officer of J-W Energy Company, a diversified energy company engaged in exploration and production, energy services, midstream and manufacturing, among other businesses. Mr. Westerman joined J-W Energy Company in 1984 and, during his time there, he served in several other leadership roles, including as Chief Operating Officer. Prior to joining J-W Energy Company, Mr. Westerman served in various positions at Phillips Petroleum Company, Terra Resources and Kerr-McGee Corporation. Mr. Westerman has served on the Board of Directors of J-W Energy Company since 1996. Mr. Westerman previously served as a Director of Vintage Bank, Benedictine College, the Dallas Petroleum Club, the Dallas Wildcatters Association and the Dallas Hard Hatters Association. Mr. Westerman is also a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors and the Society of Petroleum Engineers. Mr. Westerman earned his bachelor’s degree in petroleum engineering from the University of Oklahoma and is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.

The equity compensation provided by the Company to all of its non-employee directors includes an annual grant of restricted stock units with an aggregate value of approximately \$125,000. In connection with his appointment to the Board, Mr. Westerman received restricted stock units under the Company’s 2013 Restated Stock Incentive Plan (the “Plan”), representing a pro-rated portion of the annual non-employee director grant to reflect his service on the Board commencing on October 30, 2017. Consistent with the awards granted to the other non-employee directors, Mr. Westerman’s restricted stock units will vest on the earlier of June 8, 2018 and the date of the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company, provided Mr. Westerman is in continuous service on such date. Mr. Westerman will also receive the cash compensation offered to all of the Company’s non-employee directors for services on the Board and its committees, as disclosed in the Company’s definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A, filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 1, 2017.

**Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure**

On November 3, 2017, the Company issued a press release announcing the matters described in Item 5.02 above. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

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

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
99.1	<a href="#"><u>Press release dated November 3, 2017 entitled “Gulfport Energy Corporation Appoints Paul Westerman to its Board of Directors.”</u></a>

---

**SIGNATURE**

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 thereunto duly authorized.

GULFPORT ENERGY CORPORATION

Date: November 3, 2017

By: /s/ Keri Crowell

Keri Crowell  
Chief Financial Officer



## Press Release

---

### Gulfport Energy Corporation Appoints Paul Westerman to its Board of Directors

**OKLAHOMA CITY** (November 3, 2017) Gulfport Energy Corporation (NASDAQ: GPOR) (“Gulfport”) today announced that Paul D. Westerman has been appointed to the Company’s Board of Directors (the “Board”). Mr. Westerman has also been appointed to serve on the Board’s Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

Mr. Westerman has served as a Trustee and Director of the Westerman Family Trusts and Westerman Interest Inc., respectively, since 1999. From September 2011 to December 2012, Mr. Westerman served as Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Business Development Officer of J-W Energy Company, a diversified energy company engaged in exploration and production, energy services, midstream and manufacturing, among other businesses. Mr. Westerman joined J-W Energy Company in 1984 and, during his time there, he served in several other leadership roles, including as Chief Operating Officer. Prior to joining J-W Energy Company, Mr. Westerman served in various positions at Phillips Petroleum Company, Terra Resources and Kerr-McGee Corporation. Mr. Westerman has served on the Board of Directors of J-W Energy Company since 1996. Mr. Westerman previously served as a Director of Vintage Bank, Benedictine College, the Dallas Petroleum Club, the Dallas Wildcatters Association and the Dallas Hard Hatters Association. Mr. Westerman is also a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors and the Society of Petroleum Engineers. Mr. Westerman earned his bachelor’s degree in petroleum engineering from the University of Oklahoma and is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.

Michael G. Moore, Chief Executive and President, commented, “We are very pleased that Paul has decided to join the Gulfport Board of Directors. He holds over 35 years of energy industry experience and possesses technical expertise that will further strengthen our Board.”

### About Gulfport

Gulfport Energy Corporation is an independent natural gas and oil company focused on the exploration and development of natural gas and oil properties in North America and is one of the largest producers of natural gas in the contiguous United States. Headquartered in Oklahoma City, Gulfport holds significant acreage positions in the Utica Shale of Eastern Ohio and the SCOOP Woodford and SCOOP Springer plays in Oklahoma. In addition, Gulfport holds an acreage position along the Louisiana Gulf Coast, a position in the Alberta Oil Sands in Canada through its approximately 25% interest in Grizzly Oil Sands ULC and has an approximately 25% equity interest in Mammoth Energy Services, Inc. (NASDAQ:TUSK).

---

**Forward Looking Statements**

Certain statements included in this press release are intended as “forward-looking statements.” These statements include assumptions, expectations, predictions, intentions or beliefs about future events, particularly the consummation of the transactions described above. Gulfport cautions that actual future results may vary materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements. Specifically, Gulfport cannot assure you that the proposed transactions described above will be consummated on the terms Gulfport currently contemplates, if at all. Information concerning these and other factors can be found in Gulfport’s filings with the SEC, including its Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K, which can be obtained free of charge on the SEC’s web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Any forward-looking statements made in this press release speak only as of the date of this release and, except as required by law, Gulfport undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement contained in this press release, even if Gulfport’s expectations or any related events, conditions or circumstances change. Gulfport is not responsible for any changes made to this release by wire or Internet services.

**Investor & Media Contact:**

Jessica Wills – Manager, Investor Relations and Research  
[jwills@gulfportenergy.com](mailto:jwills@gulfportenergy.com)  
405-252-4550