

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2013

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission file number 000-54639



**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Nevada**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**27-1550482**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**417 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Unit A**  
**Newport Beach, California 92663**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**(949) 612-8040**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

*Copies of Communications to:*  
Rutan & Tucker  
611 Anton Blvd, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
(714) 641-3487  
Fax (714) 546-9035

Indicate by check mark whether the issuer (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes  No

The number of shares of Common Stock, \$0.001 par value, outstanding on November 11, 2013 was 28,031,640.

**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC.**  
**QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2013**

**Index to Report on Form 10-Q**

		<u>Page No.</u>
<b>PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION</b>		
Item 1.	Financial Statements	3
Item 2.	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	13
Item 3.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	17
Item 4T.	Controls and Procedures	17
<b>PART II - OTHER INFORMATION</b>		
Item 1.	Legal Proceedings	17
Item 1A.	Risk Factors	18
Item 2.	Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds	18
Item 3.	Defaults Upon Senior Securities	18
Item 4.	Mine Safety Disclosures	19
Item 5.	Other Information	19
Item 6.	Exhibits	19
	Signature	20

## PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Item 1. Financial Statements.

**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY**  
**(AN EXPLORATION STAGE COMPANY)**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
**(Unaudited)**

	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2012
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 299,056	\$ 112,580
Other receivable	57,452	7,253
Prepaid expenses	41,506	9,283
Product inventory	9,934	-
Total current assets	407,948	129,116
Deposits	3,150	-
Restricted cash	45,000	-
Oil and gas properties	1,026,543	159,833
Fixed assets, net	14,405	20,299
Website, net	306	649
Total assets	\$ 1,497,352	\$ 309,897
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued payables	\$ 123,298	\$ 22,438
Accrued executive compensation	184,656	80,000
Accrued interest payable	8,316	11,217
Accrued interest payable - related party	-	3,607
Notes payable, (net of \$56,792 unamortized discount)	163,665	222,527
Notes payable - related party	-	34,990
Total current liabilities	479,935	374,779
Total liabilities	479,935	374,779
Stockholders' equity (deficit):		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 28,031,640 and 22,613,000 shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively	28,032	22,613
Additional paid-in capital	2,763,728	740,352
Deficit accumulated during exploration stage	(1,774,343)	(827,847)
Total stockholders' equity (deficit)	1,017,417	(64,882)
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity (deficit)	\$ 1,497,352	\$ 309,897

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY**  
**(AN EXPLORATION STAGE COMPANY)**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
**(Unaudited)**

	For the three months ended		For the nine months ended		Inception (November 6, 2006)
	September 30,		September 30,		to September 30,
	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Operating expenses:					
Lease operating expense	7,949	-	7,949	-	7,949
General and administrative	81,064	26,631	211,105	83,062	407,617
General and administrative - related party	-	1,875	-	64,805	70,430
Depreciation and amortization	2,079	115	6,237	344	10,236
Professional fees	45,065	100,882	250,720	196,616	631,477
Professional fees - related party	-	-	-	60,000	60,000
Executive compensation	136,624	169,994	355,755	169,994	585,749
Gain on sale of interest in oil & gas properties	-	-	-	(267,856)	(267,856)
Gain on settlement of accounts payable	-	-	-	(661)	(6,161)
Total operating expenses	<u>272,781</u>	<u>299,497</u>	<u>831,766</u>	<u>306,304</u>	<u>1,499,441</u>
Other expenses:					
Interest expense	(1,139)	(2,206)	(114,582)	(5,223)	(262,027)
Interest expense - related party	-	(534)	(148)	(2,260)	(5,446)
Total other expenses	<u>(1,139)</u>	<u>(2,740)</u>	<u>(114,730)</u>	<u>(7,483)</u>	<u>(267,473)</u>
Net loss before provision for income taxes	(273,920)	(302,237)	(946,496)	(313,787)	(1,766,914)
Provision for income taxes	-	-	-	-	7,429
Net loss	<u>\$(273,920)</u>	<u>\$(302,237)</u>	<u>\$(946,496)</u>	<u>\$ (313,787)</u>	<u>\$(1,774,343)</u>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - basic	<u>28,031,640</u>	<u>20,753,804</u>	<u>28,031,640</u>	<u>20,474,753</u>	
Net loss per share - basic	<u>\$ (0.01)</u>	<u>\$ (0.01)</u>	<u>\$ (0.03)</u>	<u>\$ (0.02)</u>	

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY**  
**(AN EXPLORATION STAGE COMPANY)**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
**(Unaudited)**

	For the nine months ended September 30,		Inception (November 6, 2006) To September 30, 2013
	2013	2012	2013
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net loss	\$ (946,496)	\$ (313,787)	\$ (1,774,343)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	6,237	344	10,236
Amortization of prepaid stock compensation	-	60,000	80,000
Amortization of debt discount	84,517	-	217,330
Gain on sale of interest in oil & gas properties	-	(267,856)	(267,856)
Non cash interest expense	22,500	-	22,500
Gain on settlement of accounts payable	-	(661)	(6,161)
Stock-based compensation expense	112,494	149,994	262,489
Shares issued for services	116,000	48,430	164,430
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Increase in other receivables	(50,199)	-	(57,452)
Increase in product inventory	(9,934)	-	(9,934)
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	19,967	1,942	10,684
Increase in deposits	(3,150)	-	(3,150)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	100,860	(77,430)	159,008
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable – related party	-	50,953	-
Increase in accrued executive compensation	104,656	15,248	184,656
Increase (decrease) in accrued interest payable	(2,901)	4,136	8,913
Increase(decrease) in accrued interest payable - related party	(3,607)	2,260	(597)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(449,056)</u>	<u>(326,427)</u>	<u>(999,247)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase oil and gas properties	(866,710)	(22,951)	(1,108,687)
Proceeds from sale of interest in oil & gas properties	-	350,000	350,000
Purchase of website	-	-	(1,375)
Purchase of fixed assets	-	-	(23,572)
Restricted cash	(45,000)	-	(45,000)
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	<u>(911,710)</u>	<u>327,049</u>	<u>(828,634)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Increase in overdraft from trust account	-	(286)	-
Member contributions	-	-	105,523
Member distribution	-	-	10,000
Proceeds from sale of common stock, net of costs	1,410,710	80,980	1,540,710
Proceeds from notes payable	200,000	14,763	520,261
Repayments for notes payable	(28,478)	(8,106)	(49,557)
Proceeds from notes payable - related party	-	26,240	198,013
Repayments for notes payable - related party	(34,990)	(102,000)	(198,013)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>1,547,242</u>	<u>11,591</u>	<u>2,126,937</u>

NET CHANGE IN CASH	186,476	12,213	299,056
CASH AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	112,580	1,245	-
CASH AT END OF PERIOD	<u>\$ 299,056</u>	<u>\$ 13,458</u>	<u>\$ 299,056</u>

**NON-CASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

Liabilities assumed with the acquisition of Citadel Exploration, LLC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,265
Shares issued for prepaid stock compensation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000
Financing of insurance	\$ 34,891	\$ -	\$ 49,584
Forgiveness of debt due to related party	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,953
Issuance of common stock for settlement of notes payable	\$ 310,298	\$ -	\$ 310,298

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY**  
**(AN EXPLORATION STAGE COMPANY)**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**(Unaudited)**

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Basis of presentation

The interim financial statements included herein, presented in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles and stated in US dollars, have been prepared by the Company, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations, although the Company believes that the disclosures are adequate to make the information presented not misleading.

These statements reflect all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring adjustments, which in the opinion of management, are necessary for fair presentation of the information contained therein. It is suggested that these interim financial statements be read in conjunction with the financial statements of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2012 and notes thereto included in the Company's 10-K annual report and all amendments. The Company follows the same accounting policies in the preparation of interim reports.

Results of operations for the interim period are not indicative of annual results.

Principles of consolidation

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012, the consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Citadel Exploration, Inc. and Citadel Exploration, LLC. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated. Citadel Exploration, Inc. and Citadel Exploration, LLC will be collectively referred herein to as the "Company".

Nature of operations

Currently, the Company is focused on the acquisition and development of oil and gas resources in California. The Company has not yet found oil and gas resources in commercially exploitable quantities and is engaged in exploring land in an effort to discover them. The Company has been in the exploration stage since its formation and has not realized revenues from its planned principal operations.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ significantly from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid instruments with maturity of three months or less at the time of issuance to be cash equivalents.

Restricted Cash

The Company has two bonds at financial institutions to meet financial bonding requirements in the state of California. As of September 30, 2013, the restricted cash totaled \$45,000.

Debt Discount

The Company records debt discount as a contra liability account is presented net of the associated note payable. The discount is amortized over the life of the note payable using the straight line method because it approximates the effective interest method.

**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY**  
**(AN EXPLORATION STAGE COMPANY)**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**(Unaudited)**

Basic and Diluted Net Earnings (Loss) Per Share

The Company computes net income (loss) per share in accordance with ASC 260-10, which requires presentation of both basic and diluted earnings per share (“EPS”) on the face of the income statement. Basic EPS is computed by dividing net income (loss) available to common shareholders (numerator) by the weighted average number of shares outstanding (denominator) during the period. Diluted EPS gives effect to all potentially dilutive common shares outstanding during the period. In computing diluted EPS, the average stock price for the period is used in determining the number of shares assumed to be purchased from the exercise of stock options or warrants. Diluted EPS excludes all potentially dilutive shares if their effect is anti-dilutive.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying value of the Company’s financial instruments, including cash, due to shareholders/related parties and accounts and other payables approximate their fair values due to the immediate or short-term maturity of these instruments. It is management’s opinion that the Company is not exposed to significant interest, price or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

Recent pronouncements

The Company has evaluated the recent accounting pronouncements through current and believes that none of them will have a material effect on the Company’s financial statements.

**NOTE 2 – GOING CONCERN**

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern, which contemplates the recoverability of assets and the satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. As noted above, the Company is in the exploration stage and, accordingly, has not yet generated revenues from operations. Since its inception, the Company has been engaged substantially in financing activities and developing its business plan and incurring startup costs and expenses. As a result, the Company incurred accumulated net losses from Inception (November 6, 2006) through the period ended September 30, 2013 of \$1,774,343. In addition, the Company’s development activities since inception have been financially sustained through debt and equity financing.

The ability of the Company to continue as a going concern is dependent upon its ability to raise additional capital from the sale of common stock and, ultimately, the achievement of significant operating revenues. These consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of recorded asset amounts, or amounts and classification of liabilities that might result from this uncertainty.

**NOTE 3 – OIL AND GAS PROPERTIES**

The costs capitalized in oil and gas properties as of September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012 are as follows:

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Exploration	\$ 1,026,543	\$ 159,833

On January 31, 2009, the Company entered into an oil, gas and mineral lease in San Benito County, California with an unrelated third party for the right to develop and operate the leased premises for an initial term of three years. The lease will continue as long as the Company continues actual drilling operations and continued development. The Company is obligated to pay royalties to the unrelated third party on oil and gas from all wells on the leased premises, and the royalty is a total of 20% of the market value. On February 1, 2012, the Company renegotiated this oil, gas and mineral lease for an additional minimum term of two years. The terms of the renegotiated lease are substantially the same as the original lease disclosed above. On February 1, 2013, the Company paid the final amount due to the mineral owner for this lease.

On February 22, 2012, the Company sold 40% of its interest in the property disclosed above in exchange for \$350,000 to its joint venture partner. The Company recorded a gain on the sale of the partial interest totaling \$267,856. As of September 30, 2013, an amount of \$47,391 was owed to the Company from the joint venture partner for their portion of costs incurred on “Project Indian”.



**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY**  
**(AN EXPLORATION STAGE COMPANY)**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**(Unaudited)**

On May 3, 2013, the Company executed an agreement with Sojitz Energy Ventures (“Sojitz”) for participation on two exploratory wells at Rancho Grande in southern Kern County, California. Sojitz is the operator for this project. Under terms of the agreement, the Company will pay 22.22% cost share for a 20% working interest. Drilling commenced on that date and the Company has paid \$444,288 toward their portion for the drilling of the two wells during the second quarter of 2013. In addition, the Company elected to participate in a third well and paid \$189,400 toward their portion for drilling during the second quarter of 2013. Additional costs in the third quarter was approximately \$85,000. In total, the Company has incurred \$718,677 in Oil and Gas Properties on this project.

In May 2013, the Company entered into a one year lease for approximately 3,000 acres from AERA Energy, LLC. This acreage has been mapped using a combination of both 2D and 3D seismic, and is in close proximity to the Yowlumne oil field in Kern County, California. The Company is obligated to pay royalties to AERA Energy, LLC on oil and gas from all wells on the leased premises, and the royalty is a total of 20% of the market value. In August of 2013, the Company entered into an agreement to sell 75% of the interest in the Yowlumne lease, recouping approximately 85% of its cost, while retaining a 25% interest in the lease and operatorship. Additionally, as part of this transaction, the Company retained 100% interest in the Yowlumne #2 well, which was drilled in 2007. As of third quarter end 2013, the well had produced approximately 100 barrels of oil which were stored in a tank and valued at net realizable value on the balance sheet as product inventory.

In September 2013, Citadel executed a non-binding letter of intent for a farm out on approximately 55 acres in the Pastoria Creek Area (Rancho Grande). Under the agreement Citadel will have 100% of the working interest and bear all costs for an exploration well. Sojitz will retain an overriding royalty interest (ORRI) and receive a production payment.

**NOTE 4 – NOTES PAYABLE**

Notes payable consists of the following at:

	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2012
Note payable to an individual, line of credit to borrow up to \$100,000, unsecured, 10% interest, due upon demand	\$ -	\$ 55,498
Two notes payable to individuals, 10% interest, due January 1, 2014	200,000	-
Note payable to an entity for the financing of insurance premiums, unsecured, 13.95% interest, due December 2013	20,457	1,746
Note payable to an individual, personally guaranteed by shares of the Company which are owned by an officer, 12% interest, due on the earlier of February 2013 or the Company raising in excess of \$1,000,000	-	250,000
Debt discount for 200,000 warrants issued with notes payable	(56,792)	(84,517)
	<u>\$ 163,665</u>	<u>\$ 222,527</u>

**NOTE 5 – NOTES PAYABLE – RELATED PARTY**

Notes payable consists of the following at:

	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2012
Note payable to an entity owned and controlled by an officer, director and shareholder, line of credit to borrow up to \$100,000, unsecured, 4% interest, due upon demand	\$ -	\$ 32,240
Note payable to a director, unsecured, due upon demand, 0% interest	-	2,750
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 34,990</u>

The Company settled all related party notes payable during the first quarter of 2013.

**CITADEL EXPLORATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY**  
**(AN EXPLORATION STAGE COMPANY)**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**(Unaudited)**

**NOTE 6 – STOCKHOLDERS’ EQUITY (DEFICIT)**

The Company is authorized to issue 100,000,000 shares of its \$0.001 par value common stock.

In February 2013, the Company issued 4,186,000 shares of restricted common stock for cash consideration of \$1,423,490 or \$0.34 per share, less issuance cost of \$12,780.

In February 2013, the Company issued 912,640 shares of restricted common stock for the conversion of loans and interest in the amount of \$310,298. The fair value of the shares at the date of settlement was \$332,798, which resulted in the Company recording \$22,500 in additional interest expense.

In February 2013, the Company issued 320,000 shares of restricted common stock valued at \$116,000 to various parties for accounting, legal and marketing services.

In September 2013, the Company closed on a \$200,000 bridge loan from two individuals. These notes have a 90 day term and bear interest of 10%. Additionally, each investor received 100,000 warrants to purchase the Company’s stock at \$1.00 per share for a term of one year valued at \$56,792.

**NOTE 7 – STOCK OPTION PLAN**

On September 1, 2012, the Board of Directors of the Company ratified, approved, and adopted a Stock Option Plan for the Company allowing for the grant of up to 10,000,000 shares of common stock or stock options to acquire common shares. In the event an optionee ceases to be employed by or to provide services to the Company for reasons other than cause, any Stock Option that is vested and held by such optionee may be exercisable within up to thirty days after the effective date that his position ceases. No Stock Option granted under the Stock Option Plan is transferable. Any Stock Option held by an optionee at the time of his death may be exercised by his estate within six months of his death or such longer period as the Board of Directors may determine.

As approved by the Board of Directors, on September 4, 2012, the Company granted 4,000,000 stock options to two officers of the Company at \$0.20 per share for terms of seven years. Of the total stock options, 1,000,000 vested immediately and the remaining vest equally over the next 3 years at the anniversary date of the employment agreements. The total fair value of these options at the date of grant was estimated to be \$599,974 and was determined using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with an expected life of 7 years, a risk free interest rate of 1.01%, a dividend yield of 0% and expected volatility of 254%. Stock based compensation expense was \$112,494 and \$149,994 during the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

The following is a summary of the status of all of the Company’s stock options as of September 30, 2013 and changes during the period ended on that date:

	Number of Options	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Life (Years)
Outstanding at January 1, 2013	4,000,000	\$ 0.20	6.18
Granted	-	\$ 0.00	-
Exercised	-	\$ 0.00	-
Cancelled	-	\$ 0.00	-
Outstanding at September 30, 2013	4,000,000	\$ 0.20	5.93
Exercisable at September 30, 2013	2,000,000	\$ 0.20	5.93

**NOTE 8 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

In October 2013, the Company closed on a \$100,000 bridge loan from an individual. This note has a 90 day term and bears interest of 10%. Additionally, this investor received 100,000 warrants to purchase the Company's stock at \$1.00 per share for a term of one year.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements and involves risks and uncertainties that could materially affect expected results of operations, liquidity, cash flows, and business prospects. These statements include, among other things, statements regarding:

- exploration risks such as drilling unsuccessful wells;
- our ability to operate profitably;
- our ability to efficiently and effectively finance our operations;
- inability to achieve future sales levels or other operating results;
- inability to raise additional financing for working capital;
- inability to efficiently manage our operations;
- inability to hire or retain sufficient qualified operating field personnel;
- the inability of management to effectively implement our strategies and business plans;
- the unavailability of funds for capital expenditures and/or general working capital;
- deterioration in general or regional economic conditions;
- the fact that our accounting policies and methods are fundamental to how we report our financial condition and results of operations, and they may require management to make estimates about matters that are inherently uncertain;
- changes in U.S. GAAP or in the legal, regulatory and legislative environments in the markets in which we operate;
- adverse state or federal legislation or regulation that increases the costs of compliance, or adverse findings by a regulator with respect to existing operations;

As well as other statements regarding our future operations, financial condition and prospects, and business strategies, these forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those reflected in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and in particular, the risks discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” in Part II, Item 1A and those discussed in other documents we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We undertake no obligation to revise or publicly release the results of any revision to these forward-looking statements. Given these risks and uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements.

*References in the following discussion and throughout this quarterly report to “we”, “our”, “us”, “Citadel”, “the Company”, and similar terms refer to Citadel Exploration, Inc. and its subsidiary, unless otherwise expressly stated or the context otherwise requires.*

## AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and other reports and other information with the SEC. You can read these SEC filings and reports over the Internet at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) or on our website at [www.citadelexploration.com](http://www.citadelexploration.com). You can also obtain copies of the documents at prescribed rates by writing to the Public Reference Section of the SEC at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Please call the SEC at (800) SEC-0330 for further information on the operations of the public reference facilities. We will provide a copy of our annual report to security holders, including audited financial statements, at no charge upon receipt to of a written request to us at Citadel Exploration, Inc., 417 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Unit A, Newport Beach, California 92663.

### Overview

Citadel is an energy company engaged in the exploration and development of oil and natural gas properties. Our properties are located in the Salinas and San Joaquin Basins of California. Subject to availability of capital, we strive to implement an accelerated development program utilizing capital resources, a regional operating focus, an experienced management and technical team, and enhanced recovery technologies to attempt to increase production and increase returns for our stockholders. Our corporate strategy is to build value in the Company through the acquisition of oil and gas leases with significant upside potential, successful exploration and exploitation and the efficient development of these assets.

## **ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.**

Our revenues, profitability and future growth depend substantially on prevailing prices for oil and natural gas and our ability to find, develop and acquire oil and gas reserves that are economically recoverable.

### **Our Projects**

#### ***SOJITZ JOINT VENTURE / RANCHO GRANDE***

Rancho Grande was acquired by Sojitz Energy Venture Inc. ("Sojitz") and Black Hawk Oil Co. LLC in August 2011. The lease covers more than 52,000 acres and is part of the largest, privately held, contiguous acreage block in the state of California. The lands have a total royalty burden of 23% and over 20 prospects have already been identified by Citadel for drilling. Citadel will have the option to participate on a prospect by prospect basis on industry standard terms. As proposed, Citadel may farm-in on a one-third for one-quarter on an exploratory well. Prospect areas will be defined in advance of drilling any exploratory well and the amounts of acreage earned will be determined by the depth of completion. This acreage block is highly prospective and permitting efforts have commenced on the block. From the recent work conducted on the block utilizing 2D/3D seismic, well control, offset production figures, and other available information, Citadel believes there is a strong likelihood that as much as 150 million barrels of gross unrisks recoverable oil from this block is attainable. Targets on this block range in depth from 1000 feet to 15,000 feet and range from heavy oil to gas condensate. Although the majority of the prospects that have been developed on the block are conventional there are also strong indications for fractured shale production on the block in the Monterey and underlying shales.

In May 2013, we executed an agreement with Sojitz to drill two exploration wells, the North Tejon 1-19 and the Pastoria Creek 1-2. Under that agreement, Citadel paid 22.2% of the costs, to earn a 20% working interest. Subsequent to that agreement, the Joint Venture proposed and executed an agreement to drill a third well, the Pastoria Creek 3-2 as an offset well to the Pastoria Creek 1-2 well. Since this well was an offset, Citadel paid 20% of the cost to earn a 20% working interest. All three of these wells encountered oil, but to date have not produced commercial quantities. Additional testing will be required at a future date.

In September 2013, Citadel executed a non-binding letter of intent, for a farm-out on approximately 55 acres in the Pastoria Creek area. Under the agreement, Citadel will have 100% of the working interest and bear all costs for the exploration well. Sojitz will retain an overriding royalty interest (ORRI) and receive a production payment. Citadel believes this 55 acre project has more than one million barrels of unrisks reserve potential, which will take approximately 10 wells to fully exploit.

#### ***PROJECT INDIAN***

Project Indian is located in the Bitterwater sub-basin of the Salinas Basin, north of the giant San Ardo Field. It is a shallow anticline defined by surface geology and well control that may have over 100 million barrels of heavy (11 to 14 gravity API) oil in place. A well that was drilled and cored extensively by Chevron in 1976 (Tannehill Ranch Core hole #9) showed the oil is trapped in highly porous and permeable basal Pliocene sands at a 300 foot to 500 foot depth with 300 feet of clay stone cap rock. This accumulation is a strong analog to another discovery made by the founders of Citadel at Northwest San Ardo, albeit at a shallower depth.

Citadel owns a 60% working interest at Project Indian, with Sojitz owning the remaining 40%. There is a 20% royalty on the property owned by Vintage Petroleum, a wholly owned subsidiary of Occidental Petroleum Inc. We will develop Project Indian as a thermal recovery operation. The initial phase of evaluation will entail the drilling of one vertical well in 2013 and cyclic steaming to initiate production. Temporary equipment will be used to conduct a pilot thermal enhanced recovery program. The pilot recovery program will provide data that will help determine economic viability and potential future development of the reservoir. Highlights of this project include: 1) drilling and coring, 2) collecting and analyzing the data, 3) installation of temporary production facilities, 4) pilot steam injection and saturation, 5) well production test, and 6) collecting production and steam injection data.

Pending the results on this initial well, a full scale pilot project may follow in 2014 with up to 14 additional wells. The next phase of development includes installation of a natural gas utility line and electric power. We have confirmed with the local utility company that utility gas and power are available within two miles of the project site. Temporary equipment will be utilized for initial operations and additional permanent equipment will be installed at a later date. All wells will then

be placed in service and additional drilling may begin. The economics of thermally enhanced heavy oil production is very attractive as oil prices remain strong and natural gas prices are relatively low (which is the most relevant determinant of operating costs for heavy oil). A successful pilot will likely to be very impactful to Citadel.

### ***PROJECT YOWLUMNE***

In May 2013, we leased approximately 3,000 acres from AERA Energy, LLC (“Aera”). This acreage has been mapped using a combination of both 2D and 3D seismic, and is in close proximity to the Yowlumne oil field in Kern County, California. The Company is obligated to pay a 20% royalty to Aera.

In August, the Company entered into an agreement to sell 75% of the interest in the Yowlumne lease, recouping approximately 85% of its cost, while retaining a 25% interest in the lease and operatorship. Additionally, as part of this transaction, the Company retained 100% interest in the Yowlumne #2-26 well, and the 200 acres surrounding the well bore. The Yowlumne #2-26 was first drilled in 2008 under supervision of Citadel CEO, Armen Nahabedian, during his previous tenure with his family’s oil company. Although the well tested oil at that time, the well was left idle for 5 years as lease issues prevented operations on the well until the appropriate curative measures could be taken. Citadel staff approached operations on this well with extreme caution and installed a 10,000psi production tree as the well had shut in pressures exceeding 500psi with fluid to surface. The productive zones in this well are at a depth of approximately 12,500 feet and have slotted liner set across them.

Current operations have demonstrated the entry of 34.5 degree API oil and associated gas at an undetermined rate. Flow tests have recovered approximately 100 barrels of oil and the Company is currently moving in a service rig to better determine rates of entry, possible pump sizes, or potential necessity for stimulation of the well. In addition, the Company has installed tanks and other related infrastructure on the property to facilitate future production.

### **Going Concern**

The financial statements included in this filing have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles that contemplate the continuance of the Company as a going concern, which contemplates the realization of assets and liquidation of liabilities in the normal course of business. However, the Company is in the exploration stage and, accordingly, has not generated revenues from operations. As shown on the accompanying financial statements, the Company has incurred a net loss of \$1,774,343 for the period from inception (November 6, 2006) to September 30, 2013. These conditions raise substantial doubt about the Company’s ability to continue as a going concern.

The future of the Company is dependent upon its ability to obtain financing and upon future profitable operations from the development of its oil and gas business opportunities.

### **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

#### ***Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012***

During the three month period ended September 30, 2013 and 2012 we did not generate revenue.

Operating expenses totaled \$272,781 during the three month period ended September 30, 2013 which was a decrease over the three month period ended September 30, 2012. Operating expenses consisted of general and administrative costs, amortization and depreciation, professional fees, and executive compensation. Executive compensation of \$136,624 made up half of the quarter’s operating expenses. During the three month period ended September 30, 2012 the Company’s operating expenses totaled \$299,497 which was primarily made up of executive compensation of \$169,994 and professional fees of \$100,882.

General and administrative fees (including related party) increased from \$28,506 to \$81,064 from the three month period ended September 30, 2012 to the three month period ended September 30, 2013 primarily due to insurance and travel expenses.

Professional fees decreased from \$100,882 to \$45,065 from the three month period ended September 30, 2012 to the three month period ended September 30, 2013. The decrease was primarily as a result of consulting fees of \$55,400 during the three month period ended September 30, 2012 paid to a consultant for a specific financing project that quarter.

Executive compensation decreased from \$169,994 to \$136,624 from the three month period ended September 30, 2012 to the three month period ended September 30, 2013. The fair value of the stock options granted was booked in September 2012 as part of the employment agreements with two officers (See Note 7 Stock Option Plan).

**Results of Operations for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012**

During the nine month period ended September 30, 2013 and 2012 we did not generate revenue.

Operating expenses totaled \$831,766 during the nine month period ended September 30, 2013 which was an increase over the nine month period ended September 30, 2012. Operating expenses primarily consisted of general and administrative costs, amortization and depreciation, professional fees, and executive compensation. During the nine month period ended September 30, 2012 the Company's operating expenses totaled \$306,304 which included a \$267,856 gain on the sale of oil and gas properties.

General and administrative fees (including related party) increased from \$147,867 to \$211,105 from the nine month period ended September 30, 2012 to the nine month period ended September 30, 2013. This increase was primarily due to insurance, marketing, travel, and meals and entertainment expenses.

Professional fees (including related party) stayed neutral at \$256,616 and \$250,720 from the nine month period ended September 30, 2012 to the nine month period ended September 30, 2013. The balances are primarily made up of services provided to the Company for accounting, consulting and legal.

Executive compensation increased from \$169,994 to \$355,755 from the nine month period ended September 30, 2012 to the nine month period ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to the monthly salary as part of the employment agreements with two officers which began in September 2012.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The Company established a capital budget for 2013 of approximately \$800,000 for Rancho Grande, Project Indian and Yowlumne. We may revise our capital budget during the year as a result of acquisitions and/or drilling outcomes or significant changes in cash flows.

As of September 30, 2013, we had \$407,948 of current assets, of this amount \$299,056 was cash. The following table provides detailed information about the net cash flow for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012 as presented in this Quarterly Report. To date, we have financed our operations through the issuance of stock and borrowings from related parties and an unrelated third party.

	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (449,056)	\$ (326,427)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(911,710)	327,049
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,547,242	11,591
Net increase in cash	186,476	12,213
Cash, beginning of year	112,580	1,245
Cash, end of year	\$ 299,056	\$ 13,458

**Operating activities**

The net loss in the period was greater than the non-cash adjustments to reconcile the changes in the balance sheet and statement of operations, which is the reason cash used in operating activities was negative.

**Investing activities**

The net cash used in investing activities consisted of payment for drilling expenses on oil and gas properties of \$866,710 on the Rancho Grande, Project Indian, Yowlumne leases and various additional prospects.

## ***Financing activities***

As of September 30, 2013, we continue to use traditional financing through the issuance of stock and/or debt to provide the capital we need to run our business.

In September 2013, we issued two notes payable for \$100,000 each to individuals. These notes are due on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and bear 10% interest. Along with these notes, we issued 100,000 of warrants on each of the notes with an exercise price of \$1.00 for a period of twelve months. An additional \$100,000 note payable with the same terms and warrants was issued in October 2013.

In February 2013, the Company raised a total of \$1,423,490 in cash, net of \$12,780 of issuance cost, through the sale of 4,186,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$.34 per share. In addition, the Company settled all of their notes payable in the first quarter of 2013.

Without cash flow from operations we will require additional cash resources, including the sale of equity or debt securities, to meet our planned capital expenditures and working capital requirements for the next 12 months. We will require additional cash resources due to changed business conditions, implementation of our strategy to successfully develop our Shallow Indian Oil Development Project, exploration drilling at Rancho Grande and or acquisitions we may decide to pursue. If our own financial resources and then current cash-flows from operations are insufficient to satisfy our capital requirements, we may seek to sell additional equity or debt securities or obtain a credit facility. The sale of additional equity securities will result in dilution to our stockholders. The incurrence of indebtedness will result in increased debt service obligations and could require us to agree to operating and financial covenants that could restrict our operations or modify our plans to grow the business. Financing may not be available in amounts or on terms acceptable to us, if at all. Any failure by us to raise additional funds on terms favorable to us, or at all, will limit our ability to expand our business operations and could harm our overall business prospects.

Our ability to obtain additional capital through additional equity and/or debt financing, and Joint Venture or Working Interest partnerships will also be important to our expansion plans. In the event we experience any significant problems assimilating acquired assets into our operations or cannot obtain the necessary capital to pursue our strategic plan, we may have to reduce the growth of our operations. This may materially impact our ability to increase revenue and develop our assets.

## **Contractual Obligations**

An operating lease for rental office space was entered into beginning March 1, 2013 for two years at \$2,150 per month.

## **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

As of the date of this Report, we did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that is material to investors.

## **Operation Plan**

Our plan is to focus on the acquisition and drilling of prospective oil and natural gas mineral leases. Once we have tested a prospect as productive, subject to availability of capital, we will implement a development program with a regional operating focus in order to increase production and increase returns for our stockholders. Exploration, acquisition and development activities are currently focused in California. Depending on availability of capital, and other constraints, our goal is to increase stockholder value by finding and developing oil and natural gas reserves at costs that provide an attractive rate of return on our investments.

We expect to achieve these results by:

- Investing capital in exploration and development drilling and in secondary and tertiary recovery of oil as well as natural gas;
- Using the latest technologies available to the oil and natural gas industry in our operations;
- Finding additional oil and natural gas reserves on the properties we acquire.



In addition to raising additional capital we plan to take on Joint Venture (JV) or Working Interest (WI) partners who may contribute to the capital costs of drilling and completion and then share in revenues derived from production. This economic strategy may allow us to utilize our own financial assets toward the growth of our leased acreage holdings, pursue the acquisition of strategic oil and gas producing properties or companies and generally expand our existing operations.

Because of our limited operating history we have yet to generate any revenues from the sale of oil or natural gas. Our activities have been limited to raising capital, negotiating WI agreements, and preliminary analysis of reserves and production capabilities from our exploratory test wells.

Our future financial results will depend primarily on: (i) the ability to continue to source and screen potential projects; (ii) the ability to discover commercial quantities of natural gas and oil; (iii) the market price for oil and natural gas; and (iv) the ability to fully implement our exploration and development program, which is dependent on the availability of capital resources. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in any of these respects, that the prices of oil and gas prevailing at the time of production will be at a level allowing for profitable production, or that we will be able to obtain additional funding to increase our currently limited capital resources.

### **Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk**

This item is not applicable as we are currently considered a smaller reporting company.

### **Item 4T. Controls and Procedures**

#### ***Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures***

Our Chief Executive Officer, Armen Nahabedian, and our Chief Financial Officer, Philip McPherson evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of the end of the period covered by this Report. Based on that evaluation and assessment, Mr. Armen Nahabedian and Mr. Philip McPherson concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are not designed at a reasonable assurance level and are not effective to provide reasonable assurance that information we are required to disclose in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officer, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

#### ***Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during our most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

#### ***Limitations on Effectiveness of Controls and Procedures***

In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives. In addition, the design of disclosure controls and procedures must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints and that management is required to apply its judgment in evaluating the benefits of possible controls and procedures relative to their costs.

## **PART II—OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Item 1. Legal Proceedings.**

From time to time, we may become involved in various lawsuits and legal proceedings which arise in the ordinary course of business. However, litigation is subject to inherent uncertainties, and an adverse result in these or other matters may arise from time to time that may harm our business. We received notice on July 10, 2013 that the Center for Biological Diversity (“CBD”) had filed a law suit against the County of San Benito regarding the approval of our drilling permits for our Project Indian. The Board of Supervisors of San Benito County voted 5-0 in favor of our application to drill 15 exploration wells on our Project Indian lease. We believe the actions taken by the CBD are unwarranted and will vigorously defend our property rights that have been granted to us via our lease agreement.

**Item 1A. Risk Factors.**

Our significant business risks are described in Item 1A. to Part I of Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 (filed April 1, 2013) to which reference is made herein.

**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.*****Stock Issuances pursuant to Subscription Agreements***

In February 2013, we issued 4,186,000 shares of our restricted common stock for cash consideration of \$1,423,490 or \$0.34 per share.

In February 2013, we issued 912,640 shares of our restricted common stock for the conversion of notes payable and interest in the amount of \$332,798.

In February 2013, we issued 320,000 shares of our restricted common stock for accounting, legal and marketing services.

In September 2013, we closed on a \$200,000 90-day bridge loan with two investors. The loans bear interest of 10%. Additionally each investor was granted 100,000 stock warrants to purchase stock at \$1.00 per share for a period of one year valued at \$56,792. An additional \$100,000 note payable with the same terms and warrants was issued in October 2013.

We believe that the issuance and sale of the above securities were exempt from the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act of 1933 by virtue of Section 4(2), Regulation D and/or Regulation S. The securities were issued directly by us and did not involve a public offering or general solicitation. The recipient of the securities was afforded an opportunity for effective access to files and records of our company that contained the relevant information needed to make their investment decision, including our financial statements and 34 Act reports. We reasonably believed that the recipient, immediately prior to issuing the securities, had such knowledge and experience in our financial and business matters that they were capable of evaluating the merits and risks of its investment. The recipient had the opportunity to speak with our management on several occasions prior to her investment decision. There were no commissions paid on the issuance and sale of the shares.

***Option Grants***

Our option grants are described in Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 (filed April 1, 2013) to which reference is made herein.

***Subsequent Stock Issuances***

None.

**Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

We did not repurchase any of our equity securities from the time of our inception on November 6, 2006 through the period ended September 30, 2013.

**Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities.**

None.

**Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.**

Not applicable.

**Item 5. Other Information.*****2012 Stock Incentive Plan***

On September 1, 2012, we adopted the 2012 Stock Incentive Plan. We have reserved for issuance an aggregate of 10,000,000 shares of common stock under our 2012 Stock Incentive Plan. To date 4,000,000 options and no shares of common stock have been granted under this plan.

Our employment agreements with executive officers are described in Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 (filed April 1, 2013) to which reference is made herein.

**Item 6. Exhibits.**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
10.4	2012 Stock Incentive Plan
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1	Certifications of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.2	Certifications of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
101.INS*	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema
101.CAL*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase
101.DEF*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase
101.LAB*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase
101.PRE*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase

\* *XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language) information is furnished and not filed or a part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, is deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.*



## EXHIBIT 31.1

### CERTIFICATION

I, Armen Nahabedian, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Citadel Exploration, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 14, 2013

/S/ Armen Nahabedian  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Armen Nahabedian  
Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

## EXHIBIT 31.2

### CERTIFICATION

I, Philip McPherson, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Citadel Exploration, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 14, 2013

/S/ Philip McPherson  
Philip McPherson  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)

**EXHIBIT 32.1**

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Citadel Exploration, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2013, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Armen Nahabedian, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: November 14, 2013

/s/ Armen Nahabedian  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Armen Nahabedian  
Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

**EXHIBIT 32.2**

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Citadel Exploration, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2013, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Philip McPherson, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

3. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
4. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: November 14, 2013

/S/ Philip McPherson  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Philip McPherson  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)