

MERIDIAN RESOURCE CORP
Form 8-K
December 23, 2009

**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): December 23, 2009

The Meridian Resource Corporation
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Texas
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

1-10671
(Commission File Number)

76-0319553
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

1401 Enclave Parkway, Suite 300
Houston, Texas 77077
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

281-597-7000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(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 (see General Instruction A.2 below):

- 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 8.01 Other Events.

On December 23, 2009, The Meridian Resource Corporation (the Company) issued a press release announcing the Company s entry into a definitive merger agreement, under which the Company would be acquired by Alta Mesa Holdings, LP, a privately held company, for \$.29 per share in cash. A copy of the press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release of The Meridian Resource Corporation, dated December 23, 2009, titled Meridian Resource Corporation Enters Into Agreement to be Acquired by Alta Mesa Holdings, LP .

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

The Meridian Resource Corporation
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Lloyd V. DeLano
Lloyd V. DeLano
Senior Vice President and Chief
Accounting Officer

Date: December 23, 2009

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Exhibit Index.

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